

# THE ROLE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH SUDAN POLICY

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A society develops economically a society is recognized as developed when its members increase jointly their capacity for dealing with the environment (Habasonda, 2013). This capacity is dependent on the extent to which they understand the laws of nature (science), and on the extent to which they put that understanding into practice by devising tools (technology), and on the manner in which work is organized (United Nations, 2011). Modern democratic societies rely on the power of education and the media to get the word around about what problems we collectively face. Those societies whose citizens are encouraged to engage in the fullest and most enlightened exercise of choice will have the greatest potential for development (Habasonda, 2013).

In other words, economic development demands and entails profound cultural change, including, often, transformation of political system, of individual behaviour and norms, of the culture of work and production, and most fundamentally, modifications in the manner in which society confronts, moulds, propels, and adapts itself to the requirements of technological progress that are found in economic growth and human development (Cypher and Dietz, 2009). Todaro and Smith (2011) postulated three components of economic growth that can be transformed to economic development if properly carried out: firstly, Capital accumulation, including all new investments in land, physical, equipment, and human resources through improvements in health, education, and job skills, secondly, growth in population and in labour force. Thirdly, Technological progress which helps in accomplishing mass productions or tasks. Social-Economic development of the Country is measured by the following attributes.

- **Education levels**

Apart from introducing western education into the country, globalization has also opened doors for thousands of South Sudan students, researchers, professionals and academic staffs to receive best or quality education in other countries around the world, thus integrating South Sudanese into world class higher education system, increasing knowledge and competences for national development (Crafts, 2014).

- **Gender equality**

When we empower women, we empower communities, nations and entire human family” UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. In line with the UN MDGs: Promote gender equality and empower women, has led the evolution of gender equality across the world over the past quarter century. There has been an improvement on many gender activities (United Nations, 2012). Many countries like South Sudan, than ever before guarantee women and men equal rights under the law not only in education but also in other areas such as ownership of property, leadership inheritance and marriage (World Bank, 2012a). Notwithstanding the progress so far, Gender inequality persists and it’s remained pervasive in the Country where women continue to face discrimination in allocation of resources such as access to education, health care, nutrition, work and economic assets, and participation in government (UN, 2012, World Bank, 2012a).

- **Access to medical & health**

The World Health Organization (WHO) has, rather ambitiously, defined good health as not merely the absence of disease, but a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being (WHO, 2012). Good health enables people to participate fully in society and provides the “means by which people can pursue their goals in life” (Boulding, 2012). Generally, health service is among poor infrastructure issues in South Sudan. It’s a pity that globalization has opened doors for political leaders who are supposed to build hospitals, and provide medical equipment for service delivery have failed due to largescale corruption, mismanagement and bad governance (UN, 2012, World Bank, 2012a). The leaders frequently with their families and associates seek expensive medical attention abroad at the expense of tax payers, making it difficult for the country to meet MDGs targets on health issues. Seeking medical attention abroad has become a norm for influential men and women in South Sudan.

- **Food security and Income**

Food security is an outcome of asset sufficient and resource sufficient system. The more food there is in the community the more will be available to raise income and therefore the more sustainable the livelihoods (Landvogt, 2009). A household earns income in various forms and through various means. Usually, the income of the household depends on the set of knowledge-skills-resources it has (Ashley & Carney, 2012). Further, the income of the household need not necessarily be in the form of wages, it can come in the form of produce/goods and services as well that may meet the needs of the household and/or could be converted into monetary income (Diagne, Zeller & Mataya, 2011).

**• Employment status**

Employment refers to the time or number of days a household is engaged in some activity or the other in the portfolio of livelihoods of the household (Shrestha, 2010). The employment depends upon its skill-set, resources available and the ecological and environmental context (Paudel, Tamang & Shrestha, 2014)

The relationship between Globalisation and Social-economic development in South Sudan because globalization has improved industrialization; African countries still account for a low share of global manufacturing. Africa continues to be marginalized in global manufacturing trade. The share of the region in global Manufacturing value added (MVA) fell from 1.2 per cent in 2000 to 1.1 per cent in 2008. In developing Asia it rose from 13 per cent to 25 per cent over the same period. In terms of exports, Africa's share of global manufacturing exports rose from 1 per cent in 2000 to 1.3 per cent in 2008 (UNCTAD, 2011). Industrialization is generally regarded as a hallmark for modern economic growth and development but the South Sudan industrial sector has suffered from decades of low productivity and currently in state of coma (Lawal, 2011). The potential downside of globalization is also greater for poorer countries as some of them are locked into a pattern of dependence (Todaro and Smith, 2011). The unfair activities by the west have partially caused uneven global development leading the widening of gap between those able to reap the gains of globalization and those who are left behind (Habasonda, 2013).

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