

Implication of Justice and Peace for Sustainable Development in East African Region

Violet Odenda Namuhisa

violetnamuhisa@gmail.com

Department of Educational Planning and Management, School of Education, Masinde

Muliro University of Science and Technology

ABSTRACT

The East African Region is large geographically, consisting of: Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania Somaliland, Rwanda, and Ethiopia, Eritrea and Burundi .Geographically these countries form about a tenth of the African Continent. In terms of sustainable development therefore, this region has several implications for the entire African continent. The need for justice and peace for sustainable development the world over cannot be overemphasized in this paper. Unfortunately, the East African Region has experienced invariable episodes of lack of peace and by implication justice. This paper, examined the cost of wars and rebellions in the east African regions since 1994 to date vis-a-vis implications for the dilemma of justice and peace for sustainable development. The library document analysis paradigm was employed for data acquisition, analysis, interpretation, synthesis and representation. The findings indicated that the cost incurred due to lack of justice and peace is colossus. It is recommended that all strategies should be initiated and pursued to counteract distractions caused by lack of justice and peace at the expense of sustainable development.

Keywords: Justice, Peace, Strategy, Weapons, Fear, Human Rights, Decolonization and Sustainable Development

1.0 Introduction

The researcher collected secondary data on the cost of war in the great African Region to monitor how much is spent in financing the unrest since 1994 in Rwanda to the current situation in South Sudan.

Kenya

Item	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Budget allocation for Ministry of Defense, Justice and Governance, Justice, Law and Order Sector	KSh.6.1 billion for AMISOM	KSh. 265 billion	Ksh 24.8 billion	Ksh 29.8 billion	Ksh 200.8 billion

Source: Makwata,(2020)

Looking at the trends in the table above is an indication that a lot of money that would have been used in development programs are being channeled to finance war and defense. If there could be peace across the country and no terrorist attacks this monies could be channeled to more productive sectors of the economy to ensure that there is consistent development to ensure that the country attains vision 2030 (Gisore,et al, 2014)

Rwanda

Disbursing financial assistance to the new Tutsi-led government raises a range of problems, such as absorptive capacity and issues of legitimacy and accountability. In light of potential social, political, and economic costs of delays, financial support for national recovery has been painfully slow. According to the UN Development Pro-gram, by September 1995, nine months from the initial pledging conference, about one third (US\$245 million) of the initial funds pledged had been disbursed. By year's end, roughly half the funds initially pledged had been disbursed (Bishu, 2019).

Of the more than US\$2 billion spent on the Rwandan crisis since April 1994, the vastly larger share has gone to maintenance of refugees in Zaire, Tanzania, and Burundi. Although such a disproportionate allocation is understandable—refugees must be supported—it appears to Rwandans who have lived through the horror of genocide that the international community is more concerned about the refugees than the survivors (Apio,et al, 2015).

Disproportionate Allotment of Assistance

Of the more than \$2 billion spent on the Rwanda crisis since April 1994, the vastly larger share has gone to maintenance of refugees in asylum countries. The European Union has estimated that as of May 1995, it alone was spending \$400,000 a day to maintain the refugee camps (Lala,et al, 2014).

South Sudan

If the conflict continues for another 1 to 5 years, it will cost South Sudan between US\$22.3 billion and \$28 billion. If the conflict's effects are measured over 20 years to allow for flow-on effects, the loss is even greater: between \$122 billion and \$158 billion. The human costs of conflict – death, hunger and disease – also have significant longer term economic impacts (Blanchard,2016). Just taking the effects of hunger on labor productivity could mean a further \$6 billion in lost GDP²if the conflict were to last another 5 years. South Sudan's spending on security could increase by a further \$2.2 billion were the conflict to last another 5 years. The savings in military spending that would result from resolving the conflict within a year from now would allow South Sudan to meet the internationally recommended target of allocating 20% of spending to education (Mawejje, & McSharry,2021). The five countries considered in this report – Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda – could between them save up to \$53 billion if the conflict were resolved within one year, rather than allowed to last for 5 years; Countries in the region, most notably Uganda and Kenya, may incur substantial financial costs relating to security needs. Figures reported for Uganda suggest that defense expenditure incurred as a result of the conflict is around double the government's projected capital investment budget for the health sector for the coming financial year, and close to the capital investment budget for education (Năsulea,et a, 2016). If the conflict ended within one year rather than 5, the international community could save nearly an estimated US\$ 30 billion by reducing expenditure on peacekeeping and humanitarian assistance.

African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)

How a peace operation is financed is always an important issue. But money matters for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) have recently become highly politicized. This is in large part because of the complicated set of arrangements and mechanisms that are required to fund AMISOM. Particularly since mid-2015, some of these arrangements have come under pressure to change owing to

a variety of factors, including the longevity of the mission, circumstances in the global economy, and other international crises on the African continent and beyond. The changes have had the predictable knock-on effect of causing political arguments between the African Union, the AMISOM troop-contributing countries (TCCs), and some of the mission's key partners, most notably the European Union (Williams,2018).

First, there have been arguments over the appropriate amount of money that should be provided to AMISOM troops as allowances. These arguments intensified when from January 2016, the EU, which pays for all the allowances for AMISOM troops, reduced its payment by 20%, from \$1,028 to \$822 per soldier, per month (Williams, 2013)

Conclusion

Countries spend millions of dollars in financing war, this monies if could be channeled to education sector when peace is prevailing in Africa as a whole would ensure that Africa become one of the leading continents in sectoral development. The European Union's supports the African war through the African Union. These finances could be used in other sectors like power generation putting up of research centers in these countries if there was peace prevailing thus resulting to an elite group of African Nations.

References

- Apio, A., Plath, M., & Wronski, T. (2015). Recovery of ungulate populations in post-civil war Akagera National Park, Rwanda. *Journal of East African Natural History*, 104(1-2), 127-141.
- Blanchard, L. P. (2016). Conflict in South Sudan and the challenges ahead.
- Bishu, S. G. (2019). Rwanda. In *The Palgrave Handbook of Global Perspectives on Emotional Labor in Public Service* (pp. 361-378). Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.
- Gisore, N., Kiprop, S., Kalio, A., Ochieng, J., & Kibet, L. (2014). Effect of government expenditure on economic growth in East Africa: A disaggregated model. *European Journal of Business and Social Sciences*, 3(8), 289-304.
- Lala, G., McGarty, C., Thomas, E. F., Ebert, A., Broderick, M., Mhando, M., & Kamuronsi, Y. (2014). Messages of hope: Using positive stories of survival to assist recovery in Rwanda. *Journal of Social and Political Psychology*, 2(1), 450-468.
- Makwata, J. A. (2020). *Analysis Of Energy Consumption Patterns And Carbon Footprints Of Selected Units Of The Kenya Defence Forces: Lessons And Policy Implications* (Doctoral dissertation, University of Nairobi).
- Mawejje, J., & McSharry, P. (2021). The economic cost of conflict: Evidence from South Sudan. *Review of Development Economics*.
- Năsulea, C., CREȚU, B. N., & Moroianu, R. M. (2016). All Roads Lead To Juba: An Inquiry Into The Economic Viability Of South Sudan. *Revista Economica*, 68(6).

Williams, P. D. (2013). AMISOM in transition: The future of the African Union Mission in Somalia.

Rift Valley Institute Briefing Paper, 13.

Williams, P. D. (2018). Joining AMISOM: why six African states contributed troops to the African

Union Mission in Somalia. *Journal of Eastern African Studies, 12(1), 172-192.*