

**Challenges, Opportunities and Future Prospects for
Implementation of New Partnership for Africa's
Development (NEPAD)**

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**A Thesis Submitted to center for African Studies presented
in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of
masters of Art in African Studies**

**Addis Ababa University
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
June, 2013**

Acknowledgement

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Dr. Getachew Sahilemariam, my thesis Advisor, for his critical comments, constructive and valuable suggestions and Genuine advice he rendered throughout the course of my thesis work.

I am very much indebted to my wife W/ro Mirtalem Bekele and my daughters Kalkidan Zerihun, and Nardos Zerihun, who strongly encouraged and Inspired me to pursue this study.

My special thanks go to my brother Solomon Petros, Ato. Tamene Bele, Ato. Yemane Abadi, Ato Nigatu and His wife W/ro Eletebrahan Petros and to all my families and friends whom I didn't mentioned their names; all deserve heartfelt appreciation for their support morally as well as financially.

ABSTRACT

The critical challenge of development for Africa in the 21st century is an issue around which there is considerable consensus. In the context of debate, the new partnership for Africa's development (NEPAD) has been promoted by its initiators as Africa's Development blue print for meeting its development challenges. This study seeks to investigate the effectiveness of the new partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) in fostering sustainable growth and Development in Africa. The adoption of new partnership for Africa's development (NEPAD) by the African heads of state and government in 2001 as a policy frame work for the socio-economic renewal of the continent heralded a new beginning that would inspire and energize development action throughout the continent. NEPAD provides all opportunity for African countries to demonstrate ownership and leadership in setting the development Agenda and carrying it out. It also expected to facilitate co-operation with the international community. However, it is fraught with many challenges, which are likely to impede the effectiveness of its implementation. These challenges include structural constraints, Political constraints, and Economic constraints. To this end, the study proffers some recommendations, which include:- to clarify the responsibilities of the NEPAD structures, regional and designated institutions in the implementation process, to broaden and deepened discussion with the wide public and all stakeholders strengthening the RECs secretariat, should design an evaluation instrument based on measurable out comes with bench marks related to the objectives of NEPAD. therefore, the study reveals that the road to a successful and effective NEPAD, and thus to a peaceful and prosperous Africa may lie in the future, but the foundation for Africa's political and economic renaissance must be laid now.

Acronyms

AfDB	African Development Bank
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AMCEN	African Ministerial conference on Environment
AMU	Arab Maghreb Union
APRM	African Peer Review Mechanism
APPER	African Priority Programme for Economic Recovery
ASF	African Standby Force
AU	African Union
CAADP	Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Program
CDC	Centre for Disease control
CEMAC	Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EAC	East African Community
EASSY	East African submarine System
ECCAS	Economic community of Central African States
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States.
ERA	Economic Report of Africa
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GAIN	Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
GDP	Growth Domestic Production
G8	Group of Eight Industrialized Nations
HIPC	heavily Indebted Poor Countries
HIV	Human Immune Virus
HSGIC	Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development

IFIS	International Financial Institutions
IMF	International Monetary Fund
JIU	Joint Investigation Unit
LPA	Lagos Plan of Action
MAP	Millennium Africa Recovery Plan
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAI	New African Initiative
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGOs	Non Governmental organizations
NIEO	New International Economic Order
OAU	Organization of African Unity
ODA	Official Development Assistance
Omega	One people, One Goal, one Faith
PRC	Permanent Representatives Council
PRG F	poverty Reduction and Growth Facility
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
SADC	Southern African Development Community
STAP	Short Term Action Plan
UEMOA	West African Economic and Momentary Union
UN	United Nation
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WB	World Bank
WFP	World food programme

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Chapter One

Introduction

1.1 Background

Africa is the world's second largest and second most populous continent next to Asia. It covers about 30.2 km² including adjacent islands, 6% of the earth's total surface area and 20% of the total land area. The continent is surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea to the North, the Suez Canal east, and the Indian Ocean to the south east and the Atlantic Ocean to the west. It comprises 55 countries. The current population of Africa is nearly 1 billion (2010 estimate.) The continent lies between the Atlantic and Indian oceans and is positioned antipodal to the Pacific Ocean and lacks pacific coast line. Africa lies astride the equator and extends from about latitude 37⁰N to nearly 35⁰s almost equal distance north and south of the equator. The continent has a unique place in human history. it is Widely believed to be the "cradle of human kind" Africa is the only continent with fossil evidence of human beings (Homo sapiens) and their ancestors through each key stage of their evolution. Africa is perceived as the "last continent because of its poor economic performance. According to the most current data available in the central Intelligence Agency, world fact book, Africa is currently contributing nearly 4% of the world level of Gross domestic production. Due to its varied geography, history, demography, governance and economics, Africa is often perceived as under developed continent. (<http://www.google.pdf>) .

By the 60's and 1970's many African countries were liberated, the 70's and 80's were also decades characterized by political instability, military coups, one party governments, dictatorships and the higher trend influence of cold war politics in African Affairs. Faced with the onset of an economic crisis huge forging debts and declines in social development and the failure of the

international financial institutions and free market policies, African countries tried to reverse these trends by calling for a new international economic order (NIEO) through which they could craft self-reliant, culturally relevant and state influenced development strategies.(Omar kabbaj,2003,p.4)

Despite the projected positive growth, Africa will continue to face significant development challenges. The challenges Africa faces today are real and vast. Drought and floods affect many countries in both western and eastern Africa. Natural resources are still being coveted and extracted by powers outside the region with little regard for the long term health of the environment or poverty reduction. Desertification and deforestation, through logging and slash and burn agriculture, decimating species, water supplies, grazing grounds and farmland, contributing to recurring food emergencies. (Wangarimaathai, 2009, p. 10)

Conflicts and wars by far the most serious challenge facing Africa is the Spectra of intra and interstate conflicts and wars. Wars are not new to the continent. However, their intensity and frequency have appeared to increase in recent years. Intra state wars have not only assumed extremely violent proportions periodically, but have also caused immense loss of life, massive population displacements, refugees and regional migration. Lack of democracy and political Instability closely linked to wars are the perennial threats of instability faced by many African states. Such instability which always has the potential to turn violent is directly or indirectly linked to the fragility and weakness of democratic institutions. Therefore, the key challenges are how to deepen democracy, to operate transparent and accountable governments in such a way as to involve all constituencies in key decision making processes, to devolve political power to various sectors of society and to make every constituency part of the political process. In Africa, although sub regional common markets such as the economic community of West African states (ECOWAS), the southern African development community (SADC) and the

revived east African community (EAC) have been in existence for some time now, their impact on their respective regions has been minimal. This has mainly been due to the devotion of much attention and resources of these organizations to the resolution and containment of regional conflicts rather than to the promotion of economic cooperation. Environmental challenges also closely linked to the international economy and globalization. Africa's environmental challenges which are wither not easily perceptible or are generally discounted, but which are clearly posing grave dangers to the continent. Without a doubt, environmental degradation has escalated in sub-Saharan Africa in recent years. The continent is threatened by such phenomena as deforestation, desertification, soil erosion, air pollution, drought and famine. (john k. Akokpari, 2005, p.24-25))

Corruption is one of the most serious hurdles to economic development in Africa. From being widespread to systemic, corruption in Africa has a demonstrable negative impact on the development process in the region. Whether in the public or private sphere corruption results in the abuse and misuse of scarce resources that significantly affect an entire economy through multiplier effects. The burden of HIV/AIDS pandemic, although only 11% of the world's population lives in Africa, roughly 67% of those living with HIV/AIDS are in Africa. It is one of the most urgent and serious threats to the progress of developing countries. One cannot end global poverty without tackling the spread of the virus and reducing the rates of death and illness linked to HIV and AIDS. (kinfe Abraham,2003,p.193)

The 2000/1 world development report on global poverty put the total number of people in sub-Saharan Africa living below the World Bank's US less than \$1 per day norm for defining the core poor. A greater proportion of people in sub-Saharan Africa are living in poverty than anywhere else in the world. (Jimi O. Adessina, 2005, P: 33].

As is already known the world is changing at a rapid pace and the scope and impact of the change have multiple dimensions and implications that transcend geographic and cultural boundaries. The globalization process like its benefits has its own challenges and costs for Africa. (Kinfé Abraham, 2003, P: 344).

In order to face with the development challenges in Africa, the African leaders found it necessary to transform the organization of African unity (OAU). Hence throughout the 1980s and 1990s African governments were engaged in designing a series of African development initiations. These include the Lagos plan of Action (1980), African priority programme for economic recovery (1986-1990), the African Alternative frame work to structural adjustment (1990), the Abuja treaty (1991) and the Cairo Agenda (1994) amongst others. (Emmanuel Nnadozie, 2009, P. 141).

Faced with the Failures of these plans the ills of the structural adjustment programmes of modernization and Failing growth rates. In this regard, the new partnership for Africans development (NEPAD) is the result of three parallel initiatives. The first initiative is the millennium Africa recovery plan (MAP) led by south African president Thabo Mbeki and unveiled at the world economic forum in Davos in January 2001. The second initiative is the Omega plan, crafted by the president of Senegal Abdoulaye wade; He presented his plan to the summit of Franco Phone African leaders in Cameroon in January 2001. MAP and Omega plan were than combined to give birth to a third initiative, the new African initiative (NAI) that then led to new partnership for Africa's development (NEPAD) in 2001. (Kinfé Abraham, 2003, P. 92).

1.2 Statement of the problem

The Absence of peace and Security, democracy and the prevalence of poor economic and political governance inmost of African countries have combined to deepened poverty and under development. Conflicts are more likely to occur in countries with dis-functional governments, characterized by weak, undemocratic economic and political institutions. It is therefore particularly regrettable that a substantial proportion of Africa's scare resources have been devoted to building Armies, procuring Arms and engaging in destructive inter and intra state wars. (Franics Ikome, 2007, P. 147).

The commitment of donors to allocate significant resources outside the ODA for which there are budgetary provisions. Some African ladders might worry about lending their full support to NEPAD on the grounds of the fear that it might replace the regular development aid. This problem is formidable as it would require generating more financial resources through tax reforms and structural renewal of the Administration of many African states. Most sub Saharan African states are mono cultural economies that are dependent on a few primary products, hence generating Resources through enhanced export revenue might initially be an uphill task. (Kinfe Abraham, 2003, P: 95-97)

There are still some unclear and undefined responsibilities among various levels of NEPAD that hamper forward progress. Its relationship with member states and RECs, the responsibilities of each and communication channels among them are not well defined. This lack of clarity of roles sometimes leads to confusion and duplication of efforts. Moreover it is almost impossible to achieve accountability of leadership with weak institutions. In most Africa countries, process, rules and regulations are complex, the judicial and law enforcement systems are weak and government's capacity to deliver public service is poor. In addition to this, effective implementation of any program or project requires monitoring and evaluation with appropriate adjustment when

necessary during the implementation process. This monitoring and evaluation should be guided by clearly defined objective and quantifiable criteria.

Although, the MDGs set clear and quantifiable benchmarks, NEPAD does not provide any Guidelines and time Frames of its own for African countries towards achieving the objectives. Without quantifiable objectives, and specific time lines, there are no incentives for countries to quickly implement the NEPAD programs. (G-Brempong, 2007, p.27-28)

1.3 Objective of the study

1.3.1 General objective

To assess the challenges, opportunities and prospects that NEPAD faced or likely to face in the future in implementing its programs.

1.3.2 Specific objectives

In line with above mentioned general objective, the study attempts to accomplish the following specific objectives.

- To identify the main challenging factors that faced the NEPAD in achieving its objectives.
- To find out the achievements and failurities of NEPAD in implementing its programs.
- To analysis the difference between previous development initiatives and NEPAD, its importance and limitations.
- To point out the need of cooperation and coordination of NEPAD with sub- regional and international organizations.

1.4 Research questions

1. What are the main development challenges in Africa?
2. How NEPAD initiative is different from previous socio- economic initiative/programs?
3. What are the challenges for NEPAD in implementing its programs?
4. What are the opportunities or future prospects for NEPAD?

5. What needs to be done for the effectiveness of NEPAD?

1.5 Methods of data collection

This section deals with how the study will be conducted. The type of methodological approach that I use for this research is qualitative case study. Of the different versions of case study methodology, I employed explanatory design; for it is an approach to research that facilitates explanation of a phenomenon within its context using a variety of data sources.

The data shall use in this study is collected both from primary sources and secondary sources. The primary source data includes,

Interview, to generate necessary data unstructured interview will be conducted with two key informants from African union, NEPAD coordination department.

Secondary resources, such as books, journals, magazines, bulletins, and newspaper and internet sources shall be used.

Data collection tools (instruments) to collect important data for the study tools will be used. Un structured an interview guide item which consists of five questions.

1.6 Data Analysis

Qualitative data obtained through interviews were analyzed by describing (narrating) and interpreting the situation deeply and contextually.

During analyzing the data, the researcher has a duty to consider the procedure of data reduction. Since all data's gathered from key informants should be selected and reduced in meaningful manner.

1.7 Significance of the study

The finding of the research will contribute to:

- Enrich the existing literature and serve as additional source of reference to researchers and students.
- Serve as a spring board for NEPAD program of the African union in mainstreaming its effort for implementation of its main objective.
- Identifying the facts expected to full- fill the gaps related to the factors that led to the challenges and the finding solutions.

1.8 Limitation of the study

Since the issue under consideration is more or less recent one, primary resources were hardly available in the process of conducting the research. Especially getting recent books are difficult task for the researcher. This situation has forced the researcher to highly depend on secondary sources. (Such as, periodicals, journals, internet sources and interviews).

Another limitation of the study is related to resourceful persons. Since, The primary source of the study mainly focus on interview, therefore, conducting with resourceful persons have time taking task for the researcher. Because the persons whom engage to the interview were high professionals of the NEPAD department whom have workloads in their respective job areas. This situation has forced the researcher to take long time appointment and continuously knocked at their offices in order to find them is a time taking task for the researcher. Financial constraints were also one of the challenging factors for researcher in conducting the research.

Chapter Two

Literature Review

2.1 The concept of Pan- Africanism

The Drive for larger African unity, Pan- Africanism is probably stronger than similar movements elsewhere in the world. Pan Africanism seems likely to loom large as an Active Issue in African political in the near future. It may be said to have arisen first as a protest movement of American and West Indian Negroes who were re asserting their links with Africa and the Achievements of African civilization. (Immanuel wallerstein, 2005, P. 103).

Pan- Africanism has been a vision sustained by Africans and the African Diaspora. The ideology of pan Africanism with its many form of expression was not only a movement that brought together people of African origin. It was also a strategy for social solidarity, as well as cultural, political and economic emancipation. Pan Africanism is motivated by ideas that have placed an emphasis on the cultural unity and political independence of Africans the key conceptual themes emerging from pan Africanism have been the “redemption of Africa” and “Africa for Africans”. (Kay Mathews, 2008, P: 26).

Immanuel wallerstein, (2005) noted, pan- Africanism has had at least three political objectives, which to some extent can be seen as occurring in three successive periods. First, it has been a protest movement against racism, largely of American and West Indian Negroes. Second, Pan Africanism has been a tool in the hands of African nationalist movements struggling for Independence. It probably has not been the most important tool in this struggle. It has played some role, but one or less important than internal party organization and as a rallying force, it has been no more important than territorial nationalism. Third, and most recently, Pan- Africanism has been a

movement to establish a supra national entity or entities encompassing various independent African states at its most hopeful, the United States of Africa. (P. 105).

Today Pan- Africanism manifests itself mainly in the form of regional cooperation and integration. Regional cooperation and integration is a vital strategy for ensuring African's economic advancement. The notion of Pan-Africanism promotes the idea that, through African Unity, the continent can remedy the effects colonialism, alienation and marginalization. (Kay Mathews, 2008, P: 27).

Pan- Africanism became a driving force, from its origins at the close of the 19th century and was mobilized as a potent political force to “kick out” the colonialists and secure the political liberation of the continent. As a political and ideological force, and as a social movement, the discourse of Pan-Africanism was interactive process, and this provided the drive for the creation of the continental organizations, the organization of African unity in 1963. (David J. Francis, 2006, P: 1)

2.2 The organization of African Unity (OAU)

Organization of African unity was a statist inter-governmental organization with an overarching mandate for the liberation of the continent. It was founded in 1963 as a regional organization with great hopes and optimism. But these positive expectations were ragged by the cold war rivalry, as well as the internal political and economic problems, that characterized the member states. (S. Adejumobi and Olukoshi, 2009, P. 28).

The formation of the OAU was the most important manifestation of African unity rooted in Pan- Africanism. OAU was a strong continental commitment to unity, based on racial consciousness and the common experience of

colonialism. The OAU has registered some limited successes in that the organization provided the political platform for African Leaders to dialogue and to conduct inter African diplomacy. It assisted in the creation of regional and integration and cooperation. However, the OAU has been hampered by numerous problems and thus failed to achieve most of its objectives. (Francis, 2006, P. 24).

Due to the enormous problems and challenges facing the organization of African Unity (OAU), there was a need to amend its charter in order to streamline the organization and gear it up for the challenges of a changing world.

In July 2002, the 38th summit of the OAU was held in Durban, South Africa, at which the AU was formally launched. This launching, as optimists argue, was indeed a fitting climate of decades of concerned efforts by generations of African Leaders and people for continental unity. The OAU had served its mission and was due for replacement by a structure geared toward addressing the current needs of the continent, regarding social and economic development in particular. (Adjumobi and Olukoshi, 2009, P. 34).

Africa replaced the moribund organization of African unity (OAU) with the African union (AU) which for the first time embraced democracy and rejected undemocratic seizures of power. The African union thrust forth a people based agenda. The vision of the AU, as contained in its strategic plan, is to build an integrated Africa, a prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international Arena. The AU seems remarkably different from the OAU in the participation realm. The AU has moved away from the principle of noninterference to the principle of non-indifference. African leaders can no longer seclude their territories and enslave their people in the name of national sovereignty. Incidences of Genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and cross human rights violation may call for

AU intervention in the internal affairs of member states. (Steven Gruzd, 2008, P. 4).

In the 21st century progress, there is growing optimism about the future of Africa. The most important developments in this direction were the establishment of the African Union (AU) in Durban, in July 2002, and the Adoption of the new partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) in Abuja, Nigeria, in October 2001. These initiatives were born out of deep desire to revive a marginalized and exploited continent that has been ravaged by centuries of slavery, colonialism, neo colonialism, exploitation, oppression, conflict and hunger. These new initiative form part of a concerted effort by African elders to put the continent on track towards sustainable growth and development. (Kay Mathews, 2008, P. 25).

The African union (AU) was inaugurated as the continent's paramount Pan-African Institution. The evolutionary transformation from the OAU to AU caught many analysts by surprise. Although previous generations of pan-African thinkers had dreamed about the idea of forging a more pronounced continental bond, the emergence of the AU had not been widely predicted. (Angela Ndinga- Muvumba, 2008, P. 1)

African Unity based on Pan- Africanism became a mobilizing political, ideological and social discourse. Therefore Pan Africanism as a discourse has been manifested in both its ideational forms and as an interactive process, notable from its early origins and internationalization, to the creation of the OAU as a concrete symbol of the African unity project. (J. Francis, 2006, P. 15).

2.3 Historical Background of NEPAD

NEPAD is a holistic, integrated sustainable development initiative for the economic and social revival of Africa. It is a pledge by African leaders, based on a common vision and a firm, shared conviction that they have a pressing duty to the African people to eradicate poverty and to place their countries both individually and collectively on a path of sustainable growth and development. It is also anchored in the determination of African's to extricate themselves and the continent from the pincer- grip of underdevelopment and exclusion from the globalizing world. It is predicated on a call for a new relationship based on "constructive partnership" between Africa and the international community. (Kinfé Abraham, 2003, P. 103).

It is a comprehensive and integrated development plan that addresses key social, economic and political priorities in a coherent and balanced manner. NEPAD brings the concept of a new partnership with the rest of the world in order to accelerate the economic development of the continent. It makes Africa enter into commitment's and obligations for the good of itself. NEPAD could stimulate Africa to generate resources domestically by broadening the base. It could be used to improve among economic sectors with in countries and among members of the same economic bloc and Africa as a whole. (k. Abraham, 2003, p.104)

NEPAD is designed to address the current challenges facing the African continent, issues such as the escalating poverty, underdevelopment and the continued marginalization of Africa. It is a new radical intervention, pear headed by African leaders to develop a new vision that would guarantee Africans Renewal. (<http://www.dfa.gov.za/au/nepad>).

This is because NEPAD is hoped to put Africa at the apex of global development Agenda. The globalization and Liberalization of the world economy as well as

the increasing economic and political integration in other regions of the world during the 1990's. Certainly stimulated Africa leaders to think this way. (Ntangsi Max memfih, 2009, P. 210).

The initiative launched by African leaders and endorsed by the African union is Africa's response to these changing global relations and partnerships. Throughout the continent and beyond NEPAD, has been acclaimed as an important initiative that has a high potential to give a new boost and direction to the development efforts of African countries and to the establishment of as well as establish new forms of partnership with the developed world. (Kabbaj, 2003, P. 90).

The principles and objectives of NEPAD include: African ownership, responsibility and leadership, making Africa Attractive to both domestic and foreign investors, Achieving and sustaining an annual GDP growth rate of 7% for the next 15 years, ensuring that Africa Achieve the international development goals, investing in human development, promoting the role of women in all activities, promoting regional and sub regional economic integration, developing a new partnership with the industrial world and multilateral Agencies, strengthening the capacity to lead negotiation on behalf of the continent at different development forums that require continent wide co-ordination, ensuring capacity for Accelerated implementation of cooperation agreement and approved projects, strengthen African's capacity to mobilize external resources. (Jo. Adesina, 2006, P. 36).

The New partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the latest African recovery plan has been enthusiastically pushed by a select number of countries in Africa, as well as by the G8 as a means to stimulate what has been termed the "African Renaissance" which means, It has succeeded in placing the question of Africa's development on to the international table and has managed to obtain a fairly high profile and awareness, particularly in western capitals.

The proponents of NEPAD claim that it is a political and economic program aimed at promoting democracy, stability, good governance, human rights and economic development on the continent. (Ian Taylor, 2005, P:1)

NEPAD seeks to Address Africans underdevelopment and marginalization through a number of ways, including promoting democracy and human rights in African countries as well as developing standards of accountability, transparency and participation at national and sub national levels. African countries have also attempted to organize themselves in to economic and customs union such as the economic and monetary community of central Africa (CEMAC), the economic community of central African states (ECCAS), the economic community of west African states (ECOWAS), the southern African development community (SADC) the common market for eastern and southern Africa (COMESA) and the Arab Maghreb union (AMU) among others. NEPAD is requiring African countries to strengthen these institutions so that there will be general improvement in the countries situations as opposed to only local improvement. (Ntangsi Max memfih, 2009, P. 210).

NEPAD emphasis the common vision and a firm and shared conviction of African leaders to Anchor the program in the determination of Africans to extricate themselves and the continent from the malaise of underdevelopment and exclusion in a globalizing world. With reference to the continents painful historical experience of improvishment it postulates as a lesson that “African must not be wards of benevolent guardians rather they must be the Architects Of their own sustained upliftment. (Henning Melber& Richard cornwell, 2002, P. 126)

A productive partnership entails the development of a more productive partnership between Africa and its bilateral and multilateral partners. Its objective is to improve effectiveness in development cooperation primarily through better practice in the aid relationship, delivery and reporting systems.

No initiative for Africa's development, however well-crafted and internationally accepted can and will be successful if it is not owned by Africans themselves. NEPAD is also expected to facilitate co-operation with the international community. The development challenge to reduce poverty requires a comprehensive strategy not only based on the efforts of African countries themselves but also an increased international financial Assistance. A common understanding of reform priorities and needed resources will facilitate the dialogue between the international community and Africa. The NEPAD may also put Africa in a better position to strengthen its voice in international gathering, which may ultimately lead to an increase in the transfer of Resources of Africa. (African development report, 2006, p.115-116)

At the highest political levels in Africa and Among the Group eight developed countries (G-8), NEPAD has been hailed as the best and perhaps last hope for Africa. It is obvious that there are no quick fixes to Africa's development challenges. What is certain; however is that the difference between success and failure of NEPAD lies squarely on the shoulder of each and every African, within Africa as well as in the Diaspora. If all African's were to decide to support NEPAD, there is little doubt that it would succeed. On the other hand if African themselves do not believe in the visions of NEPAD, it will definitely fail. (Southern Africa development Bulletin, issue no. 11, 2002, P.6)

Human resource development is an important component of NEPAD's Agenda. The universal declaration of Human Rights provides some basic human rights, including the rights to life education, food, shelter and health. It is the duty of governments to protect these rights; they also have to make effective use of their human resources by committing them to tasks that are clearly related to their abilities and potentialities. NEPAD is particularly interested in this Aspect of development as it places a high premium on bridging the education gap, reversing the brain drain and ensuring health care for the African masses. The environmental initiative is a component of NEPAD's Agenda. Through

development requires the use of Natural resources, sustainable development places more emphasis on the rational use of these resources. If there is no ecological environment, one vital input of the production process is lacking and as such no sustainable growth can be achieved. Therefore NEPAD has a good point in requiring governments to design legal platforms or frameworks oriented toward the protection of the environment. (Sanders and Mees, 2002, cited in Max Memfih, 2009, p.217-219)

A cultural initiative is not absent on NEPAD's Agenda. Diversities in views have always been an excellent ground for implementing multi-dimensional approaches to problem solving. Africa is a cultural mosaic with such a multiplicity of diverse cultural backgrounds. NEPAD is advocating the consideration of all African cultures, as well as the integration of such cultures into a pan-African cultural basket that will serve to address development issues by using a multi-cultural approach and equally avoiding the conspicuous marginalization of some ethnic and tribal entities in the continent a problem that has plunged Africa into devastating conflicts. NEPAD also places a lot of emphasis on the use of private capital flows and the promotion of African experts under the market access initiative. In this component NEPAD is directed toward ensuring that private sector resources are used to develop Africa and that the private sector has access to Africa's resources and markets. NEPAD is therefore promoting a good approach concerning the financing of African's projects and the development of its economic activities. (Max Memfih, 2009, p.219)

The market access initiative of NEPAD provides formidable guidelines. Renewed political action by African countries to intensify and deepen the various integration initiatives on the continent is indispensable. To this end consideration needs to be given to a discretionary preferential trade system for intra African trade. Through the market access initiative places emphasis on the manufacturing sector of the economy and the diversification of production. By looking at the manufacturing part of economy, NEPAD simply associates

development with industrialization. Therefore, NEPAD seems to be firmly oriented towards to industrialization of Africa, since most of the finances are raised through banking systems and established financial markets. Through its capital and market Access initiatives, is trying to find ways of financing Africa's economy by mobilizing private funds.(Max memifh,2009,p.219)

NEPAD places a high premium on health. It recognizes the inter connections between development and health. The fact that health contributes to productivity changes and consequently to economic growth. In the health sector actions encourages African countries to pay more attention on health in their budgets and phase in such increases in expenditures to be mutually determined. (ibid).One of the instruments which have been proposed to achieve the goal of good governance based on transparency and accountability is the mechanism called peer review. It is the most innovative feature of NEPAD. For the first time in the collective history of the continent, African leaders introduced a governance instrument specifically targeted at domestic governance issues. (Prince Mashele, 2006, P. 8)

The international monetary Fund (IMF) is committed to support NEPAD whole heartedly. A part from its financial Assistance to many African countries, its support of capacity building efforts in the region. It also is pursuing its work on internationally agreed codes and standards of good practice, which Africa leaders have endorsed and is preparing the related country reports. In addition together with the world bank, the IMF is implementing the enhanced heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) initiative, providing substantial debt relief to African countries and there by releasing more resource for economic and social development purposes. (Saleh M. Nsouli, 2004, P. 11).

2.4 NEPAD's peace and security initiative

The African Union cannot be discussed without serious reference and analysis of the new partnership for Africa's development (NEPAD). It has been incorporated within the AU frame work, as a socio- economic recovery programme. It becomes evident that NEPAD, like the new African Union is a forge, a compromised economic recovery and development blue print without input and participation of civil society. The reasons why the world's political and economic leaders interested in NEPAD Agenda was the provision that African states should remain committed to economic and political liberalization in the form of democratic pluralism, good governance and functional and open market. An important feature of NEPAD is its commitment to peace, security, democracy and politico- economic governance. (J. Francis, 2006, P. 132).

Peace and security initiative forms one of the core areas for sustainable development. This initiative consists of three elements namely:

- Promoting long term conditions for development and security
- Building the capacity of African institutions for early warning as well as enhancing African institutions capacity to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts and
- Institutionalizing commitment to the core values of the NEPAD through the leadership. NEPAD places emphasis on security and stability as prerequisites for development. The Action plan of NEPAD indicated that it is based on peace and security and improved governance. To reinforce this, it proposed a peace and security initiative, designed to support the efforts and conflict management mechanisms of the AU and Regional organizations. The peace and security initiative covers actions and measures to improve early warning capacity and ensure that this leads to timely and effective Action, facilitate sustainable reconstruction and

development, including disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and rehabilitation, circulation and trafficking of small arms, promote democracy, good governance and respect for human right through security sector.

(J. Franics, 2006, p.133)

Steven Gruzd, (2008) suggested that , political stability and prosperity depend on security, fair international trade, and access to finance, sound public services and good governance. It strengthened peace keeping, intervened in conflicts, pressed for trade, debt and aid conversions from the developed world and formulated plans to boost African infrastructure, agriculture, as well as health, education and other public services. (P. 6)

The declaration on Democracy, political, economic and corporate governance draws attention to the need for peace, stability and security, and the linkages between security, democracy and good governance. If African leaders and countries fulfill their obligations under the peace and security initiative and honor the commitment's made under the declaration, the political and security landscape of the continent will be fundamentally altered. (S.Gruzd, 2008, p.6))

2.5 NEPAD and the African peer Review mechanism (APRM)

APRM is a unique African Initiative. it is voluntary and open to all members of the African union. It is thus part of the AU system. The mandate of the APRM is to encourage the participating countries, ensuring that their policies and practices conform to the NEPAD's basic declarations on democracy and political governance, economic governance and management, corporate governance and socio- economic development and that they adopt the appropriator policies and practices in the promotion of these objectives. And it also to foster the Adoption of policies and practices that are likely to promote the overarching objectives of NEPAD, sharing experiences and reinforcement of

the proven and appropriate best practices, and also assessing the needs for capacity building of the participating countries (Ahmed mohiddin, 200,P. 164).African peer review mechanism (APRM) is a process whereby African's review their performance on the basis of the guidelines for good economic and political governance out lined in NEPAD. Such review is designed to help African countries to learn from each other experience and to encourage the emulation of successful and best practice throughout the continent. It is also a means of implementation the principle of mutual accountability enshrined in NEPAD. (Kinfe Abraham, 2003, P. 123).

In Recognition of the imperatives of good governance for human security and political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated sub regional and continental economic integration, the sixth summit of the Heads of state and government implementation committee (HSGIC) of the NEPAD held in march 2003, in Abuja, Nigeria, adopted the memorandum of understanding (MOU) on the African peer Review mechanism (APRM). The mechanism which is turning out to be the most innovative aspect of NEPAD, is an instrument voluntarily acceded to by member states of the African union (AU) for self-evaluation. Assessment under the APRM is conducted within the frame work of agree values, codes and standards as contained in the declaration on democracy, political, economic and corporate governance.

The APRM has at its epicenter the deepening of democratic practices, strengthening of achievements, dissemination of best practices and rectification of underlying deficiencies in governance and socio- economic development processes among AU number states. The frame work is aimed at encouraging and building transformational leadership through a self- assessment process, constructive peer dialogue and the sharing information and common experiences. (African peer review mechanism Report, 2009, P. 1)

The APRM introduced a fundamental change in the sense that African countries make a commitment to open up their doors for review and to drive this process themselves. It is for this reason that APRM as the one feature that makes NEPAD different when compared to the initiatives and plans discussed earlier. It is for this reason that the declaration clearly identifies four governance areas that should be the focus of reviews done under the APRM. These are Democracy and political governance, economic governance and management, corporate governance and socio- economic development. All countries that have acceded to the APRM are reviewed according to these governance areas, which have been identified as the preconditions for development on the continent. (Prince Mashele, 2006, P. 8).

The APRM is commonly discussed as an exercise among heads of state. But the system actually involves five forms of review, each building on the previous.

First, each country to undergo review must conduct an in depth self-assessment that involves broad public input. This is supposed to be directed by an independent board that has a majority of non- government members and a chairperson drawn from business or civil society.

Second, the country is reviewed by a team of eminent African academics, diplomats, business people and governance experts, who with the final APRM country review report.

Third, the head of state of the country under review must discuss the team's report and recommendations before a gathering of African heads of state.

Fourth, the country under review must present annual reports to heads of state on progress in implementing the agreed program of Action and **finally** the cycle is meant to be repeated every two to four years with another self-assessment and country review. The African peer Review mechanism (APRM) is

most important for the opportunity that it presents to civil society and business to contribute to policy making. Potentially it can open a national conversation that moves beyond the cycle of blame and denial that characterizes politics in many countries. By requiring broad public participation, the APRM has the potential to rebuild trust in politics and inject fresh thinking in to national problem solving. (Ross Herbert, 2008, p. 5-6)

The acceptances of the APRM process demonstrate the degree to which African leaders are determined to open up to transparency and Accountability in governance, learn from each other and adopt best practices. The APRM process is producing some results. The process is making it possible for countries to bench mark good governance on the continent and shared African and international norms and standards. Capacity for review and evaluation is being developed on the process moves forward. More over the process show cases Africa's innovative thinking on governance to the rest of the world. Implementation of the APRM has been slow, partly because of the complexity and comprehensiveness of the review process and the short timeframe envired for countries. (<http://www.repository.uneca.org>).

According to Angela Ndinga,(2008), the APRM is monitoring and Assessing of African governments with the norms of governance and human rights articulated in the AU's constitutive act. The innovative mechanism of voluntary, self- imposed Assessment seeks to raise the standards of governance and economic management in Africa so as to improve the livelihood of African people by promoting a governance climate that will encourage investment and development. (P. 7).

Ross Herbert, (2008) noted, although the APRM conjures up images of a bold national conversation aimed at improvement, the process is in practice deeply political. It touches on democratic and political systems, corruption, service delivery, respect for citizen rights and system gaps that contribute to poor

governance. It represents a greater opportunity for governments to escape there political blame game and start a fresh. Governments can use the APRM to reposition themselves as champions of reform and with political credit for fostering rather than frustrating reform. (P. 8).

Nevertheless, the officially declared primary purpose of the APRM is to foster the Adoption of Policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, and sustainable development and accelerated sub regional and continental economic integration. This is to be achieved through the sharing of experiences and the adoption of best practices, including identifying deficiencies and Assessing needs for capacity building. It is enjoined to ensure that every review carried out under its Authority is technically competent, credible and free of political manipulation. APRM is that it is non-Adversarial, relying heavily on mutual trust and clear rules of procedure. Peer review coupled with peer pressure as well as public pressure, accelerates the process of achieving public accountability and transparency. (Adebayo Adedeji, 2008, P. 253).

2.6 NEPAD and its foreign Aid Dependency

One of the notable conditions of African countries is their high dependence on foreign aid. The growing gap between the developed and developing countries has dominated relations and diplomacy for a long time. This gap has led to consistent capital inflow from the developed countries to those in the third world including Africa. With goal of helping them overcome their problems and reduce the gap. However there is evidence that decades of foreign aid have done little in changing the destinies of many African states, most of which are currently experiencing low growth rates. Due to this, aid supports impose rules and regulations to govern the conditions under which aid is discussed can ultimately determine its success or failure. (Dambisa Moyo, 2009, P. 38).

According to Nicolas Vande Walle,(2005), Foreign Aid has been the central policy instrument with which the international community has promoted economic development. African countries have lobbied the west to get more aid. For instance, African heads of state have used the New economic partnership for African's development (NEPAD) campaign with great effectiveness to Argue that they are willing to exchange governance reformer for more aid (P: 2).

For Africa, like other aid – recipient continents, there have always been two sides to the aid coin. On the one hand, say the donors, we will give you money but on the other, you have to make some important changes in the way you run your country. Western governments and institutions have got very involved in setting the policy Agendas of the majority of countries in Africa over the last twenty-five years and the aid system has been their tool of choice, with trade agreements and other forms of diplomatic pressure used to underpin it. This is practically true for the most aid dependent countries. (Jonathan Glenni, 2008, P. 36).

Diplomatic donor pressures from aid recipients are likely to further dilute the door's ability to enforce selectivity policies. Thus, for instance a number of African governments have signed on to the new partners ship for Africa's Development (NEPAD) initiative, in which they promote to undertake a number of governance and policy reforms in exchange for a larger volume of aid. NEPAD has been offered up by the donor community as evidence that African governments have accepted the need for the kinds of policy and governance reforms they have long advocated. (J.Glenni, p.37)

Bardshaw and Tshandy, 1990 suggested that aid dependence erodes state capacity to intervene in local affairs, as foreign lenders manipulate the African countries governments. Therefore aid should be seen as an instrument, not a gift as it plays a key role in maintaining and even expending developed countries influence on African countries. It also viewed as a narcotic, fostering

addictive behavior among states that receive it. States are through to exhibit the symptoms of dependence that provides a short run benefit from aid, but increase the need for external support that does lasting damage to the country. By feeding this Addiction the aid donors have supposedly weekend the resolves of African states to Act on behalf of their citizens. (p. 23)

George Movrotas and McGillivray,(2009), noted Aid can of course contribute towards poverty reduction, Africa must reduce aid dependency and foster new alternative sources of development finance. In this regard, the new partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) used the untapped potential in the domestic capital markets, to increase its resource mobilization within African statues (P: 4-5).

2.7 Democratization and the Role of NEPAD

Africa enters the 21st century facing perhaps the most daunting development challenge of any region in the world. For most African countries the post-independence period has been marked by far reaching political, social and economic change and in many instances by severe civil unrest. While there have been encouraging case of success, the overall development record of the continent is disappointing. (Omar Kabbaj, 2003, P.1). Between the 1960's and 2000, Sub Saharan Africa registered absolute declines on virtually all indices of socio- economic development. A key explanation of this has been that Africa attained political independence as a fragmented continent, divided in to many small states that offered neither large enough internal markets nor the physical or institutional infrastructure to generate industrialization and development. Collective action in the form of regional economic integration and co-operation has long been identified as a potential strategy for restructuring the fragmented African region in to a more coherent and viable economic space (Francis NguendiIkome, 2007, P. 14).

Experiences vary so widely in Africa that one can only speak of democratizations in the plural. Though most African countries were granted independence under a multi-party system, before long, military rule and one-party states typified African regimes. Some underwent crippling civil mass, from which a few only beginning to emerge. The vast majority of African countries held multi-party elections, albeit of widely divergent quality. In some, dictators peacefully ceded power to elected opposition leaders. In others, the ruling party controlled the process to ensure that it would not lose power. In a few case, military coups reversed previous gains. It is true that impediments to democratization in Africa are stronger than in any other region. In every political, social and economic predicament, poor governance either caused or exacerbated crisis. The expansion of democracy increased public debated and demands for transparency and accountability, while autocratic leaders once were force to focus resources on their pleasure and securing power, increased calls for democratic governance focused attention on the idea that state resources should be used wisely for public rather than private goals. (Ross Herbert, 2008, P. 5).

As democratic rule increasingly becomes a norm in Africa, as evidenced by the mechanisms of the African union and the new partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), a growing formal and informal role will be vested in the regional Hegemons. The performance of new democratic leaders in the areas of Good governance, economic growth and poverty alleviation will all be crucial in the long term. NEPAD's successful implementation on the areas of democratizations depends on the political commitment of the leadership, as well as active involvement of the people, of individual countries. The current predicament of the people of Africa has forced African leaders to take a new critical look at the development scene of the continent. The reason for the desire of African leaders to forge out a new partnership with the rich countries is that after four decades of independence and development efforts is power today than in the early 60's. This is partly because of domestic policy failures

and the limitations of development Assistance mainly provided by the west. (Knife Abraham, 2003, P. 91).

Africa's relation with its partners have changed much in recent times and reflects the changing dynamics of international and regional political and economic developments. In recent time, the global context for the political and economic relations between countries is rapidly shifting and continues to evolve. African countries and their partners will therefore, need to be mindful of these developments and their full implications as they seek to establish a revitalized partnership between their countries and the international community in the context of new initiatives such as NEPAD. (Omar Kabbaj, 2003 P: 85). To address this persistent under development and low institutional quality trap that has defined various home grown and numerous externally imposed remedies, African heads of state acting under the Auspices of the African union (AU) established the NEPAD. It recognizes that sustainable socio-economic development will not occur without the establishment of effective institutions and Good governance in addition to attacking poverty, improving Agriculture, building infrastructure, strengthening regional integration and building human capital. (Emmanuel Ndozie, 2009, P. 137- 138).

Therefore, to correct Africa's multiple internal political, economic and structural inadequacies and its skew relationship with the external environment, NEPAD is structured in to two compacts. "An internal compact", which defines the envisaged relationship between African governments and their peoples and "An external compact, which defines the new relationship between Africa and the international community. (Francis Ikome, 2007, p. 146)

2.8 Critics on NEPAD Initiative

Even though, the NEPAD initiative is African developed, managed, owned and a commitment that African leaders to eradicate poverty and to place Africa on a path of suitable development, the initiative has subjected to criticism from different scholars.

The NEPAD initiative was rushed and not participatory, giving the impression that the drivers of the initiative seemed more interested in getting the support of the G8 and the international financial institutions rather than establishing the African ownership of the initiative. The initiative does nothing to challenge the economic dominance of the northern Hemisphere, as it allegedly accepts the prescriptions of the World Bank and the IMF. It will be unable to honor its own commitments on good governance and Human rights. Peer review mechanism (APRM) will not be effective given the reluctance of the AU and African leaders to criticize one another. Civil society organizations and trade union have also criticized the lack of consultation during the drawing up of the initiative. (Kinfu Abraham, 2003, P. 99-100).

The conception and subsequent merger of one people, one goal, one faith (Omega) and millennium partnerships for the African Recovery program (MAP) into NEPAD were achieved without the participation of the ordinary African citizen, despite NEPAD's declaration that its success will be achieved only if it is owned by the African people united in their diversity. (Kanyenze, 2003, cited in Ntangsi max mamfih, 2009, P. 219).

Although the AU and its organs provide for civil society involvement in their Activities, very little engagement actually takes place. There is very little that the AU and its organs have done to make contact with citizens, except for a few departments like the Gender Directorate. AU institutions set up for civil society participation remain weak and at times they are unwilling to involve civil

society. Many have Articles, declarations, treaties and protocols that call for civil society involvement occurs. (Landsberg and Mckay, 2005, cited in B. Moyo, 2009, P. 187- 191).

Many civil society organizations across the continent argued that they were marginalized in the process of its formulation and predicated that without participation of the people, NEPAD was bound to fail like other past initiatives. They also argued that NEPAD marginalized key players and thus defeated the principles of pluralism, democracy and transparency on which it is based. (Kotze and Steyn, 2003, cited in Bhekinkosi, 2009, P. 187).

While the Advanced countries generally welcomed the NEPAD initiative, there have been a number of dissenting voices from African civil society. Critics argue that NEAD side lines past endeavors for the development of Africa by African themselves, Such as the Lagos plan of Action (1989), the Abuja treaty (1991) etc. NEPAD, they Argue is only concerned with raising external financial resources, appealing and relying on external governments and institutions. (Africa's development Report, 2003, P. 255).

Public participation in the conception and formulation of the plan has not been envisioned by its initiators, who consider that they know what is good for the people and that they can therefore speak and decide for them. The ordinary citizens are denied the right to have a voice in decisions that directly affect their lives. (Tayebchenntouf, 2006, P. 211).

NEPAD is a “heads of states- top- bottom project almost exclusively owned by the new African leadership group. The conception and subsequent merger of one people, one Goal, one faith (Omega) and millennium partnership for the African Recovery program (MAP) into NEPAD were achieved without the participation of the ordinary African citizens. (Mshana, 2002, cited in Max memifh, 2009, P. 219).

Many of the Authors lament the Absence of a real public debate over NEPAD prior to its Adoption, seeing it as elitist and top-down in nature. For while the NEPAD document states that it is anchored on the determination of Africans to extricate themselves and the continent from the malaise of underdevelopment and exclusion. It has been argued that NEPAD is effectively proposed by African elite and will primarily benefit these elite. Despite its professed focus on poverty reduction, NEPAD risks being biased towards the educated urban, politically and economically dominant elite. (Taylor and Nel, 2002 cited in Rachel Hayman, 2003, P: 12).

Another point of criticism has been that the NEPAD did not enjoy a sufficient body of African ownership. Many donors, it would seem well more interested in the NEPAD's peer review mechanism than in providing enhanced aid flow in support of Africa's Accelerated development. It proposes a peer review mechanism through which the participating countries would hold one another to account. It provides a forum for dialogue between African political leaders and the G8 on global issues of African development especially those of aid adequacy, trade access and debt relief. (Kwesi Botch way, 2003, P.213)

The most important long term objective of NEPAD is to promote the role of women in all activities. This would logically involve mainstreaming gender considerations and women's needs in the different objectives of the programme of action. But the actions that will be undertaken to achieve this objective are; promoting the role of women in social and economic development by reinforcing their capacity in the domains of education and training, by developing revenue-generating activities through facilitating access to credit and by assuring their participation in the political and economic life of African countries. This demonstrates major limitations in NEPAD'S approach to gender equality issues and women's economic empowerment ,not only does the analysis of issues stop short of the micro level, but it is also has no connection to the macro-economic frame work which shapes women's lives. The document locates itself within a

broad international development debate, while emphasizing local ownership as an African driven and Africa focused initiative. In locating itself within the international development debate, NEPAD proceeds on a claim of global consensus in the wake of several initiatives. This is located around UN based initiatives and bilateral initiatives. (Zo Randriamaro, 2005, p.37)

The challenge of poverty for development needs to top the agenda of any series African initiative. NEPAD owes more to the Bretton woods discourse than to other initiatives from United Nations agencies. The macro-economic orientation suggested in NEPAD is a call to preserve on the same path that Africa has been on for the past two decades. Where it suggests specific policies for poverty reduction, NEPAD has adopted the existing initiatives of the Bretton woods and while it claims that it is not asking for more aid, we have shown that increased official development assistance (ODA) is an important component of its financing.(Adesina, 2005, p.37)

NEPAD involves a three pronged strategy, it aims to create pre conditions for development, address priority issues and mobilize resources. Its strategy for promoting sustainable development on the continent hinges on six priorities. The first four are to;

- Bridge the infrastructure gap between Africa and the rest of the world by closing the digital divide and by investing in information and communications technologies, energy, transport, water and sanitation. Enhance the continent's human resource development capacity with the aim of reversing its brain drain, bridging the education gap and channeling investments to health and other social sectors.
- Increase and diversify agricultural production by removing structural and institutional impediments to private investment in agriculture and
- Develop science and technology in order to achieve growth in industrial sectors. Addressing these four priorities requires huge and sustainedre

source mobilization. NEPAD's resource mobilization strategy implies that the bulk of the resources required addressing priority projects are some from external sources through debit relief, increased ODA, FDI and improved access for African products to northern markets.

Because NEPAD emerged in the context of Africa's increased vulnerability to the demands of the global economy, especially as a result of its unsustainable debt burden, NEPAD diplomacy was dominated by the desire to satisfy a minimum of the requirements of external actors so as to earn their support. (Ajulu, 2002, cited in Francis Ikome, 2007)

Trade related dimensions of NEPAD points out that the building of cross border and trans African road networks, rail ways and other means of transportation and communication, the consolidation of joint energy, water and other system will be far more effective by benefiting from economies of scale. The creation of such essential regional public goods and inter linkages are in fact essential to enhancing regional cooperation, trade and crucial to integrated African development. NEPAD sees the major of such infrastructure to be improving productivity for international competition and enabling the international community to obtain African goods and services more cheaply. (Dot Keet, 2005, p;152)

Rather, globalization had come to be seen as providing both the context and the means for the continent's economic rejuvenation. It was hoped that by abiding by global norms of economic and political governance, Africa would negotiate the reduction of its debts, attract greater foreign direct investment (FDI) and official development assistance (ODA) and obtain greater access for African goods to the markets of the developed world. (Francis Ikome, 2007, p. 22)

Chapter Three

Challenges for implementation of NEPAD

3.1 Development challenges in Africa

What do we mean by “Development”? A clear conception is difficult to pin down. In the scholarly literature we encounter varying perspective on existing conditions within countries or between countries and the international system.

The standard notion of development is as a gradual, progressive growth which probably comes close to the understanding of most specialists who study development from a policy and prescription perspective. Yet this definition sees development only as moving in a linear and positive direction. In truth it can be multilinear and even negative in its impact. Furthermore, specialists often view development selectively, through the lens of their particular academic discipline. For example development economists are likely to emphasize economic considerations but ignore the emphasis of political scientists on democracy. Political development would be associated with democracy in its various forms, economic development with planning for improving the standard of living, social development with people basic needs, such as food and shelter, health care, education and employment.(Ronald H.Chilcote,2003, p; 1)

The development challenges that face Africa, especially sub- Saharan Africa are enormous and varied. The crisis of poverty, genocidal conflict and civil wars, the HIV/AIDS pandemic and the crisis of economic and social policy outcomes are often presented as emblematic of the region. Although there have been positive signs of recent progress, Africa’s overall economic performance has been disappointing. Extreme poverty is still wide spread in Africa. Weak domestic policies have contributed to this lack luster performance. While a number of structural bottle necks have been eased, the quality of governance

institutions and public services has also emerged as a critical factor affecting growth. African countries have still not reached the levels of other regions in terms of governance and quality of institutions, although more countries in Africa espouse democracy and have fair elections than ever before, and many countries have improved governance. Therefore, the challenge for Africa is to develop the capacity, to sustain growth at levels required to achieve poverty reduction and sustainable development. This in turn depends on other factors such as infrastructure, capital accumulation, human capital, institutions, structural diversification, competitiveness, health and good stewardship of the environment. /J.O.Adesina, 2002, p. 54)

3.2 The NEW partnership for Africa's development (NEPAD) initiative

The NEPAD was adopted by African heads of states and governments of the organization of African unity (OAU) in 2001 and ratified by the African union (AU) in 2002 to address Africa's development problems within a new paradigm. Its **objectives** are to: reduce poverty, put Africa on a sustainable development path, halt the marginalization of Africa and empower women. The new partnership for Africa's development is the African socio- economic development plan based on a new partnership between African states and their development partners, especially the highly industrialized countries of the west. The "new" partnership involves on the one hand, mutual commitment to the principles of democratic governance and market policies by African states and on the other hand, an increase of trade, aid and investment flows by the west. (Nnadozie, 2009, p. 137)

3.3 NEPAD and previous socio- economic initiatives

Perhaps what is new about NEPAD is its very mainstream approach to development, which can relatively easily settle in to the hegemonic norms that stake out the global political economy as well as promoting a greater role for

the international financial institutions in Africa. What is new about the NEPAD initiative however is the attempt to develop an effective mechanism for the enforcement of compliance with some key principles that African leaders have been committing themselves to in OAU dedications for more than two decades. The thinking in NEPAD, as a product of deliberations among the continent's political elite will inevitably reflect the character and limitations of these elite in particular and the post-colonial state in general and this includes contradictions between African countries. The major leap by NEPAD as opposed to previous economic blue print is its political economy approach. The realization (a) that politics matter (b) that popular participation is central to development projects (c) that the denial of "voice" and power by the people has been the bane of erst while development initiatives. In spite of the "good intent" and flowering goals of NEPAD, it was a "top bottom development initiative of which its conception did not engender popular participation and this has largely remained the case. (Eddy Maloka, 2006)

NEPAD is as little a pact between the people and their leadership as it is between the donors and Africa's political leadership for NEPAD to make a difference, it must reconnect with the African people and create realizable modest Ambitions which the capacity and resources of the African people can support and sustain. (Abdul Mohammed, 2009, p.74)

Unlike in the past, where development was government driven, NEPAD has decided to turn to the private sector as a key factor for growth and a source of capital needed for development in Africa. NEPAD is to encourage the development of an African private sector, including participation by African business people both within the continent and in the Diaspora .Past initiatives were undermined by policy frame works developed from outside the continent and corroding out Africa's own alternative thinking on development.(African development report, 2003)

Although the ultimate objectives of NEPAD and the LPA (Lagos plan of Action) may be the same, that is overcoming Africa's socio- economic crises; there is fundamental difference in their methods. While the LPA was presented as an Alternative development strategy, NEPAD is about redefining the partnership between Africa and the rest of the world, a very different goal. In Stark contrast to other African strategies, NEPAD has been given a hearing in international circles. One widely touted reason for the failure of the LPA was its rejection by the donor community and the inability of weak and dependent African countries to go it alone. NEPAD proposes goes beyond addressing the aid relationship between donor agencies and recipient governments, and beyond the issue of development paradigms and ideologies. While economic growth alone does not equate to development, it is a fundamental necessity if African governments are to Achieve the objectives stated in NEPAD, and harnessing the potential offered, by the private sector and increased trade is essential more important for the long term development of the continent than aid. In light of this, NEPAD has been hailed as a positive move by African leaders to take greater responsibility for creating a regional environment under which a More genuine partnership between the North and the south could flourish to engage more closely with the international system while facilitating regional integration, domestic resource mobilization, private sector development and both domestic and external investment, what is different NEPAD is that the donor community is holding the African leaders to commitments that they have made themselves in the name of the African people. The result is a sort of two way accountability towards the donors whose support is required to boost the plan but more importantly to the African people. If more than every African leader need to get their populations behind the plan. (Rachel Hayman, 2003, P.5-6)

The Lagos plan of Action (LPA) provided the frame work and strategies for implementing development programs. The LPA based its strategies on some important principles which it considered would lead to an Alternative form of

development and would take Africa out of its crises. These principles were: self-reliance should be the basis of development, at the national, sub regional and regional levels. Equity in the distribution of wealth at the national level is a fundamental objective of development. Public sector is essential for development and it should be expanded. Inter- African economic cooperation and integration are essential and should be effected as soon as possible. The Abuja Treaty of 1991 was the final Act of Lagos to the Abuja treaty establishing the African economic community in 1991. The treaty lays down in detail the process of achieving the economic community. The treaty clearly states that it takes into consideration the Monrovia Declaration, the LPA and the final Act of Lagos. Some of the principles which list as:-

- Equality and interdependence of members states
- Solidarity and collective self-reliance
- Interstate cooperation
- Peaceful settlement of disputes.(Abdulla Bujra, 2003)

NEPAD claim to be a holistic integrated strategic frame works for the socio-economic development of Africa. A plan which has been conceived and developed by African leaders, a commitment that African leaders are making to the African people. A commitment that African leaders are making to accelerate the integration of the African continent into the global economy for various reasons including lack of capacity, lack of political will, outside interference and lack of resources these past initiatives were unsuccessful. It was also born in an era of democratization and it's most important spokes people represent elected governments; its Articulation by elected leaders gives NEPAD considerable moral or political clout especially even compared to LPA. One of significant feature of NEPAD is that it puts democracy and human rights at the center of regional collaboration. One source of failure of past initiatives has been the lack of national level support. (J. Adesina, 2006, p.35)

The Lagos plan of Action sought to promote intra African trade and economic growth in practice, however it remains nothing more than a statement of intent. Attempts to rekindle the momentum created by the Lagos plan of Action were made in 1985 when the organization of African unity (OAU) summit adopted the African priority program for economic recovery (APPER). Both the Lagos plan of action and APPER put the blame for the continent's economic quagmire on external forces, hence absolving African leaders from any responsibility. Both the Lagos plan of action and APPER were conceived within the politics of the cold war. Common rules would now govern international relations, not the Alignment of countries to one or other ideological camp or so it appeared. Responding to these truly momentous changes in global relations African leaders crafted yet another economic recovery program, the Abuja Treaty of 1991. Since the international community had not fulfilled its obligations to African states. (prince Mashele, ISS paper,2006,p.1-2)

Over the past two decades, there have been a number of comprehensive programs for Africa's development that were adopted by African governments and two that were agreed jointly by African governments and their international development partners. The modest results of these past programs and initiatives have been attributed to factors related to both sides, notably the lack of political committeemen at the highest levels of government in African countries the Absence of African leadership and ownership of the programs, the poor governance environment in some countries and its negative consequences for implementation, the failure of African governments and donors to use the programs as frame works for respectively, economic policy and assistance to Africa, the absence of credible monitoring of the commitments of both African and donor countries, the lack of a forum for sustained dialogue between African countries and the donor community and the limited efforts by donors to honor key commitments. (South Africa development bulletin, issue no 11, 2002)

3.4 Challenges for NEPAD implementation

In a relatively short period of time, NEPAD has made some gains. It has successfully called attention to Africa's under development, evolved a uniquely African frame work for development that puts African's in charge of their destiny and engaged the commitment of international community. Despite the successes, challenges to NEPAD implementation are discussed below.

3.4.1 Structural constraints

According to Kwabena Brempong, (2007), the structural constraints to implementation of NEPAD include the structure of NEPAD itself. Its Ambitious programs, the relationships among NEPAD, RECS and member states, and the lack of African ownership. NEPAD is not only a vision and an approach to development it is an institution based development organization with a large portfolio programs and projects. However it is still young entity and there are some unclear and undefined responsibilities among various levels of NEPAD that hamper forward progress. The very combination of vision, development organization and projects on the ground makes implementation un widely, it may be impossible for an organization to do both effectively. Its relationship with member states and RECS, the responsibilities of each and communication channels among them are not well defined. This lack of clarify of roles sometimes leads to confusion and duplication of efforts. As an African union (AU) creation, NEPAD is supposed to function within the AU system. However as designed, NEPAD is not part of AU and is effectively functioning as an autonomous organization. Plans are afoot to bring NEPAD fully under the AU umbrella, but given the various missions of NEPAD, it is not clear how all can be integrated into AU. NEPAD is supposed to herald openness and participatory decision making. However most of the business is done between the secretariats. The HSGIC and the steering committee, not all member states get

the opportunity to participate effectively in formulation of policies and programs at their inception. (P.6-7)

3.4.2 RECS and NEPAD:

The success or failure of the implementation of NEPAD programs depends on the buy in of member countries and RECS and the ability of these units to implement NEPAD principles. However, it appears that number countries and RECS are not treated as integral parts of NEPAD at least in terms of organization and decision making. It is instructive that the NEPAD website does not show RECS and member countries to be integral parts of the organizational structure even though they are the pillars up on which the successful implementation of NEPAD programs rest up on them. (Funke and N. Souli, 2003, p.22)

3.4.3 Coordination:

NEPAD is a huge, complex and a far reaching undertaking with many parts, several layers, programs, projects and participants. It involves the AU General Assembly, the HSGIC, the steering committee, the secretariat, RECS member countries, development partners, the United Nations system, the private sector and other stake holders. Such a complex undertaking requires coordination among the various actors and programs and success or failure depends to a large extent on the effectiveness of coordination. Coordination problems have already surfaced between UN agencies working in Africa and NEPAD as the joint investigation unit (JIU) report indicates. There is also evidence that there is a coordination problem between RECs and NEPAD and among the RECs.(ibid)

3.4.4 African ownership and information gaps:

Despite the international recognition, NEPAD has garnered, it remains little understood with in Africa itself. The average African does not understand what the NEPAD stands for. The ordinary African citizen thinks that NEPAD is another form conditionality imposed indirectly by foreigners. There for without proper understanding and participation from general public, it is difficult to generate popular support for the process of its implementation. (K. Brempong, 2007, p.19)

3.4.5 Monitoring and evaluation:

According to my key informant (Mr. Adao) Effective implementation of any program or project requires monitoring and evaluation with appropriate adjustment when necessary during the implementation process. This monitoring and evaluation should be guided by clearly defined objective and quantifiable criteria. For NEPAD, these are eradication of poverty, placing Africa on a sustainable development path, reducing the marginalization of Africa and empowering women. Since these objectives are linked to the MDGs, the criteria and bench marks should be set as close to MDG bench marks as possible. The monitoring process should also set a specific time frame to the Achievement of these bench marks.

Brempong,(2007)noted, although, the MDGs set clear and quantifiable bench marks NEPAD does not provide any guidelines and time frames of its own for African countries towards achieving these objectives. Without quantifiable objective and specific time lines, there are no incentives for countries to quickly implement the NEPAD programs. (p.12)

3.5 Political constraints

Political constraints to effective implementation of NEPAD may stem from the lack of political will to adopt and implement NEPAD programs because of an unwillingness to bear the implementation cost or opening up to scrutiny without immediate benefits, an inability to implement programs even when there is a will to do so, because of institutional weakness and an unwillingness to disturb prior relationships. Another political constraint to NEPAD's implementation is whether there will be political leaders to champion the process once the founders exit the political scene. (Kwabena Brempong, 2007)

3.5.1 Political will

The success or failure of NEPAD depends on the political will to implement NEPAD programs. NEPAD requires African leaders to conduct their affairs in a democratic, honest, efficient and transparent way and to voluntarily submit themselves to review by their peers as well as implementing policies that could possibly be unpopular. This process is likely to meet political resistance from those who might gain from the program. For example, attaining gender equity will require political leaders to challenge existing traditional and entrenched interests. This requires political courage and risk taking. (ibid)

3.5.2 Prior Relationships

Member countries, RECS, development partners and NGOs may have long established relationships that predate NEPAD. These relationships serve the interests of the parties involved. It is possible that NEPAD priorities or policies may conflict with these relationships.

For example, increasing regional trade may conflict with an agreement to protect the domestic market for a firm from a particular developed country,

given the direct benefits of such arrangements; a member country may be not willing to break the arrangement in order to implement NEPAD program. While these existing arrangements may help individual member countries or REC,s they may pose impediments to the implementation of NEPAD and possibly ,the long term development of Africa. Several of these prior relations, such as those between some European countries and their former colonies, or those common language or cultural affinity, abound in Africa and are likely to complicate the effective implementation of NEPAD.(K.Brempong,2007, p.20)

3.5.3 Incentive mechanism

NEPAD is a voluntary process of African countries without an effective mechanism to enforce its policies. The choice to implement NEPAD programs is left to member countries and RECs. There are costs and benefits to implementing NEPAD programs, so there are incentives for governments in democracies, whose time frame is short run in nature, to implement policies that yield short run and immediate benefits but not to implement policies with short run costs that have long run benefits. Most of the benefits from NEPAD programs may be long term and diffused while the costs are immediate and may be concentrated. Countries and RECs may have incentives to the NEPAD process, this making it less effective that it can be. For example, governments may implement policies and programs that will lead to an increased inflow of resources but not those that may impose short run unemployment. (Kawabena Brempong, 2007, p.21)

3.5.4 Institutionalizing NEPAD

NEPAD as a vision and program was conceived by a group of African political leaders who are dedicated to see the vision and programs through. However there is no guarantee that the NEPAD principles will be accepted and implemented even the political leaders eventually exit the political scene. A

challenge for the successful implementation of NEPAD is how to institutionalize NEPAD so that success does not depend on the willingness of a particular political leadership to carry the burden of implementation. (N. Funke and M. nsouli, 2004 p.43)

3.5.5 Weak institutions

NEPAD's challenge also relates to roles and existing regional institutions. It is almost impossible to achieve this with weak institutions. In most African countries, process, rules and regulations are complex, the judicial and law enforcement systems are weak and government's capacity to deliver public service is poor. NEPAD is focused on improving and building institutions in four Areas: institutions to promote political stability and manage conflicts, institutions for sound economic management, institutions for the rule of law and property rights and institutions for social insurance. In order to effectively implement these programs the institutions should be strong. (N. Funke, 2004, P.44)

3.6 Economic constraints

3.6.1 Capacity and resource constraints

As my key informants, One of the major reasons for the slow progress of implementation of NEPAD may be capacity constraints, including institutional, human resources and financial. Institutional capacity constraints and financial resource constraints are intricately intercourse. Countries that have financial resources can purchase the capacity to formulate, implement and evaluate programs. On the other hand, countries with the capacity to formulate, implement and evaluate programs find ways to finance these programs.)

In Africa capacity constraints and financial constraints mutually reinforce each other. These resource constraints plague the implementation of NEPAD of all levels, continental, regional, sub regional and national. Financial resource constraints prevent the secretariat from expanding its staff and capacity. In almost all African countries the capacities to conceptualize, develop and implement policies and to deliver public service remain weak. Institutions of Governance are generally ineffective.

3.6.2 Financial Resource constraints

NEPAD has been successful in getting its development partners to increase support to Africa. The World Bank, G8, the EU and bilateral donors have all increased their commitment of development Assistance, including debt cancellation and ODA to Africa. Under NEPAD African, countries have been successful in soliciting and receiving pledges of Assistance from new sources, such as Brazil, China and India. However this may not be enough to meet needs of Africa. It is important that to increase net financial flows to Africa. Although NEPAD has done a good job in mobilizing external resources to support development, it has done remarkably little to mobilize domestic resources. There is currently too much reliance on donor support for NEPAD. To successes, if the support is not forth coming, programs do not get implemented. All statements and actions of the AU, member courtiers, RECs and the HSGIC seem to suggest that not much Attentions being paid to domestic resource mobilization. While donor support is crucial for the success of NEPAD, sustainable development is only possible if domestic resource mobilization is taken seriously. (Knife Abraham, 2003, p.95)

3.6.3 The Role of the private sector

Sustained development of Africa will depend on the provision of an enabling environment for the expansion of the private sector. Private business rather than governments will be the pivotal to the successful implementation of NEPAD. It will therefore be imperative to pay particular Attention to the input of the private sector in decision making. The NEPAD frame work should therefore provide a large operating space for the private sector and encourage its occupation. (Brempong, 2007)

3.6.4 Lack of infrastructure

One of the road blocks to effective implementation of NEPAD is the lack of infrastructure of all kinds in Africa. Without an adequate road network, port facilities, electricity, telecommunications, water and other infrastructural networks, investors are not likely to come to Africa. NEPAD's diversity of objectives, political priorities may differ between countries and hinder the progress of various initiatives. Implementation risks may also stem from too high expectations, unclear responsibilities, and a lack of credibility and resource constraints. Some observers may regard partial fulfillment of the objectives of NEPAD as failure, and failure of this initiative would most likely increase the hurdles to be faced by any future reform initiative. The challenge therefore remains to translate the broad objectives in to well specified and tractable goals. (Economic report of Africa, 2007)

The dependence of former colonial power and financial institutions likely to continue to dog African integration efforts even in the face of a new project such as NEPAD which requires trust and cooperation among the member states for its success. The problem of lack of trust will remain a major challenge facing the AU, especially now that a decision has been made to make

NEPAD the Policy frame work through which the international community is supposed to support African development. (Said Adejumbi and olukoshi, 2009)

The problem of peace and stability is another problem for implementation of NEPAD. You cannot really deal with the challenge of development if you are in conflict internally or with another country. NEPAD is a development program. But for it to work, we need a certain level of stability and peace. Peace and security is key to economic development and are two sides of the same coin. (Nkosazana Dlamini, 2005).

Despite its current support, the NEPAD has to meet the challenge of maintaining credibility over time. To establish the credibility of the NEPAD, it is important to demonstrate at least some early progress. However, it has to be recognized that in many cases it simply takes time to implement reforms. Given the scope of the reforms, each of the participating countries' administrative capacity will be tested and may determine the country specific speed at which reforms can proceed. Therefore, initiatives cannot be implemented in an identical manner across the continent. (Funke and Saleh M. Nsouli, 2004).

NEPAD has been a high profile project engaged in a quite number of Activities that overlap with those currently being performed by the AU. For instance, in the Area of democratization and good governance, promoting sustainable development,, increasing Africa's integration and so on. The challenge then is "how to integrate the NEPAD Document with the AU document?" where in all matters relating development, whether of political or economic nature, find expression in one section of the emergent document. (Walter O. Oyugi, 2009).

According to M.C. William, 2003, the core challenge for NEPAD is whether it can help to rebuild confidence with donor's as much as private investors in the prospects for economic growth in Africa by creating a more favorable climate

for external engagement by way of investment, trade and donor support for poverty Alleviation.(p.9)

To conclude, NEPAD's Diversity of objective, political priorities may differ between countries and hinder the progress of various initiatives. Implementation risks may also stem from too high expectations, unclear responsibilities, and a lack of credibility and resource constraints.

Chapter Four

Opportunities and future prospects for NEPAD

Transforming an organization, a nation or a continent is a gradual, complicated, and uncertain process. It took the European Union 50 years to be fully integrated. NEPAD is not expected to completely transform Africa within a decade. Nevertheless, since its ratification, some progress has been made in implementing NEPAD principles. (Kwabena Gyimh- Brempong, 2007)

4.1 Peace, Security, conflict resolution and Democracy

In the areas of conflict resolution and conflict prevention, the AU has made progress in African countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Liberia, Rwanda, Somalia and Sudan. The AU has put structures in place to achieve these objectives. The peace and Security Council of the AU has a strong mandate with resources to support this mandate. There is the continental early warning system designed to prevent conflicts, the panel of the wise designed to mediate conflict, and the African stand by force (ASF) conduct peace keeping missions. Although NEPAD is not directly involved in these activities, it mobilizes resources for the AU peace fund and it is charged with reconstruction in post-conflict countries. In the areas of democracy and good governance, there is strong evidence that the NEPAD frame work is yielding dividends. Democratic transitions and competitive politics are gradually taking root in Africa. Already, a number of countries, such as Ghana, Kenya, Mali and Zambia have had democratic changes in government in free, fair and competitive elections. The AU and NEPAD principles played a leading role in the restoration of peace in DRC, Liberia and other African countries. It is instructive to note the pivotal role the AU has played in preventing unconstitutional changes of government in African countries, such as in Togo. In General NEPAD has been a positive catalyst for peace and security as well as

movement towards democracy in African countries. These achievements, however, are extremely fragile. (K. Brem pong, 2007, p.4)

4.2 Economic governance and public administration

The NEPAD principles have led to the launch of a series of activities to increase the quality and efficiency of economic and public management. These activities include the African management Development institute network in August 2005, Funded by the EU, Governance and public administration supported by Nordic development partners, and senior budget officers' workshops in support of NEPAD.

NEPAD has an important role to play in identifying bottle necks in the regulatory and legal environments in African countries perhaps the most important aspect of NEPAD that could improve economic governance and public management is African peer review mechanism (APRM), which is able to highlight, on a country by country basis, the government structures, laws and capacities that need to be changed, reformed and developed. This process encompasses all aspects of economic governance, public management, democratic governance, as well as institutional structures to encourage efficient economic and public management. By creating a better investment climate for local and foreign companies, governments will then be able to forge partnerships that combine be the best of the private and public sectors. The APRM is intended to encourage the adoption of best practices in these areas. (APRM report, 2009, p.1)

4.3 NEPAD and RECs

Many African countries are too small to be cost efficient and competitive in an increasingly globalized world. Economic integration is therefore necessarily to foster rapid economic growth and halt the marginalization of Africa. NEPAD's designers foresaw continental integration with existing regional economic communities (RECs) as the building blocks. RECs have protocols to increase intra-regional trade, free movement of people and goods, improved international transportation, pooling of energy resources, improved connectivity in communications, harmonization economic policy and movement towards monetary union. In some RECs, there has been real progress in some of these Areas. For example, in the field of energy supplies, the southern African energy pool has been a model of success. Similarly, the West African economic and monetary union (UEMOA) is a full monetary union. There has been substantial tariff reduction to encourage intra-regional trade as well as substantial efforts to encourage the free movement of people across borders. For example, within ECOWAS, there is free movement of people in addition to the introduction of the ECOWAS passport although residency in another country is limited to 90 days. (<http://repository-uneca.org-pdf/>)

4.4 Investment and development of priority sectors

4.4.1 Infrastructure

According to my key informant (Mr. Adao), one of the major constraints to Africa's development, is inadequate infrastructure and services. Poor infrastructure and services increase transaction cost, decrease access to markets, and hamper regional integration. This serious infrastructural gap has to be addressed.

Through NEPAD, African countries have developed the short term action Plan (STAP) on infrastructural development and mobilized resources through the African Development Bank (AfDB) and other development partners to fund these projects. The projects include power, road, rail and water transport as well as telecommunications and the east African submarine system (EASSY). However Completion of these projects will ease some of the infrastructure problems.

4.4.2 Agriculture

Within NEPAD Frame work, African countries and RECs, have developed and adopted the comprehensive African Agricultural development program (CAADP) with support from their development partners. CAADP has also received significant support from development partners such as the food and Agricultural organization (FAO), International fund for agricultural development (IFAD), world Bank, USAID, world food program (WFP) and the leadership of Africa's RECs. NEPAD in conjunction with the Global Alliance for improved Nutrition (GAIN) has established the National Food fortification program in several African countries. The union through its NEPAD programme works to raise the amount and quality of food that Africa produces in order to make families more food secure and exports more profitable. These effects should lead to improved food security. (The NEPAD GUIDE, 2010, p.21)

4.4.3 Human Development

Human development involves investments in health, education and training, Gender equality. African countries have developed several human- capital initiatives within the NEPAD frame work.

NEPAD understands the need to improve education in Africa by increasing access and the quality of instruction, especially in the sciences. The distance

education and teacher training programme is very well come development and should be expanded to train more teachers.

NEPAD has set up African centers of excellence in the four regions of Africa. It is interested in finding African solutions to African problems. In addition to these centers of excellence, it may be necessary to encourage institutions of higher learning in Africa. (The NEPAD GUIDE, 2010, P.22)

4.4.3.1 Education

NEPAD principles emphasize education for all with its “Basic education and education for all” project. This project will ensure access to primary and high school for all school age children. An important aspect of this strategy is the primacy of science in primary and secondary schools. To this end, plans for the “Building capacity in education research and development for Africa” emphasizing scientific research in high- school education have been developed and adopted by African countries under the NEPAD principles. This is a welcome change in the delivery of instruction in Africa as it may emphasize problem solving rather than memorization. NEPAD has identified the ECOWAS region as an area where governments should make special efforts to accelerate gender equity in education. NEPAD school feeding programs have been implemented in pilot stages in many countries, including Ghana and Nigeria.(<http://ghanadistricts.com/> home)

4.4.3.2 Health

Sustainable development is not possible without improvement in human health. The NEPAD frame work focuses on resource mobilization for the health sector in African countries. For example, both development partners and African countries agree with the recommendation of the economic commission on Africa (ECA) that one third of all additional aid to Africa should be devoted

to the health sector. NEPAD principles advocate the mainstreaming of HIV/AIDS and the NEPAD is working with African governments to provide antiretroviral therapies for HIV/AIDS patients through program such as the “Fight against AIDS”. The NEPAD secretariat is working with the AU commission and development partners such as the Gates foundation, UNAIDS and US center for Disease control (CDC) regional offices in Africa to develop a strategy to reduce the rate of HIV/AIDS infection as well as reduce the mortality rate of those infected. (World development program, 2007)

4.4.3.3 Environment and Tourism

To ensure the maintenance of quality environment, African countries, within the NEPAD frame work, have developed and Adopted sub regional environmental Action plans. Institutional capacity training for the implementation of the NEPAD/AU Tourism Action plan has been provided through seminars at various sites in Africa.

4.5 Science and Technology

Science and technology is one of NEPAD’s priority areas. Within the NEPAD frame work, several programs have been initiated. These include a design of science, technology and innovation indicators, establishment of the African Biosciences initiative consisting of four regional science networks, the African water sciences technology Networks and the African high level panel on modern Bio technology. More over NEPAD is emphasizing science and Technology in high schools as an essential part of its education program. The goal is to increase the supply of scientists engaged in addressing African problems. These programs represent serious efforts on the part of African leaders to tackle the technology gap between Africa and the rest of the world. If these efforts pay off, the benefits could be huge for Africa. (Kwabena Brempong, 2007, p.10)

4.6 African peer review mechanism (APRM)

One of the most innovative aspects of the NEPAD process is the APRM in which African countries voluntarily subject themselves to a comprehensive and critical review by their peers. It has, however, been difficult to implement. This process not only requires a lot of resources but also takes political courage for governments as it might expose them to criticism. The acceptance of the APRM process demonstrates the degree to which African leaders are determined to be open up to transparency and Accountability in governance, learn from each other and Adopt best practices. The APRM process is producing some results. The process is making it possible for countries to bench mark good governance on the continent, shared African and International norms and standards. Capacity for review and evaluation is being developed as the process moves forward. Moreover, the process shows cases Africa's innovative thinking on governance to the rest of the world. Annual progress reports on implementation of national programs of Action seem to suggest that countries are beginning to enjoy the benefits of the APRM. (APRM report, 2009, no.7)

4.7 Resource mobilization

The NEPAD frame work has enabled African countries to successfully mobilize a substantial amount of resources to support development. ODA to Africa increased from \$ US 22.2 billion in 2002 to \$ US 26.3 in 2003 to \$US 35.2 billion in 2005. Development partners have committed to substantially increase their development assistance to Africa. Even if NEPAD is successful in generating increased ODA for African countries, there is the danger, as some critics charge, that Africa is becoming increasingly aid- dependent. (Kinfe Abraham, 2003)

4.7.1 Debt Relief

The NEPAD process has led to substantial debt relief. The HIPC debt cancellation program resulted in the cancellation of all the debts 14 African countries owed to the World Bank and IMF. Debt relief will have positive benefits on Africa's development. It means that African countries can use the resources that would have been used to service debt for the provision of services or investments that will lead to long term development. (knife Abraham, 2003)

4.8 Climate change and sustainable development

The NEPAD secretariat made significant contributions in developing the African common position of the Copenhagen summit on climate change in December 2009. Specifically the NEPAD secretariat provided technical leadership in developing the African common position for the Copenhagen climate change negotiations. Furthermore, in collaboration with the secretary it of African ministerial conference on environment (AMCEN), a framework for sub regional climate change programs was developed and endorsed by the AMCEN high level technical panel on climate change. To conclude, the unique opportunity for NEPAD to African countries is, to demonstrate ownership and leadership setting the development Agenda and carrying it out. The African wide recognition of the need to Accelerate Africa's economic development and the broad consensus among African leaders regarding development priorities constitute an important pre- condition for the ability of African countries to reduce the development gap. Generally the NEPAD programme mobilized member states and regional economic communities (REC's) to compile programs and projects that could contribute to Africa's development in general and regional integration in particular. It has also improved coherence in support received by the continent from development partners. ([http; www.nepad.org.pdf](http://www.nepad.org.pdf)).

4.8.1 What must African countries do to achieve results?

Gyimh Brempong, (2007) suggested that to be successful, African countries will need to ensure good governance in all of its aspects and to implement sound macroeconomic policies and structural reforms. At the same time, there will be a need for further prioritization of reform initiatives. Setting priorities will necessitate a very good understanding of the critical reform needs and available resources. Although the NEPAD explicitly foresees a wider public discussion in international level, public participation in Africa is still limited. Reform efforts need to be based on a more open dialogue between governments and domestic stakeholders. The APRM can also serve as an important vehicle for enhancing credibility. However, the APRM must be free from political interference, it must be conducted consistently using high standards and countries must be willing to take corrective measures in light of the findings. For each initiative and the NEPAD as a whole, a clear follow up mechanism must be in place. To make up Action plans more credible and verifiable, detailed time tables must be set up. At the same time, it is necessary to develop indicators that facilitate the monitoring and control of implementation. It is important to clarify the relationships and responsibilities and to delineate communication channels among the various entities. Current efforts to integrate NEPAD in to the AU are a welcome development but it must be made clear which part of NEPAD will be integrated into AU and how this will affect the functioning and effectiveness of NEPAD. It is argued that NEPAD attempts to do too many things at the same time requiring large inputs of resources, especially capacity resources that Africa seriously lacks, more over this effort on all fronts requires Africa to spread its limited capacity too thinly. Given the imbalance between the desire and the ability to deliver, it is suggested that NEPAD pares down to a few priority areas that can be effectively and efficiently implemented. (p.10)

If NEPAD is to be effective and successfully implemented, its decision making needs to be more inclusive and transparent. Currently, NEPAD business is

mostly done within the secretariat, the HSGIC, and the steering committee. The general assembly, RECs, member countries and the public have little input in the initial stages of decision making. NEPAD should expand its decision making process to include inputs from at least the permanent representatives council (PRC), the executive council, representatives from the RECs, member countries and the private sectors. The political power of the RECs may need to be increased by strengthening the technical capacity of the regional parliaments. RECs should be included in decision making at the highest level. Representation of RECs on at least steering committee may be necessary. (<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs>)

Norbert Funke, (2003) suggested that, Integration is not likely to be effective without resource mobility. To increase factor mobility, RECs should adopt and implement protocols to allow the right to work, in addition to the free movement of people. Whether NEPAD succeeds or fails will partly depends on the ability to effectively coordinate the various components and activities of NEPAD participants in the process, including development partners. The coordination problem is magnified if one considers all NEPAD activities at the continental, sub regional and country levels. The coordinating activities, capacity and staff at the secretariat should be adequately expanded. The secretariat's role should probably be strictly limited to that of coordination with support staff at the RECs. Member countries should be given incentive for good performance in implementing NEPAD without cherry picking programs. A way to reward good performance is to help mobilize external financial and technical assistance for the implementation of programs and to withhold such assistance from those who systematically violate NEPAD principles. The funds for such rewards could be financed with taxes generated from increased economic activity (p.23).

African ownership of NEPAD will only be possible if African feel that they are a part of it. NEPAD should therefore do a better job selling itself to Africans and

involving the average African in the process. This can partly be done through public consultations and broader participation in and transparency of decision making. The Role of press is critical in selling NEPAD to Africans and engaging their participation in it. Part of the reason Africans do not understand NEPAD is that the NEPAD has not effectively engaged the African press.(Funke, 2003,p. 24)

4.8.2 How can the international community support the NEPAD?

M. Nsouli(2003), in its IMF paper noted that, The G-8 and the International Financial Institutions (IFIS) have welcomed the NEPAD and expressed their commitment to establishing enhanced partnerships with African countries. However, the international community has also made clear that support will be focused on countries whose Actions and performance are in line with the objectives of the NEPAD. Exceptions will be made only in the case of humanitarian needs. In the G-8 Africa action plan adopted at the G-8 summit in Canada in June 2002, the leading industrial countries pledged substantial assistance to promote Peace and security in Africa, strengthen institutions and governance (including the APRM), and improve education and health (including combating HIV/AIDS). Moreover, they made commitments to give greater market access for African products, implement debt relief under the enhanced HIPC initiative and provide more effective official development Assistance. African leaders have noted with satisfaction these expressions of support for the NEPAD, and the Specific actions already taken by the international community. They are seeking from their international partners to remove all further barriers to trade, particularly Agricultural subsidies, tariff peaks and non- tariff barriers, to expand and speed- up the relief provided under the enhance HIPC initiative and to increase ODA to the initial target of 0.7 percent GDP, as well as reform the modalities for the provision of such assistance. Furthermore, African leaders are urging a partnership with the rest of the world based on mutual commitments and accountability. In welcoming the

consensus reached in recent international conferences to fight world poverty, and noting especially the challenges of the NEPAD, the heads of the IMF and the World Bank have emphasized the importance of a two-pillar approach to Africa's renewal. First, African countries must take strong actions to implement appropriate policies and reforms. Second, the international community must provide increased, more efficient and more comprehensive support to help African countries accelerate their progress toward attaining the MDGs. Otherwise, on present trends, few African countries are likely to meet most of the desired goals.(p.25)

A part from its financial assistance to African countries, notably under the concessional poverty reduction and growth Facility (PRGF), the IMF has responded to the requirements of the NEPAD by intensifying its support for capacity building in Africa. At the same time the IMF will continue to enhance the training activities of the IMF institute, which provides substantial support to African countries. Finally, private sector and other stakeholder participation remain to be done if it is to play a leading role in implanting NEPAD principles in Africa. Domestic private enterprise and other stakeholders, such as civil society and NGOs are more likely to implement and sustain NEPAD. (M.nsouli, 2003, p. 26)

Chapter Five

Conclusion and Recommendation

5.1 Conclusions

The New partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) was ratified by the African union (AU) in 2002 to address the development problems of Africa using a new paradigm developed by Africans, and that uses African resources. NEPAD is a development program with set objectives and specific policy actions and projects for implementation across Africa. Its main objectives are to eradicate poverty, put Africa on a sustainable development path, halt Africa's marginalization and empower African women.

Since ratification, NEPAD has initiated various programs to achieve its core objectives, to build peace and security, improve economic governance and public administration, invest in priority areas, including infrastructure and human development.

It has also been successful in bringing African development problems to world attention, generated international support for Africa and galvanized African leaders to change their thinking about what comprises good governance and sustainable development.

In spite of these positive outcomes, several challenges remain in meeting NEPAD targets, among these s the structure of NEPAD itself, lack of Africa ownership, political factors, economic and capacity constraints. The less- than-strong relationship among the various components of NEPAD, member states and RECs male it difficult to implement NEPAD.

The political difficulties African governments face in making current sacrifices in exchange for possible future benefits pose an obstacle to the effective implementation of NEPAD. This lack of immediacy and urgency in the demonstration of political will is further complicated by the existence of prior commitments that sometimes conflict with NEPAD principles, and the weakness of the capacity of institutions to carry out the set tasks.

Economic factors, including financial and capacity constraints, lack of ownership by the average African and lack of both economic and social infrastructure make it difficult to implement a comprehensive program such as NEPAD, effectively.

5.2 Recommendations

In order to putting Africa on a sustained development path, and to reduce the challenges, in moving from vision to action it remains essential:

- ❖ To broaden and deepen discussions with the wider public, so that NEPAD can obtain the necessary attention from and acceptance by all stake holders.
- ❖ To strengthen the monitoring of progress by making some goals more operational, developing detailed time tables and establishing indicators in all relevant areas.
- ❖ To clarify the responsibilities of the NEPAD structures, individual countries, regional and designated institutions in the implementation process and to fully harmonize implementation of the NEPAD with other ongoing projects.
- ❖ Narrowing the scope of activities and streamlining processes of NEPAD is essential. It is suggested that NEPAD pares down to a few priority areas that can be effectively and efficiently implemented.

- ❖ The Relationship between NEPAD, AU, member countries and the RECs and the responsibility of each, must be clearly spelt out. Fortunately, efforts to clarify the relationship between NEPAD. The NEPAD secretariat and the AU are under way as the AU attempts to bring NEPAD under the AU. This process should include how to resolve conflicts among RECs, and countries.
- ❖ NEPAD's decision making process needs to be more inclusive and transparent, currently; NEPAD business is mostly done within the secretariat, the HSGIC, and steering committee. The general Assembly, RECs, member countries and the public have little in put in the initial stages of decision making. NEPAD should expand its decision making process to include in puts from at least the permanent representative council (PRC), the executive council, Representative from the RECs, member countries and the private sector.
- ❖ Strengthening the RECs and secretariat: the NEPAD secretariat is spread too thin to be able to effectively do what it is supposed to do. It is therefore important to substantially increase the managerial, technical and support staff of the secretariat. In the same way, the technical and support staff, and indeed the general capacity of the RECs, should be increased since they are at the center of the implementation of NEPAD.
- ❖ An important part of any implementation strategy is monitoring and evaluation. This should be based on specific bench marks tied to desire out comes. NEPAD should design and evaluation instrument based on measurable out comes with bench marks related to the objectives of NEPAD. It is important to set time lines to achieve specific bench markets.
- ❖ The APRM also serve as an important vehicle for enhancing credibility, however, it must be free from political interference, it must be conducted consistently using high standards and

countries must be willing to take corrective measures in light of the findings.

- ❖ NEPAD should find a way to pay competitive wages for health care professionals, in order to encourage them to stay in Africa. NEPAD and member countries should work out some arrangements with the developed world for the latter to help pay for increased compensation for health care workers who choose to stay in Africa.
- ❖ NEPAD should ensure increased transparency of resource use and outcomes, and increase accountability of the use of Aid. Both recipients and donors should publish the allocation of development Assistance to countries, projects and the outcomes flowing from such support.
- ❖ Member countries under the NEPAD structure must reduce corruption and bureaucratic red tape in order to attract significant amounts of foreign direct investment (FDI).
- ❖ Finally, NEPAD has to cultivate the world press and feed it positive news about Africa. It should establish a very effective public relations department in the secretariat to tell the positive African Story to the world. African needs to tell its story and not let others define Africa.

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Declaration

This thesis is my original work and has not been presented in any other University, and that all sources consulted for the thesis have been properly acknowledged.

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