

## Mission:

To build a network of international workforce, mobilizing communities to be self-sufficient, executing effective and efficient assessments, feasibility studies, and implementing projects for the complete physical, mental and social wellbeing of all  
~Optimal Wellbeing.

## What do we do?

A-Kins Analysts and Project Managers, a minority woman owned community based small business, is a specialty provider of Business Infrastructure Capacity Services including:

- Business Capacity Assessments
- Business Feasibility Studies
- Business Strategic Plan & Project Management

Executing efficient & effective, successful international business projects.

"Successfully implementing impossible projects in impossible places"

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Africa in Brief:	1
Macroeconomics of Africa	2-4
Africa: Making the Best of Two Worlds	5
Published Letters to the Editor	6

# AFRICA



**Africa in Brief:** Africa is the second largest continent in the World. Africa is only second to Asia in landmass, area, population and density of people. The United Nations records Africa as holding a huge proportion of the world's natural resource. I believe this could be estimated at about two thirds of the world's most natural unadulterated natural resources. The most populous and historically industrious city in Africa is LAGOS, Nigeria. This is where I am from.

Africa is however classified by the United Nations as the least advanced in globalization and the most vulnerable; deepening in poverty, yet rich enough to be exploited by the World. United Nations has stated that in order for Africa to reap its inherent wealth, there needs to be a reversal of the exploitation of its natural resources.

Our founding fathers in Nigeria for example, set us up with a competitive advantage in *education and health*. With the barest minimum infra-

structure, we had free education and free health care attached to our schools in Lagos when I was growing up. Their thinking: we could export our natural resources, cocoa and timber, to name but a few, and make money to sustain ourselves.



Picture: A woman selling yams in the market place, West Africa.

**"Africa, in deed so RICH, has since become poor".**

They have all since passed on.....

After their era, Oil, and other Natural Resources needed for energy in the Western World was discovered in abundance in Africa, yet this did not

bring wealth. It in fact deepened poverty by way of corruption and greed. Africans became a poor people. Poor in knowledge of who they are, what they have, and what their capabilities are; our resources being taken from our land daily by those who are not ours. We are now poor in social responsibilities towards our land and our future, the children.

Our leadership has been corrupted hence the constant political instability. These have led the African Continent to be deemed "High Risk" for investors who in fact will not invest in the continent but will do whatever it takes to exploit every resource Africa has without giving Africa a means to thrive in the Global economy. Africa indeed, so RICH, has since become poor.





....."Africa has been Left Behind".

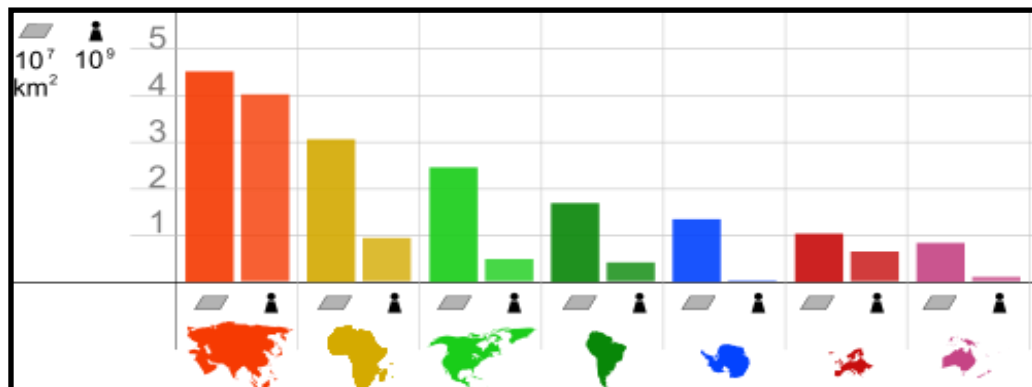
Source: <http://un.org>

# Macro Economics of Africa

Macroeconomics of Africa entails having a competitive GDP: "Gross Domestic Product". This simply means countries **EXPORT** more (Net Export) than they **IMPORT** (Net Import) based on demand and supply ratio of goods and services in the World. Hence an equilibrium or balance of aggregate import and export.

There is a complex play of factors affecting the gross domestic product –GDP of a nation, and a continent at large. Some of these factors include: Price of Goods and Services; Interest Rate; Rate of Investment; Exchange Rate; Competitive Advantage to Execute Business (including Infrastructure, technology, political stability, access to capital for executing business).

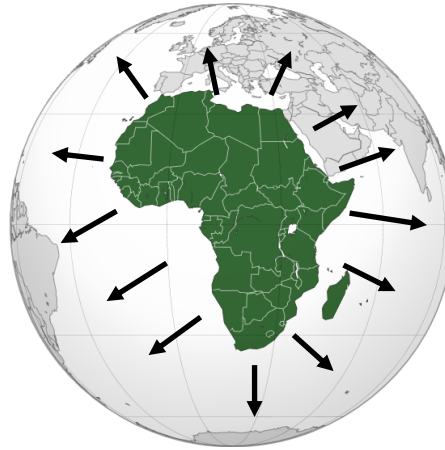
Factors Affecting the Economy	Africa	Asia	The World
Export Capacity	✓	✓	✓
Imports	✓	✓	 (Great Demand for Imports)
Supply	✓	✓	✓
Demand	 (Less Demand for goods & services)	 (Great Demand for goods & services due to population size)	 (Great Demand for goods & services)
Competitive Advantage	<b>X</b> (Lacking in competitive Advantage for Business)	✓	✓



Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Continent#Area\\_and\\_population](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Continent#Area_and_population)

# Africa — A Competitive Supplier

United Nations in its fourth issue of “Sustainable Development Report on Africa (SDRA-IV), has classified Managing Africa’s Natural Resources Base for Sustainable Development as follows: Biodiversity; Forest; -Biotechnology, and Mountains/Tourism, stating the use of economic, social and environmental pillars to achieve sustainable development and reduce poverty. However, Africa’s historical records show a different solution to this never-ending poverty.



*“Africa, the competitive  
supplier of the World”*

Historically, Africa is known as the first continent to have record on human existence, Homo Sapiens. These humans were highly innovative and industrious, building nations and Kingdoms with social structure and trading protocols. Africa, traded with itself and the world. These first humans have in no means lost their innovation and industrious traits; these traits are in fact in-bred as genetic stamps in Africans. Africa has however never been given a chance to thrive in the “New Era of Humans”.

*Africa has Never been Allowed to Thrive on its Terms.*

In order for Africa to thrive as a Competitive Supplier of the World, it will need the following from its **“World Partners”**:

**Capital:** The “Crowding Out Effect” is the order of the day when it comes to business capital for manufacturing of exportable good. The Crowding out effect happens to poor countries with little cash flow hence the capital and loan capacity is prioritized and used up by its federal government, leaving no capital for local businesses (less capacity for Business loans). There are however many innovative business minded Africans, but the capital capacity makes production supply serve the local population. The Capital is

Area	30,221,532 km <sup>2</sup> (11,668,599 sq mi), (2nd largest in the World)
Population (Pop.)	1.1 billion <sup>[1]</sup> (2013, 2nd Largest in the World)
Pop. density	30.51/km <sup>2</sup> (about 80/sq mi)
Countries	54 (and 2 disputed)
Languages	Over 3,000 Native Languages

therefore never enough to manufacture goods for global export.

**Infrastructure:** Poor roads and lack of funds for government investment in such infrastructure is the cause of **accidents in Africa**. This is currently the number one killer (cause of death) of Africans (not infections or infestations as commonly thought. Infestation being Malaria. the number one infestation of African’s blood streams causing chronic anemia). Africa has a vast number of engineers, but once again with prioritized government funding, infrastructure takes a back sit to other needs.

Continent	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Area (mi <sup>2</sup> )	Percent of total landmass	Population	Percent of total population	Density People per km <sup>2</sup>	Density People per mi <sup>2</sup>	Most populous city ( <u>proper</u> )
<a href="#">Asia</a>	43,820,000	16,920,000	29.5%	4,164,252,000	60%	95.0	246	<a href="#">Shanghai, China</a>
<a href="#">Africa</a>	30,370,000	11,730,000	20.4%	1,022,234,000	15%	33.7	87	<a href="#">Lagos, Nigeria</a>
<a href="#">North America</a>	24,490,000	9,460,000	16.5%	542,056,000	8%	22.1	57	<a href="#">Mexico City, Mexico</a>
<a href="#">South America</a>	17,840,000	6,890,000	12.0%	392,555,000	6%	22.0	57	<a href="#">São Paulo, Brazil</a>
<a href="#">Antarctica</a>	13,720,000	5,300,000	9.2%	4,490 <sup>[31]</sup>	0%	0.0003	0.00078	<a href="#">McMurdo Station, US</a>
<a href="#">Europe</a>	10,180,000	3,930,000	6.8%	738,199,000	11%	72.5	188	<a href="#">Moscow, Russia</a> <sup>[32]</sup>
<a href="#">Australia</a>	9,008,500	3,478,200	5.9%	29,127,000	0.4%	3.2	8.3	<a href="#">Sydney, Australia</a>

Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Continent#Area\\_and\\_population](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Continent#Area_and_population)

## What does Africa need from the Rest of the World?

- 1) **Capital** so Africa can be a World Supplier
- 2) **Investors** who believe in Africa and its Potential to Supply the World
- 3) **Respect** for the land, Investors who are Socially Responsible, yet business minded.

(Africa holds its land Dear)



Best of Two Worlds: Market Place and Bus Stop, Lagos , Nigeria

**Technology:** Although Africans have a vast knowledge of the kinds of technology available to the World, how be it knowledge from movies from America, they are lacking in investment in such technological advancement in their countries. The government having other priorities to spend infrastructure funds on. Technology experts do exist in these countries, but there is no investment in technology hence the lack thereof.

**Political Stability:** African Nations do not have political stability. Politics is often openly violent. If Africa and African Politics is not influenced by funds from Western World in exchange for exploitation of resources, peradventure, Africans raised for leadership can thrive and take their positions as leaders.

Intimidation is the order of the day, intimidation and suppression by those who have been sponsored by various Western countries and industries in exchange for African spoils. If this constant interference in the democra-

cy of African can be removed, Africa will lead itself in the same way it did when it had Kingdoms and Nations, in "Order and Hierarchy and Structure" before it was colonized in the structural ways of the Western World.

**Investors:** Investors have stayed away from Africa, except for those who come with ulterior motives i.e. to exploit and destroy the land. We are yet to find Socially Responsible Business Minded Investors who will lookout to the purity of our land. Hence the lack of trust and corporation to do Business. Africa needs investors and capital in order to create jobs and feed itself and the world.



# Making the Best of Two Worlds

Africa has decided to make the best of the two worlds it belongs to, and so have I:

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| • Education             | • Preserve the People  |
| • Health/Infrastructure | • Preserve the Society |
| • Business              | • Preserve the Land    |

Africa is however lacking in one thing, Business Investments and Jobs!



Best of Two Worlds: Water front homes on the Island, Lagos Nigeria

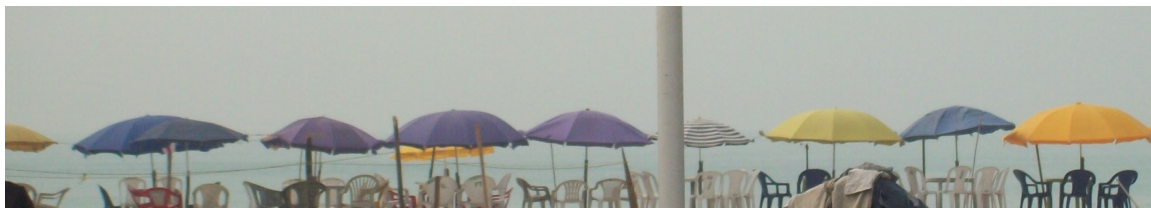


Picture: Folo Pounding Yam, Ibadan, Nigeria (2010)

## About the Author:

Folo (Folórúnṣọ Akìntán, MD MPH MBA 2016) spent the past 20 years of her life building her career in the Health Sector. Born in Africa, she grew up in Lagos, Nigeria; attended a girls' leadership boarding school, Queens' College, Yàbá Lagos, Nigeria (a Federal Middle/High School). She also attended College of Medicine, University of Lagos. She moved to U.S to pursue her career in Public Health (Community Health Practice) at Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, Louisiana (U.S). Over the past 15 years she practiced medicine and preventive health as a Public Health Practitioner in both Africa and U.S.

Folo is currently pursuing her MBA with a major in Leadership and Management and a minor in Health Economics at Tulane Freeman Business School, Houston Campus.



The Best of Two Worlds: Bar Beach, on the Island, Lagos Nigeria



Author: Folorunso Akintan MD MPH MBA

## Published Letters to the Editor

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