The Changing Political/Economic Environment in Africa and the Middle East

GUEST SPEAKER PRESENTATION

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The Changing Political Economy Environment in Africa

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Dr Iraj Abedian

Pan-African Investment & Research Services

Outline

1. Why Africa Matters?

Drivers of Growth and Requirements for Success

3. Challenges and Obstacles Ahead

4. Concluding Remarks







Why Africa matters?

Why Africa Matters?

- 1. Africa is the last remaining region and the scale of Africa's infrastructure backlog requires effective solutions.
- 2. African states, by and large, lack the requisite capacity to deal with the scale and scope of the socio-economic infrastructure.
- 3. The financial requirements of the infrastructure are large and out of proportion with the fiscal and means and skills available to the African states. (with a handful of exceptions)



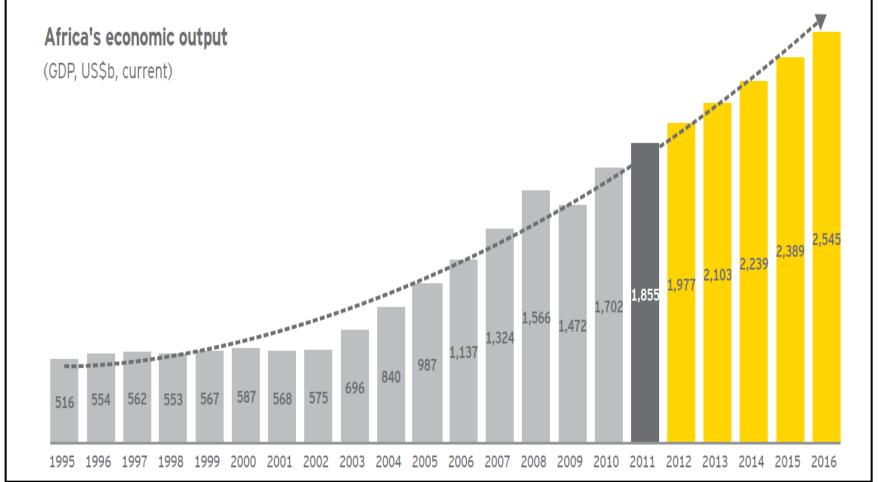
Why Africa Matters?

 Meanwhile, global capital markets are cash-flush, looking for viable, high return long term projects.

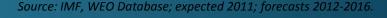
5. The evolution of credible institutions and matching regulations in Africa is work in progress. Legal profession has much to offer.



Africa's GDP Rising Sharply... with social consequences

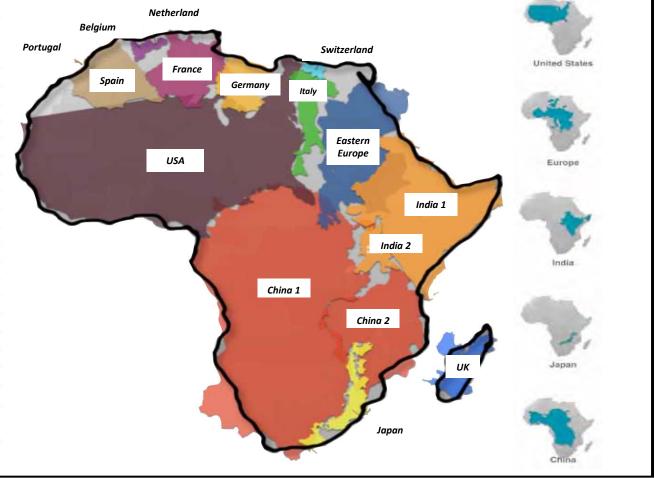






Africa's Geographic Size in Context... The only Frontier Left for Exploration

| Country | Area x 1,000km2 | | |
|---|-----------------|--|--|
| US | 9.629 | | |
| China | 9.573 | | |
| India | 3.287 | | |
| Mexico | 1.964 | | |
| Peru | 1.285 | | |
| France | 633 | | |
| Spain | 506 | | |
| Papua New Guinea | 462 | | |
| Sweden | 441 | | |
| Japan | 378 | | |
| Germany | 357 | | |
| Norway | 324 | | |
| Italy | 301 | | |
| New Zealand | 270 | | |
| United Kingdom | 243 | | |
| Nepal | 147 | | |
| Bangladesh | 144 | | |
| Greece | 132 | | |
| Total | 30.102 | | |
| Africa | 30.221 | | |
| Just for reference: the surface of the MOON | 37.930 | | |





Cities Form the Core of African Growth...





Africa's Infrastructure Coverage is Lagging

| Normalized units | Sub-Saharan Africa Iow-income countries | Other low-income countries |
|----------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Paved-road density | 31 | 134 |
| Total road density | 137 | 211 |
| Main-line density | 10 | 78 |
| Mobile density | 55 | 76 |
| Internet density | 2 | 3 |
| Generation capacity | 37 | 326 |
| Electricity coverage | 16 | 41 |
| Improved water | 60 | 72 |
| Improved sanitation | 34 | 51 |



Source: Yepes, Pierce and Foster (2008)

Note: Road density is measured in kilometers per 100 square kilometers of arable land; telephone density in lines per thousand population; generation capacity in megawatts per million population; electricity, water, and sanitation coverage in percentage of population.



A Large Share of Africa's Infrastructure is Domestically Financed

Table O.4 Infrastructure Spending on Addressing Sub-Saharan Africa's Infrastructure Needs \$\\$billions annually\$

| | Operation and maintenance | Capital expenditure | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----|---------------------|-------------------|-------|----------------|
| Infrastructure sector | Public sector | Public sector | ODA | Non-OECD financiers | Private sector | Total | Total spending |
| ICT | 2.0 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 5.7 | 7.0 | 9.0 |
| Power | 7.0 | 2.4 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 0.5 | 4.6 | 11.6 |
| Transport | 7.8 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 8.4 | 16.2 |
| WSS | 3.1 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 2.1 | 4.6 | 7.6 |
| Irrigation | 0.6 | 0.3 | _ | _ | _ | 0.3 | 0.9 |
| Total | 20.4 | 9.4 | 3.6 | 2.5 | 9.4 | 24.9 | 45.3 |

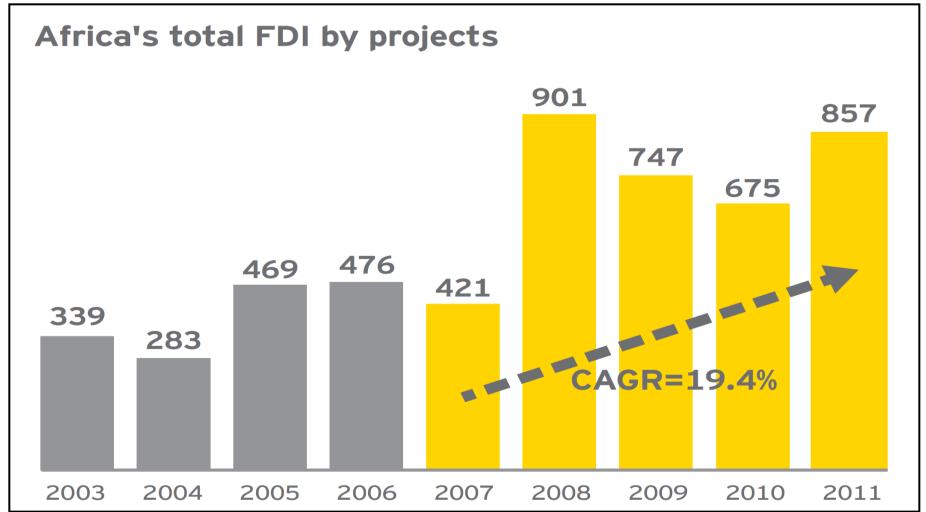


Source: Briceno-Garmendia, Smits, and Foster (2008)

Note: Based on annualized averages for 2001–06. Averages weighted by country GDP. Figures are extrapolations based on the 24-country sample covered in AICD Phase 1. Totals may not add exactly because of rounding errors. ICT = information and communication technology, ODA = official development assistance; OECD = Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; WSS = water supply and sanitation. — Not available.



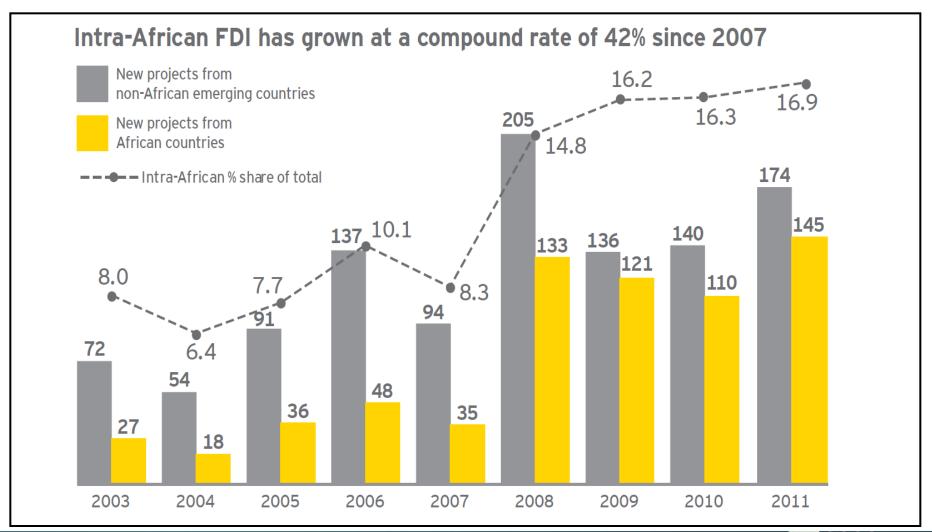
FDI is Driven by Project Finance and...





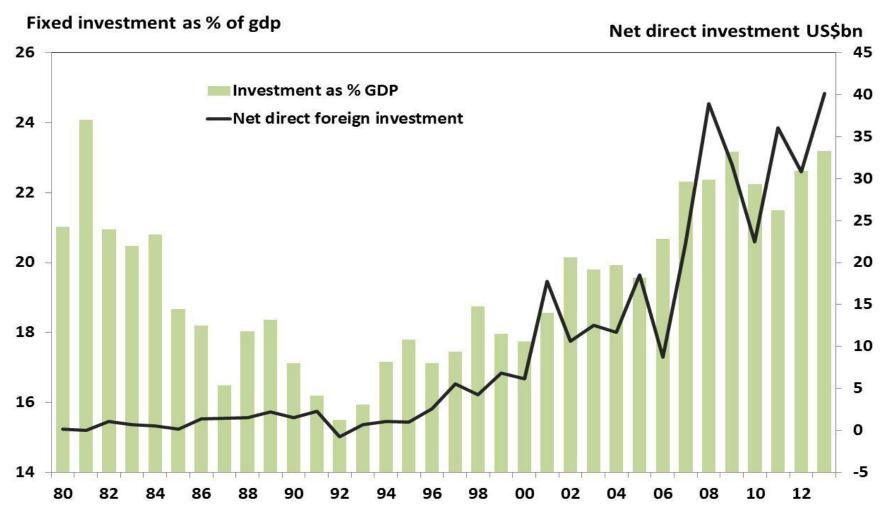


...Intra-African FDI Has Taken off at Last





Africa's FDI has been on the rise...









Current Drivers of Growth and Key Trends

Drivers of Growth & Key Trends...

- 1. Africa's mineral wealth is its key and foremost endowment. Also, its "curse"!
- 2. Available and inexpensive arable land gives Africa its global strategic significance as regards food production.
- Discovery of oil and gas reserves along the African east and west coasts has created an investment boom in 'mega projects'.

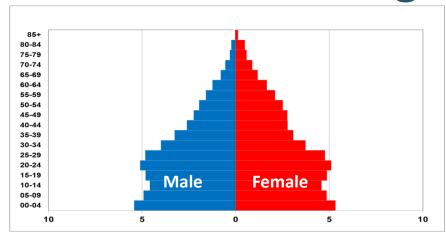


Drivers of Growth & Key Trends...

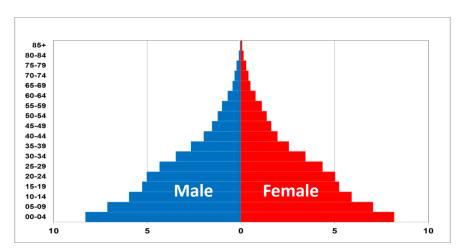
- 4. In the medium term, clean energy sources will give Africa its manufacturing advantage.
- 5. Growing consumer market, within a one billion population, is a rising driver of short term growth.
- 6. Technology and rising productivity provide opportunities for output "leapfrogging"!
- 7. Private sector funding is the main source of finance.



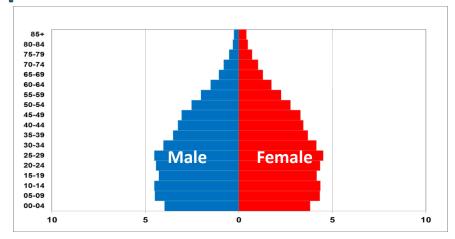
Africa's Demographic Favourable...



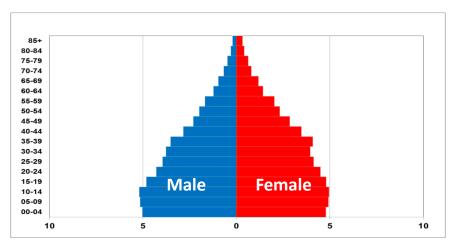
South Africa: Age Cohorts as a percentage of total population



Kenya: Age Cohorts as a percentage of total population



Brazil: Age Cohorts as a percentage of total population



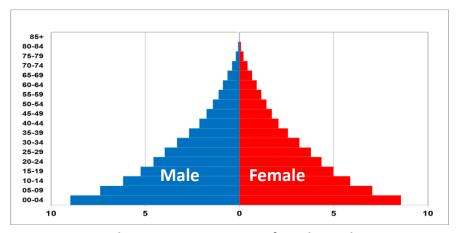
Mexico: Age Cohorts as a percentage of total population



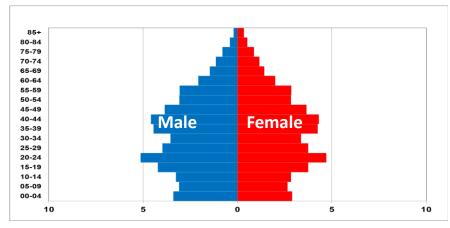
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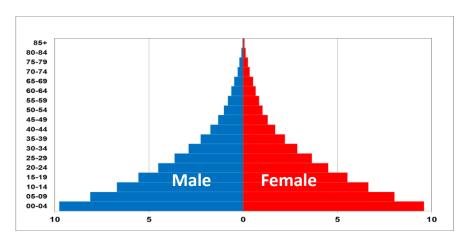
Africa's Demographic Favourable...



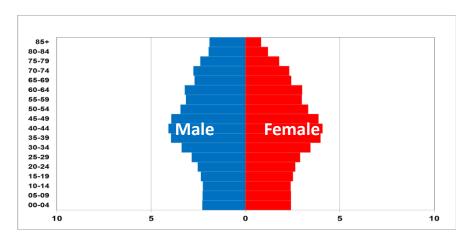
Nigeria: Age Cohorts as a percentage of total population



China: Age Cohorts as a percentage of total population



Uganda: Age Cohorts as a percentage of total population



Italy: Age Cohorts as a percentage of total population

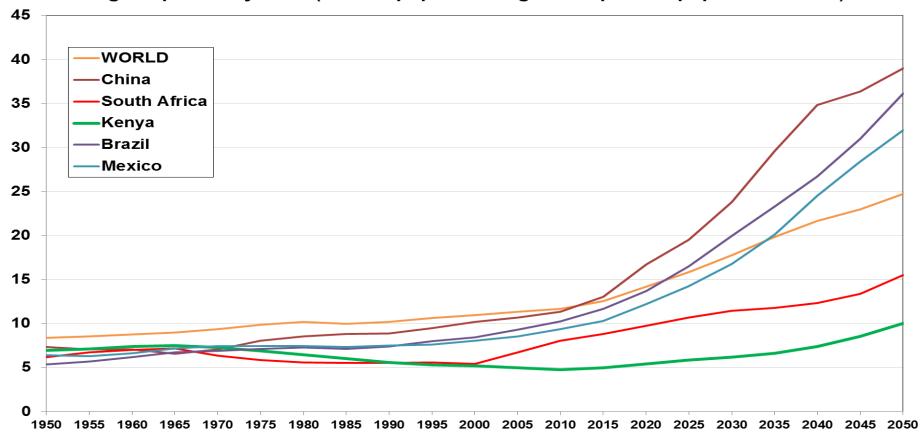


Source:



Africa's Old-age Dependency Ratio Remains low...

Old-age dependency ratio (ratio of population aged 65+ per 100 population 15-64)





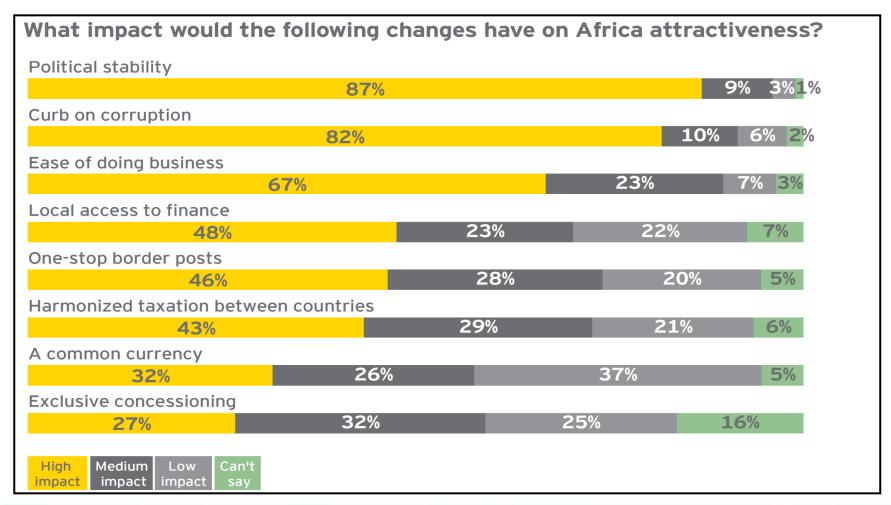






Challenges and Obstacles Ahead

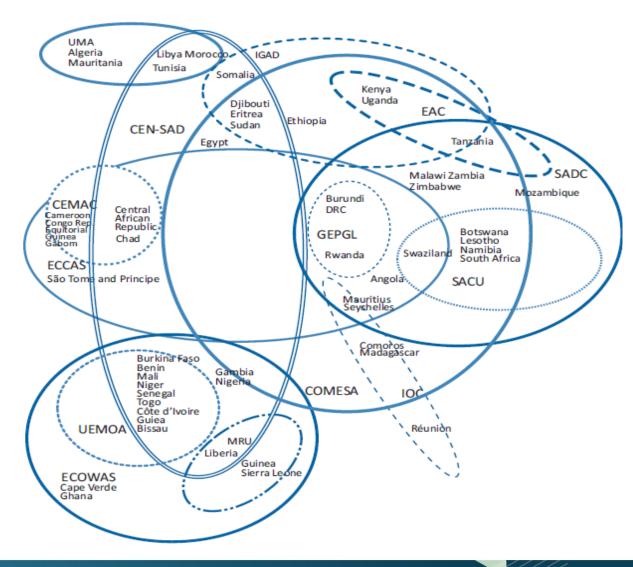
Africa's Risk and Evolving Environment...





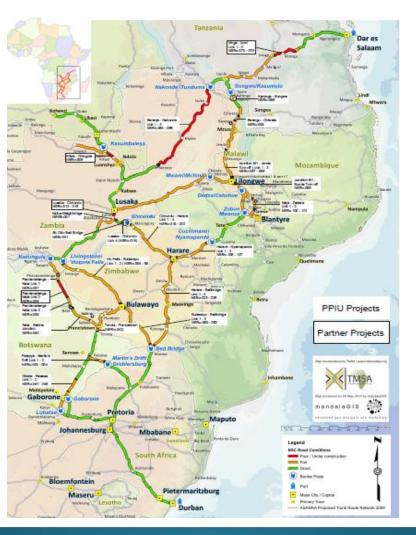
Regional trade agreements in Africa

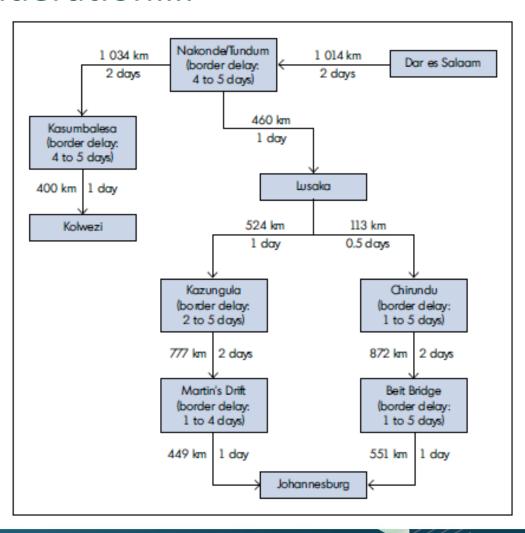
Africa's
Regional
Integration
Policy Needs
Streamlining...





A North-South Corridor along the east coast under consideration....







Socio-political Forces at Play...

- 1. Africa has youthful population, restless, largely aware of possibilities, yet constrained by political and social structures.
- Broadly speaking, Africa suffers from poor and unaccountable governance regimes.
- 3. The interplay of religious, tribal and partisan control over resources is challenging cocktail for political transformation.



Socio-political Forces at Play...

- 4. The colonial history has led to strong patriotic and nationalistic emotions. For some businesses, this is favourable.
- 5. Technological change has created, and will continue to generate, employment/skills problems.
- 6. In the immediate phase of Africa's development, local network will be critical.



Requirements of Success

- 1. The evolution of credible institutions and matching regulations in Africa is work in progress, especially in the capital markets.
- 2. Meanwhile, capital markets are facing real challenges in nearly all African countries, minus South Africa.
- 3. Hard and soft infrastructures need to be developedsome countries are leading the way.



Requirements of Success

- 4. Given the demographic dynamics, the education and skills are the key drivers of long term growth.
- 5. Focusing the political economy issues on clean governance and integration is a major challenge.
- 6. The promotion and application of PPPs is another requirement.
- 7. In most, if not all, these fields, legal firms have a key role to play.







Concluding Remarks

Concluding Remarks

1. Africa has a considerable infrastructure deficit, much of which requires synchronized and not sequential implementation.

2. Economic and business opportunities too offer great potential.

3. The scale of funding and skills required is out of reach of most, if not all, African states.



Concluding Remarks

4. PPPs offer a practical and effective option provided their requirements are put in place.

5. For the next 60 to 70 years, Africa will remain a region with highest return on capital.

6. Much like other regions, the progress will not be linear. Set backs are inevitable!



Thank you for your attention

Q&A

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