

FOOD FOR

THOUGHT

The World Bank headquarters uses more electricity to light its offices than is consumed in the whole of Chad, a country twice the size of France.

Excluding South Africa, Africa produces only as much as Belgium

The Trouble with Africa / Robert Calderisi

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) lost an estimated \$15.5 billion due to illicit capital flight from 1980 to 2006,

According to the report, "pervasive corruption," and trade mispricing in goods and services led to a per annum loss of nearly \$600 million dollars from the DRC economy. With that money, the DRC could have paid off its entire external debt, which is \$11.2 billion.

A new report by Global Financial Integrity

<http://www.gfip.org/>

"The World Bank says individual African countries lose about 25% of their economic output to corruption annually. If true, that is close to \$500bn.

This may be a tip of the iceberg. As one anti-corruption official puts it - if you put the stolen money in a row it will form a path to the moon and back"

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/7484022.stm>

Recently, 2002/2003, the World bank put together a number of governance indicator snapshots reflecting statistical compilations of responses on the quality of governance given by a large number of citizen and expert survey respondents in industrial and developing countries. For each indicator, 5-8 polls were taken on Cameroon. The results are damning. 16.7% of the survey respondents thought the government of Cameroon hears its citizens and accounts to them. 28.6% thought Cameroon was politically stable. 30.9% believed the government effective. 18.6% said Cameroon regulations are of quality. 6.2% thought there was rule of law in Cameroon and 8.8% felt corruption was under control.

End to World Bank's Chad oil deal

The World Bank has cancelled an oil pipeline deal with Chad after a dispute with the government over failed pledges to use profits to tackle poverty.

The bank said Chad had also failed to use revenues on health and education.

It said Chad had paid the outstanding balance of \$65.7m (£37m) under a \$140m loan agreement, after talks with the government of President Idriss Deby.

The pipeline was seen as a test case for how Africa's oil wealth could benefit the poor if spent properly.

Total aid to Africa since 80's – 400 billion \$
Total debt write off 16 African countries – 40 billion \$
Total oil revenue Nigeria since 80's 300 billion \$

Some Facts on Cameroon

- Population – 18,467,692
- Life expectancy at birth – 53.3 years
- HIV/AIDS – adult prevalence rate – 6.9%
- GDP – per capita (PPP) - \$2,400
- Budget – revenue: \$5.37 billion, expenditure: \$4.32 billion
- Population below poverty line – 48%
- Unemployment rate – 30%

(Source: CIA World Fact book)

- Minimum salary – 23,000 CFA

(Source: the post, 28 November 2008)

At the start of Monday's meeting, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urged the world's rich nations to spend \$72 billion a year to help Africa achieve U.N. goals to fight poverty, improve health and ensure universal primary education.

Ban said the price tag may be daunting but "it is affordable," pointing to the estimated \$267 billion that the world's richest nations spent last year just on agricultural subsidies.

A new report from the secretary-general said *not a single African country* is likely to achieve all the U.N. Millennium Development Goals by the target date of 2015.

latelinenews.com/news/ll/english/10079575.shtml?cc=10800

Nearly 70 percent of Africans who live south of the Sahara work primarily in agriculture. African farmers are the world's poorest.

Over the past 40 years, agricultural performance in Africa has deteriorated.

Since the 1960s, Africa's share of world agricultural exports has fallen from 8 percent to 2 percent.

Over the same period, the sub-Saharan region has gone from being a net food exporter to a net food importer.

Steven Haggblade, ed., *Building on Successes in African Agriculture*

(Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute, 2004).

In Ethiopia, 22% of the population has access to a safe source of water. In Mauritius, it is 100%.

South Africa has 724.3 mobile phones per 1000 people; Ethiopia has the least with 5.8 per 1000 people.

During the past two decades **fertility rates have dropped in every African country.**

The country with the **highest adult literacy** is Zimbabwe (90 percent).

The country with the **lowest adult literacy** is Niger (17 percent).

Source - World Bank -ADI Report 2007

Human population and Forest in Africa

- Between 2000 and 2005 Africa's population grew by 2.32% annually (nearly double the global rate of 1.24% per year)
- In the next half century Africa will have twice the population growth rate of any other region
- in 1950 there were 13.5 hectares of land per person in Africa
- by 1990 this had shrunk to 4.7 hectares per person
- by 2005 it became to 3.2 hectares per person
- According to present population growth estimates, by 2050 there will be only 1.5 hectares per person.

The Independent, "Nature laid waste: The destruction of Africa", June 2008

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/nature-laid-waste-the-destruction-of-africa-844370.html>

Syndicates in Cameroon like most Civil Society Organisations are the fastest means of getting rich through corruption. Their leaderships usually defend Government Policy than the Interest of Members! For example, on Tuesday April 13th 2009, The Cameroon Teachers Trade Union CATU organized a March in Bamenda in support of Government's decision to create a nondependent ENS in Bambili attached to ENS Yaounde where places are sold shamelessly to the public. This so called Trade Union has never bothered about the plight of Teachers in the Private sector.
Afanyi Ngeh (Civil Rights Activist)

Women leadership in question

Leadership is 100% about people. Leaders get people organized and focused. Leaders get people to share a common vision. Leaders allow people to try new things, embrace change, overcome fear, and step outside their comfort zone

Women in politics

"Out of over 180 countries, only 13 have elected women heads of state or government"

(Source: Worldwide Guide to Women in Leadership,

http://www.guide2womenleaders.com/Female_Leaders.htm; Women World Leaders,

Women at work

"In the United Nations system, women comprise 37.1 % (2,136 out of 5,754) of all staff in the professional and higher categories with appointments of one year or more. Six out of 37 (16.2%) of the most senior policy-making positions (Under-Secretary-General) are held by women".

(Source: United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women, www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/, Accessed November 2005.)

Women Economic Decision-Making

"In over 60 of the world's states, women's income is 50% lower than men's income"

“Women make up only 39% of salaried workers, but 62% of unpaid family workers”.
(Source: United Nations Millennium Development Goals Report 2005,
www.un.org/millenniumgoals, Accessed November 2005)

“The report notes that when bureaucrats overseeing three different environmental agreements on chemicals met to discuss cutting costs, they ran up a bill of \$112,500 per meeting on travel and per diem living costs along. The outcomes of those expensive meetings won't be approved until 2010.”

So tangled is the U.N.'s environmental organizational structure, and so disorganized the central control, that the report says is not even possible to know how much money the U.N. system is spending on simply managing its environmental actions. (Such records, the report demurely states, "are not available.") But even a "rough estimate" is breathtaking: about \$1.65 billion in 2006, the last year for which statistics were apparently available. When it comes to environmental activities, the report makes clear that the entire system of U.N. environmental management (or "governance," a term that comes up often in the densely worded document) is **not improving, but if anything growing rapidly worse.**

<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,499244,00.html>

In many African societies women lack the means to take part in important decision-making processes and have a limited voice in shaping their development. The responsibility for women's development traditionally rests with men. This state of affairs is largely a product of our socialization which, unfortunately, discriminates heavily against women, assigning them a place and a status in society inferior to that of men. And yet, when women are structurally barred from fully realizing their potential, the whole of society suffers.

http://portal.unesco.org/shs/en/ev.php-URL_ID=11213&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

- * 70 % of the world's poorest people are women.
- * Violence against women causes more deaths and disabilities among women aged 15 to 44 than cancer, malaria, traffic accidents or war.
- * Women produce half the world's food, but own less than two per cent of the land.
- * Women work two-thirds of the world's working hours, yet earn only a tenth of its income.
- * Two-thirds of the world's 800 million illiterate adults are women as girls are not seen as worth the investment, or are busy collecting water or firewood or doing other domestic chores.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/politics/struggle-for-equality-and-freedom-in-developing-ocuntries-439320.html>

Africa's future is up to Africans.
In the 21st century, capable, reliable, and transparent institutions are the key to success -- strong parliaments; honest police forces; independent judges -- (applause); an independent press; a vibrant private sector; a civil society. (Applause.) Those are the things that give life to democracy, because that is what matters in people's everyday lives. Now, make no mistake: History is on the side of these brave Africans, not with those who use coups or change constitutions to stay in power. (Applause.) Africa doesn't need strongmen, it needs strong institutions. (Obama's spech in Ghana)
<http://www.whitehousegov/the-press-office/Remarks-by-the-president-to-the-Ghanian-Parlia>

Ghanaians have chosen constitutional rule over autocracy, and shown a democratic spirit that allows the energy of your people to break through. We see that in leaders who accept defeat graciously -- the fact that President Mills' opponents were standing beside him last night to greet me when I came off the plane spoke volumes about Ghana -- ; victors who resist calls to wield power against the opposition in unfair ways. We see that spirit in courageous journalists like Anas Aremeyaw Anas, who risked his life to report the truth. We see it in police like Patience Quaye, who helped prosecute the first human trafficker in Ghana. We see it in the young people who are speaking up against patronage, and participating in the political process. (Obama speech in Ghana)
<http://www.whitehousegov/the-press-office/Remarks-by-the-president-to-the-Ghanian-Parlia>



Revised Constitution of Cameroon 2009 (Article 66)

The President of the Republic, the Prime Minister, Members of Government and persons ranking as such, the President and Members of the Bureau of the National Assembly, the President and Members of the bureau of the Senate, Members of Parliament, Senators, all holders of an elective office, Secretaries- General of Ministries and persons ranking as such, Directors of the Central Administration, General Managers of public and semi-public enterprises, Judicial and Legal Officers, administrative personnel in -charge of the tax. Base, collection and handling of public funds, all managers of public votes and property, shall declare their assets and property at the beginning and at the end of their tenure of office.

The other categories of persons to whom the provisions of this article shall apply and the conditions of implementation thereof shall be determined by law.

Even within Africa, Cameroon is doing no better. The World Economic Forum has developed a Growth Competitiveness Index (GCI) and other sub-index rankings: the Public Institutions Index (PII), the Macroeconomic Environment Index (MEI) and the Technology Index (TI). 25 African countries including Cameroon were assessed and ranked in 2004. Cameroon was placed 18 out of 25 in the GCI, 22 out of 25 in the PII, 16 out of 25 in the MEI and 18 out of 25 in the TI.

EITD Research (Research for Enterprise, Industries, Technology and Development)

“Few states fail by chance. Accidents of geography and history play a certain part, but so do corruption and mismanagement. Why, for instance, has Zimbabwe's annual GDP growth plummeted from 14 percent to at least negative 5 percent during Robert Mugabe's nearly three decades of rule? Is it really a coincidence that immunization rates in Equatorial Guinea fell 10 points over the last 30 years as the country became a petrostate? How come the percentage of paved roads in Yemen and North Korea is still in the single digits?”

Elizabeth Dickinson

Why is foreign aid not working?

“The answer is, well ...sometimes the money doesn't reach the front line. Channelling your funds through African systems means, by definition, spending money where organisation can be weak, where there's a lack of qualified officials and accountants, where civil service salaries are low and the temptation high, and where there are plenty of bad eggs among the good ones”.

Giles Bolton

International Day of the African Child

200,000 child slaves are sold every year in Africa. There are an estimated 8,000 girl-slaves in West Africa alone.

(Sources: BBC 5 October, 2001 & Anti- Slavery Society)

One in six African children dies before the age of five. Most of these deaths could be prevented.

Smoke in the home leads to the deaths of nearly 800,000 children each year.
United Nations Regional information Centre Magazine

Corruption costs Africa 30% of GDP
Oct 16 2008 07:06

Addis Ababa – corruption absorbs up to 30% of most African countries gross domestic product, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa said Wednesday at a conference on combating graft.

“In most African countries corruption is estimated to represent between 20% and 30% of the GDP, that is astronomic,” Okey Oyejekwe, director of Uneca’s governance and public administration division, said at press conference in Addis Ababa.

The three-day meeting in the Ethiopian capital which wrapped up Wednesday was at giving fresh impetus to the fight against corruption in Africa and called for a broader section of society to be involved.

“The problem of corruption remains intractable in many African countries, and it is widely acknowledged that there is a need for more innovation, creative and strategic approaches to deal with it” Uneca said in a statement.

Sapa – AFP

World’s governments will fail to meet their agreed target of curbing biodiversity loss by 2010, according to experts questioned by BBC News. Nearly 200 countries signed up to the target in 2002. Ten leading conservationists asked here at the World Conservation Congress were unanimous that the goal cannot be met.

All the global indicators of progress are heading in the wrong direction, and few governments have even translated the target into national legislation.

By Richard Black

Environment correspondent, BBC News website, Barcelona 13/10/08

A typical African government receives about 15% of its income from foreign aid, not considering the debt relief.

The bottom billion -

The labor movement initially focused on this “right to unionize”, but attention has shifted elsewhere.

Critics of labor rights movement claim that regulation promoted by labor rights activists may limit opportunities for work. In the United States, critics objected to unions establishing closed shops, situations where employers could only hire union shop. Taft-Hartley Act banned the closed shop but allowed the less restrictive union shop. Taft – Hartley also allowed states to pass right-to work laws, which require an open shop where a worker’s employment is not affected by his union membership. Proponents of “right to work” legislation claim that workers have the right to work whether or not they join a union. Labor counters that the open shop leads to a free rider problem.

The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) Cameroon Budget for 2008 was 800 million CFA FRS. According to Mr. Samuel Ngiffo, a member of the Commission this huge amount of money was to pay the Accountant (“Conciliateur”); pay per-diems to

the Commission members. That is between 1.000.000 to 300.000 CFA FRS per working secession; etc.

NB: The EITI is a Commission that is supposed to ensure that there is Transparency in the Extractive Industries. With such per diems and with no transparency and accountability, can the Cameroon arm of the EITI claim to be worthy?

A Secretary narrates an incident of how in a day, her boss could receive more than 20 visitors, a majority of whom came to use his office telephone. There are situation where certain individuals have had to pay FCFA 1,000 just to go to a government office to make calls which in actually fact will not cost up to FCFA 1,000 if made from a business telephone line.

Cameroon Tribune 11 November 2009

Equatorial Guinea statistics

Since oil was discovered there in 1996, Equatorial Guinea has become the third-largest oil producer in sub-Saharan Africa, after Nigeria and Angola, with estimated revenues of \$4.8 billion in 2007. But although petroleum has made the ruling Obiang family and its associates vastly rich, the oil and gas wealth has not been spread beyond ruling elites.

In 2006, more than three-quarters of the population was living below the poverty line, according to a 2009 [International Monetary Fund report](#). On average, about 35 percent of the nation's residents die before the age of 40, and 57 percent lack access to safe water, according to a 2009 [United Nations report](#).

By some measures, conditions in the country are getting worse. Though the nation's gross domestic product grew more than tenfold from 1990 to 2007, [infant mortality](#) rose from 10 to 12 percent, according to according to a 2009 [UNICEF](#) report.

New York Times 17. 11. 09

Global Witness found that ex-CNDP fighters now in charge of the 212th national army brigade are pocketing tens of thousands of dollars per month from illegal taxes imposed on civilians working in and around Bisie, eastern Congo's largest cassiterite (tin ore) mine. Most of these funds are channelled directly to ex-CNDP senior officers including brigade commander Colonel Yussuf Mbhoneza, and to other high-ranking elements of the national army.

Global Witness found that the brunt of the extortion and abuse is borne by the region's civilian population. At the Muhinga cassiterite mine in South Kivu, diggers told researchers that they are forced to pay \$10 each to the military for permission to spend a night working in the mineshafts. Diggers, many of whom are children, also have to pay the army to use dynamite and are forced to hand over an entire day's production each Thursday.

Global Witness

22 indicted FBI sting on paying foreign bribe.

Twenty-two executives and employees at suppliers to the military and law enforcement agencies were arrested on the eve of their industry's annual trade show in Las Vegas after a 2 1/2-year undercover sting operation aimed at schemes to bribe a foreign official.

The Justice Department called the case the largest single investigation and prosecution of individuals in the history of the 1977 **Foreign Corrupt Practices Act**, which bars bribery of foreign government officials...there are more than 140 open investigations under the act.

Charged are people at companies in eight states and executives at companies in the **United Kingdom and Israel**.

The sales agent was actually an undercover FBI agent, and no defense minister was involved at all.

The charges relating to the corrupt practices act carry a maximum five-year prison sentence on conviction. The maximum sentence for money laundering conspiracy is 20 years.

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100119/ap_on_bi_ge/us_foreign_bribes

The Adamawa, North and Southwest have been identified as the regions highest hit by the prevalence of leprosy in Cameroon.

Prof. Angwafor said the Adamawa has a prevalence of 0.55, the North 0.93 and the Southwest 0.89 respectively per 10,000 of the inhabitants... even though the prevalence rate of Cameroon is 0.25per 10,000 inhabitant.

The prevalence rates of the three regions are pre-occupying considering the less than 1 per 10, 000 case set by the World Health Organisation, WHO, as a trend towards eradication.

The Post Newspaper 1, February 2010

The one thing that may not surprise you is that scalloped hammerhead fins are among the most prized for the Chinese delicacy known as shark fin soup.

Sharks are caught, their fins are chopped off and they are dumped back alive into the ocean to suffer horrible deaths.

An astonishing 2.7m hammerhead sharks (both scalloped and smooth) are ripped from their coral reefs and sea mounts each year to supply the Asian market, and consequently the hammerhead population has declined by 83% in the northwest Atlantic over the past 25 years.

CITES Doha – Qatar 2010

The Pew Research Center has just released one of the biggest ever studies on attitudes to religion and morality in Africa, which has revealed a host of interesting facts.

Here are 10 things we have learnt from the study, which surveyed 25,000 people in 19 countries.

1. 75% of South Africans think polygamy is "morally wrong" - bad news for their president, as **Jacob Zuma took his third wife earlier this year and is engaged to a fourth.** However, the survey also revealed some possible double-standards. While only 7% of

Rwandans approved of polygamy

(although this did include women), a rather

higher number - 17% - of men said they had more than one wife.

Chad-Cameroon Pipeline Communities not compensated 10 years after

The 25-year lifespan project was initially estimated at a total cost of US\$ 3.7 billion, even though it was disclosed that the estimated cost now stands at US\$ 6.5 billion.

The ex-workers brandished pay slips with deduction each month.

The former workers are now mounting pressure for the COTCO to pay back the sum 'stolen' from them.

The Post newspaper June 2010

Le mode de gouvernance postcolonial est un ensemble syncrétique, composé de diverses formes de gouvernance, parmi lesquelles la gouvernance néo-despotique et la gouvernance néo-chefferiale, qui sont des héritages coloniaux récupérés et développés par les élites politiques et bureaucratiques depuis les indépendances.

Jean-Pierre Olivier de SARDAN - Entre Tradition et Modernité : Quelle Gouvernance Pour l'Afrique

La compétition interministérielle s'aiguise (voir le ministre de la justice face à Laurent Esso, secrétaire général de la présidence) pour le redressement moral du pays tandis que la vieille garde des partis semble homogène pour refuser l'aveu de son patrimoine... En somme, le discours de l'anticorruption autorise ceux qui l'énoncent de la manière la plus habile à inventer de nouveaux chevauchements entre économie morale et exercice de la répression.

Il leur permet de disqualifier les adversaires, mais aussi de recouvrir les échecs de leurs politiques par un dénigrement général de la société jugée malfaisante et des fonctionnaires considérés comme véreux.

Mutataion No 2625, mercredi 31 mars 2010

A propos du travail des enfants, une étude de l'Organisation Internationale du Travail montre que 550 000 enfants subissent les pires formes de travail au Cameroun. Parmi eux, 33.1% travaillent dans le secteur domestique, 19.8% sont vendeurs dans les rues, 7% travaillent dans les restaurants et les bars, 7% dans la prostitution et le reste dans les marchés et les laveries de voitures.

Agés de 8 à 15 ans, les garçons comme les filles subissent dans le cadre de ces activités des abus sexuels de la part de ceux qui les exploitent.

Plaidoyer contre la traite des enfants à des fins d'exploitation sexuelle

LA SANTE ET SOCIETE CIVILE EN AFRIQUE

"Les gouvernements africains allouent moins de 10 pour cent de leurs budgets à la recherche sur la santé et ont tendance à ne pas respecter bon nombre d'engagements [nationaux et internationaux] qu'ils prennent car ces engagements ne les lient pas juridiquement", s'est lamentée Ruth Oniang'o, fondatrice de "Rural Outreach Programme" au Kenya.

"Le gouvernement s'intéresse trop peu à la participation du public et les contributions de la société civile sont souvent ignorées »

Inter Press service news agency : L'apport de la société civile fait défaut à la recherche et aux politiques Décembre 2008

Kristin Palitza

La plupart des bailleurs de fonds européens gonflent les chiffres de leur aide publique en comptant l'allègement de dettes comme une aide ainsi que le financement du séjour des étudiants étrangers et des réfugiés dans les pays européens.

Une grande partie de la baisse de l'aide au développement indiquée dans les chiffres officiels de l'Aide publique est due aux « effacements comptables » de dettes.

Les avertissements des ONG de ces dernières années à ce sujet n'ont pas été pris en compte. Les gouvernements européens ont continué à manipuler leurs chiffres.

En 2007, les coûts liés aux réfugiés et étudiants étrangers et d'allègement de dettes ont été comptabilisés comme Aide officielle au Développement à raison de 17% de cette aide.

Le rapport de CONCORD montre que l'aide réelle des 15 Etats les plus anciens de l'UE s'élève seulement à 0,33% de leur RNB en 2007, ratant ainsi l'objectif de 0,39% RNB en 2006.

Agnès Philippart www.concordeurope.org

Crise alimentaire en Afrique ?

Le jugement de M. Olivier de Schutter, rapporteur des Nations unies sur le droit à l'alimentation, est sévère pour le Fonds monétaire international, la Banque mondiale, les pays riches :

Selon lui, « Beaucoup criaient dans le désert depuis des années pour qu'on soutienne l'agriculture dans les pays en développement. Rien n'a été fait contre la spéculation sur les matières premières, pourtant prévisible depuis qu'avec la chute de la bourse, les investisseurs se repliaient sur ces marchés. [...] Les plans d'ajustement structurel du Fonds monétaire international ont poussé les pays les plus endettés, notamment en Afrique subsaharienne, à développer des cultures d'exportation et à importer la nourriture qu'ils consommaient. Cette libéralisation les a rendus vulnérables à la volatilité des prix. »

« Agriculture : pas question d'autarcie... », Les Echos, 2-3 mai 2008.

Alors que la production rizicole en Afrique subsaharienne a connu une croissance annuelle de 3,23 % entre 1961 et 2005, la croissance annuelle de la consommation de riz a été de 4,52 % durant cette même période. Selon le Centre du riz pour l'Afrique (ADRAO), [1] le niveau d'autosuffisance en riz en Afrique subsaharienne a connu une baisse, passant de 112 % en 1961 à 61 % en 2006; ce qui veut dire qu'aujourd'hui le continent s'approvisionne sur le marché international du riz pour satisfaire environ 39 % de ses besoins de consommation en riz.² Le coût de ces importations s'élève à presque 2 milliards de dollars par an.

Les organisations paysannes dénoncent cette situation depuis des années. Elles soulignent que les politiques d'ajustement structurel imposées aux pays africains par les institutions financières internationales depuis les années 1980 ont remis en cause le soutien de l'État à l'agriculture et réduit ses possibilités de contrôler les frontières pour protéger la production locale contre le dumping du riz importé.

<http://www.grain.org/briefings/?id=216>

GRAIN publication

Mais a en croire les meme etudes, seulement 49% de ces operation de transit se deroulent dans les norms, les marchandises etant detournees de leur destination dans 51% des cas, et generalement deversees de maniere frauduleuse sur le territoire camerounais. A cette occasion, sur les 130 caminions qui ont pris part aux essais, seulement 98 sont arrives a bon port, dont 59 en RCA et Tchad, le reste des voyages s'etant acheves de maniere « non confirme ».

Mutation 07.08.09

A propos du travail des enfants, une étude de l'Organisation Internationale du Travail montre que 550 000 enfants subissent les pires formes de travail au Cameroun. Parmi eux, 33.1% travaillent dans le secteur domestique, 19.8% sont vendeurs dans les rues, 7% travaillent dans les restauraants et les bars, 7% dans la prostitution et le reste dans les marchés et les laveries de voitures.

Agés de 8 à 15 ans, les garçons comme les filles subissent dans le cadre de ces activités des abus sexuels de la part de ceux qui les exploitent.

Plaidoyer contre la traite des enfants a des fins d'exploitation sexuelle

Toutefois, la société camerounaise, souvent présentée comme marquée par une culture de la corruption, n'appelait-elle pas des actions de plus grande ampleur, visant les sommets de l'état, mais aussi les multiples arrangements de la masse de la population? Ne méritait-elle pas une guerre frontale à l'indiscipline et a la corruption, telle que l'affectionnent les généraux nigériens?

Mais justement, l'homologie entre les deux pays, limitrophes pourtant, semble difficilement soutenable. Le déficit de bonne gouvernance, ce terreau camerounais ou s'ancrerait la corruption, mérite en effet d'être relativise, réexamine avec un déchiffrement de son étrange régime politique qui – lentement et tardivement – dévore ses enfants, comme le Derg avait dépeuple la cour du Négus, jour après jour, pour finir a la dernière heure par un étrangement silencieux du roi des rois.

Mutataion No 2625, mercredi 31 mars 2010

The international community has frequently provided the Cameroonian regime with decisive help. Though this help has come with pressure for reform, very little has been forthcoming.

Most donors and other international partners are very reluctant to criticise the regime and seemingly willing to go along with its cat and mouse game of fake political and economic reform. But an unstable Cameroon, or just more years of bad governance, would threaten a fragile region. The problems are of legitimate wider concern and present a classic case of possible early conflict prevention.

Africa Report N°160 25 May 2010 <http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/africa/west-africa/cameroon/160-cameroon-fragile-state.aspx>

Regarding the text on Elecam, the government is making major innovations that also controversial. Thus, paragraph 2 of Article 6 again, the government "intends to remove the provision" makes public the trends in the outcome of elections "in order to reserve the exclusive right to publish the results to the Constitutional Council in strict compliance

with section 48 (1) of the Constitution which provides that "the Constitutional Council shall ensure the regularity of presidential elections, parliamentary elections and referendum. It proclaims the results. "

The second amendment to the bill Elecama is the new Article 8, paragraph 1 that "seeks to broaden the electoral council of twelve (12) to eighteen (18) members, to allow greater integration of sociopolitical sensibilities of our country."

"SECTION 6 (new).- (1) The Electoral Board shall ensure compliance with the electoral law of all stakeholders for the purpose of guaranteeing regular, impartial, free, fair, transparent and credible polls.

(2) In this respect, the Electoral Board shall:

- effect scrutines and controls as may be appropriate during election and non-election years;
- scrutinize candidacies and publish the final list or lists of candidates contesting presidential, legislative, senatorial, regional and municipal elections;
- forward election reports to the Constitutional Council or bodies provided for by the law;
- ensure the timely publication and notification of the list of members of polling stations to the appropriate persons outlined in the electoral law, notably representatives of lists of candidates or candidates;
- control the preparation of election material and election documents within the deadlines fixed by law;
- examine claims and petitions regarding pre-election and election operations, subject to the jurisdiction of the Constitutional Council and appropriate courts or administrative services;
- order the correction of errors ascertained upon consideration of claims or petitions filed in respect of elections or referendums.

Can you provide humanitarian aid without facilitating conflicts?

In fact, the humanitarianism that emerged from Biafra—and its lawyerly twin, the human-rights lobby—is probably the most enduring legacy of the ferment of 1968 in global politics. Here was a non-ideological ideology of engagement that allowed one, a quarter of a century after Auschwitz, not to be a bystander, and, at the same time, not to be identified with power: to stand always with the victim, in solidarity, with clean hands—healing hands.

Philip Kourevitch

There are times in the course of history when the actions of ordinary citizens spark movements for change because they speak to a longing for freedom that has been building up for years. In America, think of the defiance of those patriots in Boston who refused to pay taxes to a King, or the dignity of Rosa Parks as she sat courageously in her seat. So it was in Tunisia, as that vendor's act of desperation tapped into the frustration felt throughout the country. Hundreds of protesters took to the streets, then thousands. And in the face of batons and sometimes bullets, they refused to go home -- day after day, week after week -- until a dictator of more than two decades finally left power.

The **POST**

NO. 01106

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

*Monday Edition***NEWS***Monday Edition*

Lapiro Wins FCFA 12 Million Global Award

BY YERIMA KINI NSOM

Cameroon's ace musician, Lapiro De Mbanga, who is serving a three-year jail term at the Douala New Bell prison, is the 2009 winner of the 'Freedom to Create' Imprisoned Artists Prize.

The prize includes 25,000 US dollars that is a circa FCFA 12 million.

Nominated by the International NGO for the defense of artists, FreeMuse, Lapiro De Mbanga was selected in recognition of his courage and outstanding artwork. According to release FreeMuse issued last Wednesday, a distinguished panel including the world's famous conductor, Daniel Barenboim and Geoffrey Robertson, one of the world's human rights lawyers, declared the imprisoned artist winner in London.

The good news was conveyed to Lapiro in his prison cell a few hours before the prize award ceremony took place at London's Victoria and Albert Museum in the evening. International luminaries such as the celebrated Iranian film maker, Mohsen Makhmalbaf, Time-out founder, Tony Elliot and human rights activist, Bianca Jagger attended the occasion.

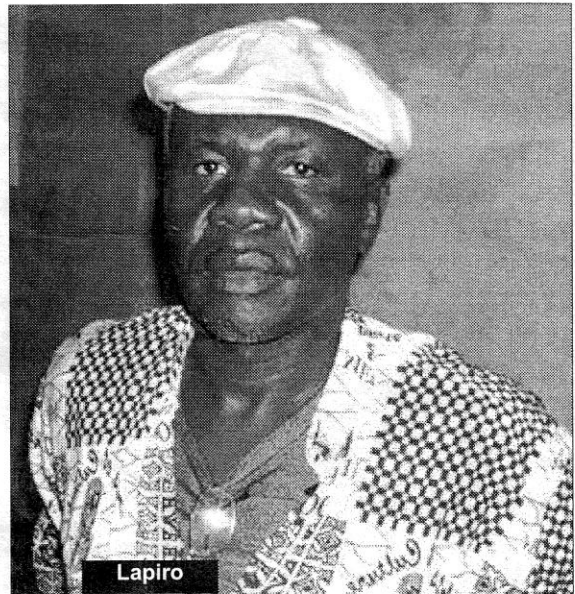
According to the NGO release, FreeMuse Programme Manager, Ole Reitov, who is coordinating the campaign for the release of Lapiro, said the artist was extremely elated when the news was broken to him. "Lapiro is absolutely overwhelmed about the prize. We

have spoken about the nomination several times, but winning is something very different. Lapiro says, apart from the very strong support to his case and family, the prize belongs to all artists fighting for the freedom of expression," Ole Reitov is quoted to have said.

Marie Korpe, FreeMuse Executive Director, received the prize on behalf of the laureate. The prize money, The Post learnt, will be used to campaign for the release of Lapiro and the sustenance of his family that has suffered immensely since his arrest last year.

Another Freedom to Create prize was presented to the Iranian film maker, Mohsen Makhmalbaf, who has dedicated his craft to highlight social injustices in Iran and neighbouring countries. The Freedom to Create prize celebrates the courage and creativity of artists around the world, who use their talents to build the foundations of open societies, promote social justice and inspire human spirit. Lapiro stood among more than 1,000 artists from more than 100 countries nominated in 2009.

Although the Douala court is said to have

**Lapiro**

found him guilty of inciting the February 2008 unrest in Mbanga, observers said authorities used the trial as a subterfuge to settle scores with the critical artist. For one thing, Lapiro used his satire-loaded songs as a tool against social injustice, corruption, abuse of power and other nation-killing prevailing vices. He has become a symbol of peaceful resistance to the mutilation of democracy in Cameroon.

Defining Greenwash

Green*wash: (n) Disinformation disseminated by an organisation so as to present an environmentally responsible public image. Derivatives greenwashing (n). Origin from green on the pattern of whitewash. *The Tenth Edition of the Concise Oxford English Dictionary*

2011 Ibrahim Index of African Governance Summary

Rank Score (out of 100)

1st	Mauritius	82
2nd	Cape Verde	79
3rd	Botswana	76
4th	Seychelles	73
5th	South Africa	71
6th	Namibia	70
7th	Ghana	66
8th	Lesotho	63
9th	Tunisia	62
10th	Egypt	61
11th	Benin	60
12nd	São Tomé and Príncipe	58
13rd	Tanzania	58
14th	Morocco	58
15th	Senegal	57
16th	Zambia	57
17th	Malawi	57
18th	Algeria	55
19th	Burkina Faso	55
20th	Uganda	55
21st	Mozambique	55
22nd	Mali	54
23rd	Kenya	53
24th	Gambia	52
25th	Rwanda	52
26th	Swaziland	51
27th	Gabon	51
28th	Libya	50
29th	Djibouti	49

Rank		score (out of 100)
30th	Sierra Leone	48
31st	Comoros	47
32nd	Mauritania	47
33rd	Madagascar	47
34th	Ethiopia	46
35th	Togo	46
36th	Liberia	45
37th	Burundi	45
38th	Cameroon	45
39th	Niger	44
40th	Congo	42
41st	Nigeria	41
42nd	Angola	41
43rd	Guinea	38
44th	Guinea-Bissau	37
45th	Equatorial Guinea	37
46th	Côte d'Ivoire	36
47th	Eritrea	35
48th	Sudan	33
49th	Central African Republic	33
50th	Congo, Democratic Rep.	32
51st	Zimbabwe	31
52nd	Chad	31
53rd	Somalia	8

Russia and China come bottom of bribe-paying survey

The two scored worst out of 28 countries in a poll of 3,000 business executives conducted by anti-corruption group Transparency International (TI).

"G20 governments must tackle foreign bribery as a matter of urgency," said Huguette Labelle, chair of TI, who said that more resources must be dedicated to investigations and prosecutions.

Bribe Rankings - worst offenders last

3. Belgium
4. Germany, Japan
6. Australia, Canada
8. Singapore, UK
10. US
11. France, Spain
13. South Korea
14. Brazil
15. Hong Kong, Italy, Malaysia, South Africa
19. India, Turkey
22. Saudi Arabia
23. Argentina, UAE
25. Indonesia
26. Mexico
27. China
28. Russia

"SECTION 6 (new).- (1) The Electoral Board shall ensure compliance with the electoral law of all stakeholders for the purpose of guaranteeing regular, impartial, free, fair, transparent and credible polls.

(2) In this respect, the Electoral Board shall:

- effect scrutines and controls as may be appropriate during election and non-election years;
- scrutinize candidacies and publish the final list or lists of candidates contesting presidential, legislative, senatorial, regional and municipal elections;
- forward election reports to the Constitutional Council or bodies provided for by the law;
- ensure the timely publication and notification of the list of members of polling stations to the appropriate persons outlined in the electoral law, notably representatives of lists of candidates or candidates;
- control the preparation of election material and election documents within the deadlines fixed by law;

- examine claims and petitions regarding pre-election and election operations, subject to the jurisdiction of the Constitutional Council and appropriate courts or administrative services;
- order the correction of errors ascertained upon consideration of claims or petitions filed in respect of elections or referendums.

The 2011 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded Friday to Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Liberian peace activist Leymah Gbowee and Tawakkul Karman of Yemen for their work on women's rights.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee honored the three women "for their non-violent struggle for the safety of women and for women's rights to full participation in peace-building work."

<http://news.yahoo.com/johnson-sirleaf-gbowee-karman-win-nobel-peace-090711830.html>

Can you provide humanitarian aid without facilitating conflicts?

In fact, the humanitarianism that emerged from Biafra—and its lawyerly twin, the human-rights lobby—is probably the most enduring legacy of the ferment of 1968 in global politics. Here was a non-ideological ideology of engagement that allowed one, a quarter of a century after Auschwitz, not to be a bystander, and, at the same time, not to be identified with power: to stand always with the victim, in solidarity, with clean hands—healing hands.

[Philip Gourevitch](#)

Read more

http://www.newyorker.com/arts/critics/atlarge/2010/10/11/101011crat_atlarge_gourevitch#ixzz1PnshbAmt

"Given its oil resources, [Cameroon] could be one of the richest countries in Sub-Saharan Africa," stated a [2009 Oxford University study](#). Instead, it noted, "Cameroon has become an example of growth collapse." The study makes the stunning assertion that 54% of total oil revenues in Cameroon between 1997 and 2006 are potentially unaccounted for in the federal budget. The culprit? "Poor governance."

There are times in the course of history when the actions of ordinary citizens spark movements for change because they speak to a longing for freedom that has been building up for years. In America, think of the defiance of those patriots in Boston who refused to pay taxes to a King, or the dignity of Rosa Parks as she sat courageously in her seat. So it was in Tunisia, as that vendor's act of desperation tapped into the frustration felt throughout the country. Hundreds of protesters took to the streets, then thousands.

And in the face of batons and sometimes bullets, they refused to go home -- day after day, week after week -- until a dictator of more than two decades finally left power.

Regarding the text on Elecam, the government is making major innovations that also controversial. Thus, paragraph 2 of Article 6 again, the government "intends to remove the provision" makes public the trends in the outcome of elections "in order to reserve the exclusive right to publish the results to the Constitutional Council in strict compliance with section 48 (1) of the Constitution which provides that "the Constitutional Council shall ensure the regularity of presidential elections, parliamentary elections and referendum. It proclaims the results. "

The second amendment to the bill Elecam is the new Article 8, paragraph 1 that "seeks to broaden the electoral council of twelve (12) to eighteen (18) members, to allow greater integration of sociopolitical sensibilities of our country."

I consider my ability to arouse enthusiasm among my people the greatest asset I possess, and the way to develop the best that is in a person is by appreciation and encouragement.
- Charles Schwab

Any of us will put out more and better ideas if our efforts are appreciated.
- Alexander F. Osborn

One can never pay in gratitude: one can only pay 'in kind' somewhere else in life.
- Anne Morrow Lindbergh

Data summary

Transparency international world corruption index (1=least corrupt)

Click heading to sort table. [Download this data](#)

Country Rank, 2012	Country / Territory	CPI 2012 Score	Change in rank since 2011	2011 rank	2008 rank
1	New Zealand	90	0	1	4
1	Denmark	90	1	2	1
1	Finland	90	1	2	1
174	Afghanistan	8	6	180	178
174	Korea (North)	8	8	182	0
174	Somalia	8	8	182	0

Transparency International has released its 2012 Corruption Perceptions Index, deeming more than two-thirds of the countries surveyed as "very corrupt." The usual suspects occupied both ends of the league table.

Only 53 of 176 countries surveyed attained a "passing grade" of 50 out of 100 in Transparency International's annual corruption report.

Two typical trios bookended the index, with Denmark, Finland, and New Zealand all tied on 90 at the top. Somalia, North Korea and Afghanistan shared the ignominious end of Transparency's table, scoring just eight. SOURCE: [Transparency International](#)

Democratic Republic of Congo

Clashes between the military and armed groups continue to generate internal displacement with figures currently standing at 1.7 million as of March 2012. Of these 1.7 million, UNHCR is currently assisting some 100,000. It is expected that 1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) will require UNHCR's assistance in 2012 with some 70,000 of them currently residing in camps.

In May 2012, renewed fighting in North Kivu Province has left more than 40,000 people internally displaced with many thousands more crossing into neighbouring Rwanda. Plans to construct a new refugee camp in Rwanda are underway to accommodate the refugees arriving daily. Key needs are shelter, health and medical support.

<http://www.unrefugees.org.au/emergencies/current-emergencies/drc-%28congo%29>

Teodorin Obiang's \$35 million, 15,000-square-foot California mansion feature a swimming pool, tennis court, and four-hole golf course. According to U.S. Senate investigators, Teodorin shelled out \$59,850 for rugs, \$58,000 for a home theater, and even \$1,734.17 for a pair of wine glasses. The palace is reported by Forbes Magazine as the most expensive house purchased in the United States in 2006. He paid cash for the property.

The survey also asked about material well-being in the world's poorest continent. Not so long ago, Cameroon regularly topped surveys of champagne consumption per head. However, **a shocking 71% of Cameroonians surveyed said there were times in the past year when they did not have enough money to buy food.** In Ethiopia, which is commonly seen as a country struggling to feed itself, the rate was far lower - at 30% - the lowest of all countries surveyed.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/8620249.stm>

North Korea is suffering from a serious problem with police, troops and border guards stationed near China. It's all about corruption, and a breakdown of order along the border.

For several years now, there has been a problem with North Korean troops going into China to steal, and sometimes rob people as well, and then scoot across the border with their loot.

As long as you tip the border guard, getting through is no problem.

In some cases, the stealing takes place on the North Korean side, with the goods then taken to China for sale. Construction materials are a favorite item – before or after they are built into something.

Another popular target for thieves is metal of any kind, as China has become a major worldwide magnet for scrap. However, this has become a major problem in North Korea, where the thieves take power transmission lines.

This is easy to do, as there is no power for many hours of the day, or several days at a time. Even the North Korean heroin production, a valuable source of foreign currency, gets plundered.

North Korea ranks 182 out of 182 countries and earned a score of 1 out of 10.



La justice française a saisi l'hôtel particulier parisien de Teodorin Obiang, fils du président de Guinée équatoriale, dans le cadre de l'enquête sur les « biens mal acquis ». Le gouvernement équato-guinéen a indiqué à la France que cette décision est illégale et qu'elle risque de ternir les relations entre les deux pays.

(CNN) -- A growing religion in southern Africa is posing a threat to the survival of wild leopards.

"From visiting a few of these (church) gatherings, you realize that it's not 92 or 100 or 200 (leopard skins). We are talking about thousands of leopard skins," said Tristan Dickerson, a conservationist at the [Phinda Game Reserve](#) in KwaZulu-Natal province. At the gathering in Ekuphakameni real skins were being sold for \$440 each.

<http://edition.cnn.com/2012/09/16/world/africa/leopards-shembe-south-africa/index.html>

Mr Mugabe, 89, has pledged to step down after 33 years in power if he and his party lose.

President Mugabe's Zanu-PF party and Mr Tsvangirai's MDC have shared an uneasy coalition government since 2009 under a deal brokered to end the deadly violence that erupted after a disputed presidential poll the previous year.

For the preceding 20 years, this conservative man was only seen in public with either a stiff suit and tie or safari suit.

Many Zimbabweans, and others, are asking why he does not just put his feet up and enjoy his remaining years with his young family.

His second wife, Grace, 40 years his junior, says that he wakes up at 04:00 for his daily exercises.

Mr Mugabe was 73 when she gave birth to their third child, Chatunga.

He professes to be a staunch Catholic, and worshippers at Harare's Catholic Cathedral are occasionally swamped by security guards as he turns up for Sunday Mass.

"Africa has a drinking problem," declared a recent article in Time Magazine. But is the evidence there to support such a sweeping statement?

The WHO report suggests that more than two-thirds (70.8%) of Africans have not touched a drop of alcohol for a year.

"That's largely because many African countries have large Muslim populations," explains Kate Wilkinson.

"If you look at how many people are lifetime abstainers - they don't drink alcohol at all and never have - that's 57.3%."

That hardly paints a picture of an entire continent struggling with alcohol.

There are, of course, some alcoholics in Africa.

"Alcohol has become probably the only source of relief for those out of work, the only source of relief from extreme poverty or joblessness," he says.

He blames new ranges of alcoholic drinks, which are very strong, very cheap, and, in his view, "very dangerous".

"With just £1 (\$1.58) you can get yourself truly messed up, plus two or three other people too," he says.

According to the World Health Organization, a binge drinker is someone who consumes 60g (75ml) or more of pure alcohol on at least one occasion in any week.

That's 7.5 units in UK terms, or about three pints of strong beer.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-24083170>

The European Union (EU) has officially launched its military mission to CAR, unveiling plans to send 1,000 troops to bolster African and French forces.

The UN has warned that 19,000 Muslims "face slaughter" in CAR.

Trade and immigration will also feature prominently at the summit.

It is expected to be attended by 30 heads of state and government - 15 each from Africa and Europe.

[Continue reading the main story](#)

“Start Quote

There's nothing, there's no coherent army, no police, no justice system”

Navi Pillay UN human rights chief

Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe is boycotting the summit after the EU refused to temporarily lift a visa ban on his wife, Grace.

Mr Mugabe received support from South African President Jacob Zuma, who chose to boycott the summit in a show of solidarity for his Zimbabwean counterpart.

"I think that time must pass wherein we are looked [upon] as subjects," Mr Zuma said. "We are told who must come, who must not come. It is wrong and causes this unnecessary unpleasantness."

In fact, the current epidemic sweeping across the region has now killed more than all other known Ebola outbreaks combined.

The total number of reported cases is more than 21,171.

Ebola deaths, Figures published 12 January 2015

8,386

Deaths - probable, confirmed and suspected

(Includes one in the US and six in Mali)

- **3,515 Liberia**
- **3,049 Sierra Leone**
- **1,807 Guinea**
- **8 Nigeria**
