



the **ITPCM**  
International Training Programme for  
Conflict Management



# newsletter

in this issue:

6<sup>th</sup> year, n. 3

by Andrea de Guttry

## Director's overview

Dear Friends of the ITPCM,  
I am very pleased that we have been able to finalise on time this third 2008 issue of our Newsletter.

Along with a brief overview of the activities and the training projects we are currently working on at the *International Training Programme on Conflict Management* and at the *International Research Laboratory on Conflict, Development and Global*

*Politics*, you will find some very interesting contributions of our resource persons and of former participants to our training courses.

The current world scenario adds to the old unsolved issues a deep global economic crisis which hits directly the north of the world and impacts consequently on the south and Africa first of all.

In this issue we decided therefore to focus our attention on **Africa** which remains the most problematic and tormented continent of the world;

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you will read about cooperation projects as well as questions raised by the 2008 general elections in Ghana. You will find out how important football can be in building the Cameroonian national identity and to what extent the Informal Sector explains the African economies. You will learn about the impact of Financiarization and the new challenges and scenarios opened by the Chinese penetration strategy.

Last but not least we present you the activities of the *International Training Programme on Peacebuilding and Good Governance*, Accra (University of Ghana) to which we contributed since its start up, in delivering training courses and expertises to the benefit of possible African conflict managers.

Back to Pisa our several on-going Projects and Programmes are becoming more and more ambitious, interesting and challenging. Our major Research Project *Multistakeholder Partnerships in Post-conflict Reconstruction* has entered successfully the 8th month of life; we just hosted the Steering Committee Meeting last 28 November here at the Scuola, where the Theoretical-framework of the research has been approved.

We have been busy, as well, in cooperating with the *Secretaria para la Paz*, in Guatemala, aiming at relaunching and revitalizing the complex reconciliation process in the country: we have almost concluded the research Phase and we are preparing a major political event in which we will discuss the results of our research at the presence of the President of Guatemala, Alvaro COLOM, and of a significant number of other national and international decision makers.

Next January the 8th edition of the *Master of Arts in Human Rights and Conflict Management* (the first one under my full responsibility) will start again: we received more than 200 applications from all over the world and we have been able to put together a very interesting group of participants.

Next issue of our newsletter is due to appear in April 2009; we would like it to be as much useful, effective and relevant as possible: any comment, suggestion, or contribution would be very much appreciated.

I take this opportunity to wish you all Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2009!  
Enjoy your reading!

Andrea de Guttry



The ITPCM works in strong collaboration with the newly instituted *Conflict, Development and Global Politics Laboratory*.

The core mission of the Laboratory is to conduct state-of-the-art research in the fields of conflict prevention and management, human rights, post-war reconstruction and sustainable development. It endeavours to do so by adopting a multidisciplinary approach aimed at providing a comprehensive and multi-faceted representation of the relevant phenomena, observed through the lenses of law, political philosophy and economics, and with the goal of offering scientifically sound and action-oriented bases to effective decision-making processes.

At present, the active research lines of the Laboratory concern: Human Rights; Humanitarian Law; Civil Society in Peacebuilding; Decentralized cooperation; Rural Development; Agrarian Law reform; Regional Integration Processes, New Actors and Techniques in Conflict prevention; International Peace-support Operations, Globalization and its impact Civil Society.

**MORE INFO ON CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS:**  
[www.cdg.sssup.it](http://www.cdg.sssup.it)

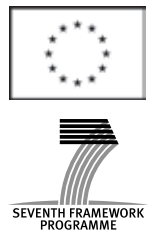
**cdg Laboratory**



MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS IN POST-CONFLICT  
RECONSTRUCTION: THE ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

## Leading the Research within the VII Framework Programme of the EU:

the Scuola Sant'Anna (ITPCM-CDG) as  
Project Coordinator



The MultiPart project is supported by the European Commission under the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities - Socio-economic and Humanities research

### What is MultiPart

MultiPart is a research project that aims at investigating whether, how, and under what conditions multi-stakeholder partnerships can positively impact on human security and facilitate non-violence and long-term peace, while providing a productive framework for relations between local actors and external actors, including third party mediators and international organisations.

MultiPart wants to explore opportunities to directly impact on partnerships that are evolving in post-conflict societies and, by translating its findings into policy recommendations, to contribute to enhancing the role of the EU in conflict prevention and resolution as well as in fostering the rule of law.

The project will base its empirical investigation on three case studies of core political interest to the EU today: Kosovo, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and Afghanistan.



## Multipart Workshop: Pisa, 26-27 November 2008

### Research Design & Planning for the MULTIPART Project

This MULTIPART WORKSHOP aimed primarily to present and discuss the guidance for the design, planning and implementation of all MULTIPART research, as developed jointly by the teams of Multipart Work Packages 2 and 3.

It is thus of critical importance, particularly to researchers and team leaders from every MULTIPART partner who will directly be involved in research leadership, design and planning for WP 4 & 5. It took place at a critical point in the the MULTIPART project, and will offer a key opportunity for WP4 and WP5 teams to begin to work together collectively. The MULTIPART Steering Committee meeting took place immediately after this workshop, also in Pisa, facilitating full workshop participation.

The University of Bradford was responsible for the organisation of the workshop, in coordination with Scuola Sant'Anna and ETC. In practice, the Scuola Sant'Anna managed practical arrangements in Pisa itself.

## the STEERING COMMITTEE meeting: Pisa, 28 November 2008

### Work Packages 2 & 3 approval

On this occasion the Multipart Steering Committee went through the Final Report on Work Packages 2 & 3 for final approval.



## Project Facts & Figures



### PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The Steering Committee, representing all the consortium partners and under the supervision of a Scientific Committee, is responsible for the management and the implementation of the the research project.



### STAFF

Over 50 researchers from various european universities and institutes take part to the project, assisted by management staff.



### LOCAL PARTNERS

The project establishes a direct collaboration with local universities and researchers. For each case study 'local bases' and reference institutions are the following:

- Kosovo: University of Pristina
- Democratic Republic of Congo: POLE institute (Goma)
- Afghanistan: Kabul University.



### DURATION

The project lasts 28 months, starting 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008.

Summer School 6 - 18 July 2009

## The Civilian Personnel of Peacekeeping & Peacebuilding Operations

The aim of the Summer School is to train participants for some of the tasks usually performed by the civilian component of peacekeeping operations and peacebuilding missions, with a specific focus on Human Rights and Electoral Assistance and Observation. The curriculum is divided into 4 modules:

- I CONTEXT
- II ACTIVITIES
- III PERSONAL PROFILE
- IV CAREER COACHING

**INFO & APPLICATIONS:** [www.itpcm.sssup.it](http://www.itpcm.sssup.it)  
[itpcm@sssup.it](mailto:itpcm@sssup.it)

Training Course, 9 - 17 Luglio 2009 (in Italian)

## Lavorare in Ambiente Ostile

- Il corso, diviso in tre moduli, intende offrire ai partecipanti:
- (a) un quadro generale delle maggiori organizzazioni internazionali e ONG, in termini di regole, strutture e procedure di reclutamento;
  - (b) le competenze pratiche per lavorare sul campo e in contesti difficili;
  - (c) potenziare la capacità dei partecipanti di gestire situazioni di stress/pericolo in contesti difficili.

**INFO & APPLICATIONS:** [www.itpcm.sssup.it](http://www.itpcm.sssup.it)  
[profile@sssup.it](mailto:profile@sssup.it)

Training Course, Novembre 2009 (in Italian)

## Comunicare la Cooperazione e la Solidarietà Internazionale

L'obiettivo del Corso è quello di accrescere la capacità degli operatori della **cooperazione internazionale allo sviluppo** di comunicare/divulgare le attività promosse e diffondere i risultati raggiunti nel settore (attori istituzionali e mondo del no profit).

**INFO & APPLICATIONS:** [www.itpcm.sssup.it](http://www.itpcm.sssup.it)  
[i.dalcanto@sssup.it](mailto:i.dalcanto@sssup.it)

# Contributions

by Alessandro Volpi\*, Alessandro Breccia\*\*

*\* Professor & \*\*Researcher of Contemporary History,  
University of Pisa, Italy*

[translation from Italian by Michele Gonnelli]

# CHINA ENERGETICALLY PENETRATES AFRICA

## New scenarios on the African Continent: China & Energy Resources

African not exporting countries are currently facing some more serious problems than those selling raw materials and oil to the ever greater numbers of Chinese partners. Many African countries prefer to deal with Pecking, with whom they share a common anti-colonial rhetoric, due to the disregard of sensitive topics,

such as human rights issues, . The penetrating strategy follows a pattern which usually starts with international oil companies settlements and activities to end up with a proper state to state relationship. Also China tend to prefer bilateral initiatives, only accompanied by continental forums, which



eventually make some relevant concession such as foreign debt cancellation and customs tariffs discounts.

The Chinese strong presence and leadership clashes with the American energy interests and policy: the USA import from Africa about the 20% of their oil and they aim at further develop and boost their presence in the area. The tensions between the two countries will come to a real confrontation with regard to the control of the gas pipelines, an issue which is deeply linked to the enforcement of the nation sovereignty.

When the pipelines are controlled by state companies the external intrusion of foreign companies is therefore reduced; hence private military corps, once organised by those companies in order to watch and protect the pipelines, lose their role and their destabilizing potential.

As a matter of facts the booming of the energy sector in Africa is proved by the spread of pipelines building projects. There are two main energy cores: the Algeria-Nigeria-Cameroon axis, including also Ghana, Togo, Benin and the Angolan region, which include Guinea, Gabon and Congo.

These are mainly off-shore installations, exploiting sea-reserves, therefore seen as politically safer. The 1000 kms pipeline project, connecting Doba (in Ciad) to Kribi, on the Cameroonian atlantics coast, is the most discussed and ambitious. Partners of the project are Exxon Mobil, Petronas and Chevron. Financed by the World Bank it generates an output of 225.000 barrels per day. Another project extremely relevant is the West Africa Gas Pipeline: this plant carries the natural Nigerian gas through an underwater penstock to Benin, Togo and Ghana. Nevertheless, it is the whole African continent, not only the western part, to be involved at difference degrees in infrastructural projects of that sort<sup>1</sup>. Among the intra-African installations: the

1 To mention some of them: the Algerian Gas Pipeline, the Libyan Oil and Gas Pipelines (providing mainly the Italian market), the national Oil Pipeline in Port Sudan, financed also by Chinese capitals (whcihc made Sudan a net oil exporter in 1999).



Nigeria-Algeria gas pipeline, running through Niger and Maly and expected to be conveying by 2030 about 30 billions m<sup>3</sup> of gas on the European Market every year. This project, to be realized in partnership with the Algerian state company SONATRACH, represent for the EU an important investment and an attempt at finding relevant alternatives to the Russian energy provisions<sup>2</sup>.

Taking the whole picture there is another important issue to be mentioned: the most probable entrance of Angola and Sudan into the OPEC<sup>3</sup>. That would have a counterbalancing impact on the weight that this organisation has lost in the last few years. It will not take too long before these changes will play a strategic role on the global political and economic balances.

2 Other examples: the oil pipeline between Kenya and Uganda (with connections to Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania and Democratic Republic of Congo), the pipeline between Tanzania and Zambia, the project of pipeline for transporting oil products from Sudan to Eritrea, Ethiopia and Kenya.

3 Oil Exporting Countries Organisation.



by Melvis Ndiloseh\*

# Footballing in Cameroun: scoring for National Unity

the analysis of a Cameroonian

## **Anecdote:**

*Every single time I introduced myself at an international setting as a Cameroonian, the response was “Ah Cameroon! Football!” Or “Yea Cameroon! Roger Milla”; and again “Ohhh! Eto’o Fils!” Some even went as far as asking to know how these athletes are fairing. Generally, I will just grin and say “yea, they’re fine” feeling proud to be a Cameroonian, yet wishing I had had the opportunity to meet any of these footballers just once in my life – I see them on TV just like every one of my foreign colleagues! One of my leaders recounted how as a student in a Kenyan University, he was highly solicited to play for the school team just because he was Cameroonian. The truth? He hardly knew the dimension of a football field! Imagine that!*

**continued**

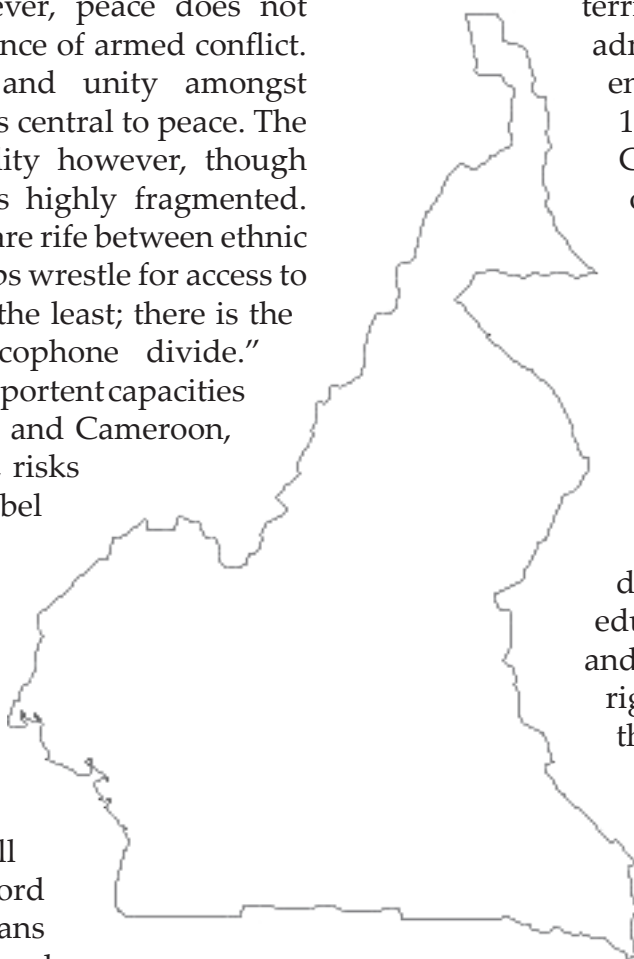


## Introduction

Situated at the gulf of Guinea in Africa, Cameroon is one of those countries that, but for football, would be virtually unknown in most international spheres –the first African country to have reached the quarter finals in the World Cup of Nations. Away from football, Cameroon is generally perceived as an “island of peace” in the war thorn sub-region of Central Africa. This is probably true considering that, unlike its neighbours; the territory has not witnessed a lethal civil war. However, peace does not necessarily imply the absence of armed conflict. Social justice, fairness, and unity amongst national identities, remains central to peace. The present Cameroonian polity however, though void of armed conflict, is highly fragmented. While boundary disputes are rife between ethnic groups; major ethnic groups wrestle for access to the public space and, not the least; there is the major “Anglophone-Francophone divide.” These fragmentations have portent capacities for political disintegration and Cameroon, like many other countries, risks gaining the unenviable label of yet another “failed state.” Given this profile, Cameroon is in dire need of national integration hence any force that promotes it, cannot be undermined. One of such is football - the pride of the nation. Football has proven to be the only chord that binds Cameroonians beyond linguistic, ethnic and cultural margins. Although it is “just a game,” football entertains, rallies, unifies develops and glorifies the nation. This paper attempts to examine the potentialities of football to stimulate national unity in Cameroon. It probes into the present state of national unity in Cameroon; the history, power and limitations of football.

## The context

In order to appreciate the need for national unity in Cameroon, it is important to vividly examine the context. Cameroon is the brainchild of a unique but diverse colonial experience. It is the only African country that was administered by three European powers: Germany (1884-1916), France and Britain (1916-60/61). Under British and French rule, the territory was partitioned and administered as separate entities. At independence in 1961, British Southern Cameroon (less than 1/5 of the territory) opted through a United Nations plebiscite to reunite with the already independent French Cameroon (4/5 of the territory). Having lived under separate rule, for more than four decades, English and French Cameroons had different language, culture, education, administrative and legal systems. It was clear, right at independence that the task of nation building and national integration would be cumbersome. Cameroon’s first President Ahmadou Ahidjo, had this to say on Independence Day: “After more than forty years of separation, we are today reconstituting one family, one nation and one state. I express the wish that this reunification of the national territory should be the gauge and symbol of the unity of our hearts and minds.”<sup>1</sup> Ahidjo’s successor, President Paul Biya,



1 George Ngwane, “The “Cameroonian condition”: Seeking national identity in a unitary State” *The ACP-EU Courier* No 193 - July-August 2002

has propounded the same theme.<sup>2</sup> However, national integration requires more than an official rhetoric.

Forty seven years since independence, the country is rather split along ethnic, linguistic and regional lines. The Anglophone minority is disgruntled over perceived marginalisation by the French speaking majority. Such grievances have watered the growth of secessionist tendencies heralded by the formation of the Southern Cameroons National Council (SCNC), an Anglophone secessionist movement that is currently pursuing steps, both national and international, towards complete secession from French Cameroon. This is a major national crisis that has come to be known as the "Anglophone-Francophone Divide" and, in every facet, runs parallel to the goal of national unity.

At the ethnic level, the situation is even more complex. With a population of about 16 million, its ethnic map reveals an astounding number of over 245 ethnic groups speaking over

300 languages.<sup>3</sup> Fatal border disputes emerging out of social problems have been particularly rife since the 1990s. At the moment, Cameroon has more than 20 potential centres of inter-ethnic conflict. This presents a threat to both political stability and national integration.

Another glaring dividing line is seen along the major region of the country: the North, Northwest/West, Centre/South and Southwest/East. Regionalism has infiltrated into every sphere in Cameroon ranging from admission into profession school to political nominations. The president has adopted a regional based and *clientelistic* political system of "divide-and-rule." As time unfolds, it is increasingly evident that the centre can hardly hold. Regional feelings are fast replacing national ones as people express greater sense of belonging and loyalty first to their ethnic group/region and then to the state. There is no better index that a state is tearing apart than ethnic, regional and linguistic alignments. There is need for a stronger and cross-cutting force to rally and "re-unify" the different fractions of the state. Football comes to mind.

2 Bea Vidacs, "Football and Nationbuilding in Postcolonial Cameroon", Paper presentation at the 02<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on "Comparative Perspectives on Postcolonial Nationbuilding Concepts of Nationhood in Africa." 03.10.2007, Mittwoch – Germany.

3 R. Breton, & M. Dieu, "More than 300 Languages in Cameroon", *The Courier*, N° 80 (July-August 1983): 92-5.

continued



## Football in Cameroon

Cameroonian football began in the 1920s as an unorganised activity (Tsanga, 1969) copying the exclusive leisure activity of the colonisers. Before long, it was included in the curricula of colonial schools as a prestigious part of physical education. However, organised football clubs and regular cup competitions became entrenched only after World War II. In 1959 the *Fédération Camerounaise de Football* (FECAFOOT) was founded to supervise the national team. In 1962 and 63 FECAFOOT respectively gained affiliation to the *Fédération Internationale de Football Association* (FIFA) and *Confederation of African Football* (CAF). Cameroon played its first international match against Somalia in 1960, prevailing 9-2. In 1970, hosted the African Nations Cup and was defeated at the finals. To encourage the national team President Ahidjo, nicknamed it the "Indomitable Lions," prophesying that she would no longer know defeat. The Indomitable Lions defended their nickname in the proceeding years.

During the 1982 world cup of Nations in Spain the country stunned the world by holding onto a 1-1 draw with a giant football country like Italy. However, Cameroon's year of glory in football came in 1990 World Cup of Nations in Italy where, beating Argentina and Romania, the country made its way to the ¼ finals – a historic record for an African country. FIFA records that Cameroon has qualified for the World Cup five times (more than any African nation); won the African Nations Cup four times as well as a gold medal at the 2000 Olympics. Cameroon is indeed popular for its football. It is the nation's pride and can be positively exploited to fill the lapses of national unity in the country.

## The Power of Football

During the 2006 ANC, there was a famous Coca-Cola sponsored football advert wherein a man caught his wife in adultery and embraced his opponent as they both rejoiced over the victory of their team. This advert, though skittish,

effectively captured in the most vivid way, the power of football to reconcile opponents.

Football and sports in general, has an amazing and cost effective way of unifying people and sometimes enemies, even across borders. During the last August 2008 Olympic games in China, while the Russians and the Georgians warred and bombed each other, the UK *Telegraph* reported that two female athletes from these countries warmly embraced each other on an Olympic podium as a sign of national unity. Their message to their countries was concise: "we shouldn't stoop so low as to wage war against each other." Whether or not it stopped the war, the message went through. No wonder the proficient German scholar, Andrew Stenk, referred to athletes as "Diplomats in track suits."

At Africa's Calling event in Berlin, before the 2006 World Cup finals, president Thabo Mbeki, noted that the 1954 World Cup had succeeded in restoring some of Germany's self-respect after its legacy of national socialism. Hosting the World Cup gave the Germans the opportunity to celebrate their country, welcome the international community of nations in their midst, transcend the traumatic legacy of the Nazi era and the legacy of division and alienation spawned by the Berlin Wall. "We are confident that the 2010 soccer World Cup will do the same to consolidate our self respect and dignity gained when we attained our freedom and democracy in 1994 and, in a unique way, help our own nation and the continent of Africa, also, to bask in the 'miracle of South Africa'" Mbeki said. "...everyday we take important steps to unite what was a divided nation," he said. Former UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan, also stressed the importance of hosting the World Cup as a nation-building opportunity for South Africa and the continent.<sup>4</sup> Testimonies of how football has and is hoped to unite people abound in Africa and Cameroon.

<sup>4</sup> John Battersby, "Using Football to Heal a Nation," *SouthAfrica.info*, July 25, 2006.

by Alessandro Breccia\*, Alessandro Volpi\*\*

\* Researcher & \*\*Professor of Contemporary History,  
University of Pisa, Italy

[translation from Italian by Camila Ferrini & Michele Gonnelli]

# African Informal Sector

In the current world scenario the african societies react increasingly pursuing informal trades and exchanges.

The unascertainable number of activities which are carried out 'out of the law', beyond the law or underground constitute today the fundamental skeleton of the African economy. There is a whole amount of data and surveys conducted by international organisations which confirm this trend and reality; even taking into account the self-evident measurement problems, connected to the nature of the phenomenon here observed and discussed, at least 40% of the GNP of the sub-Saharan countries is explained by the informal sector. In the last 20 years over 90% of the new work places, except the agricultural sector, have been created and alimeted by the informal economy.

This statistics prove the dramatic fail of the international economic policies towards the African countries on the one hand, but also the weak propensity of the local population to embrace western economy models.

Those developments, promoted by the National Correcting Plans, have resulted in substantial 'desegregation' of the poor national productive texture. The huge loss of work-places, caused by cutbacks in public spending, was not counterbalanced by a higher employment rate on the private official sector.

Portions of the population traditionally highly exposed to informality are now more influent than ever. Conflicts spreading and their endemic nature, along with SIDA epidemics take away adult males from rural work fostering the feminization of agriculture and



child labor. Women and children, in fact, are the most common informal actors; the reason for that has to be found in the difficulties they encounter in acceding land or private property. In Kenya, for example, 70% of slums families are lead by a woman, but widows have no inheritance rights. Kenyan Law recognizes women right to land housing and property, nevertheless consuetudinary law is applied: with no access to land property, their only choice is to move to a big-city slum.

The rural-urban migration caused by conflict, natural catastrophes and the diffusion of agrobusiness, has speed up the informalization of economy. The production, exchange and consume of goods and services at a lower price have dramatically increased as a result of low-income population impossibility to enter the formal market. Those informal networks are based on the deficiency and weakness of official markets; each sector of formal economy that is deficient or weak is replaced by non-conventional relations. To the main deficiencies related to the access and to the use of monetary mechanisms - due also to the fragile monetary sovereignty and to the lack of a solid banking system - informal economies react with more spontaneous forms of money collection and loan. The *tontines* and the *stockvels* in South Africa are some examples.

*Bartering* is still very spread, albeit in post-modern patterns. A good example can be find at the Great Lakes region, where industrialized products from South-Africa are regularly bartered with ivory. Likewise, informal practices are dominant in another crucial moment of production process and social life: energy supplying and distribution. Despite significant infrastructure projects are planned, the energy sector lacks of a capillary supply structure and, even in more developed economies such as South Africa, low-productive systems based on wood and charcoal prevail.

Traditional energy resorts remain strong and provide work places to thousands of people, specially women, throughout the continent, from Senegal to Ethiopia. 90% of energy domestic consumption in Saharan Africa and Senegal comes from wood and charcoal.



Women spend gathering wood from 300 hours a year, in Ghana or Tanzania, to 800 hours a year in Zambia. Recent statements about the African "race towards civil nuclear energy" were presented as a solution to energy system backwardness. This is yet a highly simplistic conclusion. Once again, the broaden question to be faced is what strategy will be chosen to deal with small and tiny economies, which are substantially present in African societies, both in rural and urban areas.

If we consider, for instance, that trade by itself contitutes the major quota of the whole informal practice, we should also bear in mind the existing obstacles to fuel provisions and the dramatic situation of transport infrastructure. A study conducted by the *Women in Informal Economy: Globalizing and Organizing* research-policy network has found out that 87% of the travels/movements undertaken by sub-Saharan

women are done on foot, for a distance that can vary from 1,4 to 5,3 km, carrying a medium weight of 20 kg. The fact that the railway system covers only 4% of the transportation of goods, and that there is no local road system connections, to facilitate the trade between rural and urban areas, contrast with the decision to invest on huge transnational highways. In addition, is very likely that "informal transports", which are widely used in big towns, will be extended to those transnational highways. From the experience of Johannesburg and Cape Town "taxi war", is clear how well organized is the informal taxi market and to what extent violence can be used to force it into reality.

Neither in the maritime transport sector we can find alternatives to the informal market considering the absence of an African mercantile fleet (today it represents around 0,6% of worlds fleet, and it is still diminishing) as well as the appalling situation of seaports and cargo structures (container traffic represents less than 10% of total activities). Additionally, public investments on maritime transport have been reduced, while a couple of giants of the transshipment (Delmas-Bollorè e Maersk) acquired the management of seaports terminals, and adjusted them to the requirements of their own international traffics, rather than to the real limited volume of intra-continental trade. Given the need of getting goods of first

necessity, African populations are consolidating their "organized systems of disorder" which are structured in production chains of low-add value, 'street' distribution and trade networks, and inconsistent services.

In the last few years Africa has also witnessed the birth of a *surveillance service* of all those underground activities. It can be looked at as a proper *police* system of the informal sector, where thousands of people are now working as 'vigilantes'. In Nairobi they rule over the 'precarious markets' of the 150 slums, they guarantee street security, *safe* sales and *clean* rent collections. They operate in the complete absence of any state institution or any other public acknowledgment, managing the informal urban transports, taking care of other basic services such as: electricity, public toilets, waste collection and medicines.<sup>1</sup>

The African Institutions are unable to counteract this trend: the bureaucratized public sector is too compromised and corrupted to constitute a liable alternative; the State seems incapable to deal with the informal sector differently than trying to remove the problem by fighting it as *illegal*.

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1 The lack of state interventions on the one hand and the disaggregate informal markets on the other, are attracting the great world distributors and corporations, raising the hostile reaction of the slums (i.e. in South Africa, Johannesburg, riots in Soweto)



by Luisa Marconi\*

\*Project Officer,  
COSPE - Ghana

COSPE in Axim - Ghana

# LOCALS MAKE THE COOPERATION EFFECTIVE

A project on Integrated Waste Management

## Welcome to paradise?

Axim is a fisherman small town of around 25.000 citizens of Ghana, near the Ivory Coast border, it is surrounded by the most beautiful Ghanaian white sandy beaches and a red soil contrasting with green palms.

People live in a simply way and life is mostly outside door: everywhere along the roads there is somebody selling eggs, grilled plantains, biscuits, rice or various items like soaps, tomato paste, sleepers, cement, shovels, lottery tickets etc. Most of the year is very hot in addition to a high humidity rate; whatever people are

continued





working or relaxing there is always a high radio music playing, even inside the “*trotro*”, the typical small buses bringing people in other cities, which do not start their course till there is an empty seat.

But environment is not so friendly as it seems and a lot of people are affected by diseases, especially the one linked to the environment pollution.

The waste collection system of Axim is in fact limited to a few inadequate big containers spread here and there in town and almost no dust bins; as a consequence the open air drains represent the favorite place where dumping household waste but also those produced by local business activities. Chickens and goats, free to move everywhere, jump into drains looking for some food, often you can also see some children playing or taking their shower on the spot; most of the time waste is amassed somewhere and burned.

### **A way to involve local people and increase their interest in cooperation projects**

COSPE (Cooperation for the Development of Emerging Countries), the Italian NGO I am working for, is settled in Axim since 2000, with mainly a UE funded micro-credit project; it is not specialized on emergency or health

assistance, but on development cooperation projects; to this end, trying to improve the hygiene and sanitation conditions of local people, it is now running a health prevention programme focused on building an integrated waste management system.

The project is in partnership with the local administration, the Nzema East Municipal Assembly (NEMA), and a local environmental association, called Ghana Wildlife Society (GWS).

Obviously it is not possible to involve the whole city at once: the idea is to work into a pilot area of the town in order to create a model and then replicate it into other areas. A local government strategic plan has to be designed, with a view to a real engagement for 3-5 years, of perspective improvements.

### **What does “integrated” means?**

The word integrated is used in a double meaning, one related to the activity and one to the actors involved.

In fact the project activities take into consideration waste in its larger sense, not limited to the solid waste as the majority of people think, but also liquid waste and all their impacts onto the environment and how they affect people health; that is why the

continued



project activities range from building public toilets, new drains, waste collection systems and landfill to widespread environmental education.

The second meaning of “integrated” is related to the actors involved. The NGO does not play an isolated role: first of all the idea of the project itself was born, as it always should be, from a real need claimed by the local government itself; COSPE had just to take that need into consideration and begin a consultation phase involving local actors. A project committee, in fact, was created with representatives of the local government departments (health and environment, works, planning...), COSPE and other local stakeholders, such as an environmental association and a public-private platform focused on sanitation. It was that committee, after a survey, to select the pilot area where to intervene first; the community living in that area was then represented in a committee which played an active role during the decision making process.

A series of workshops/trainings were delivered to the two committees and other groups of people in order to improve the capacity building of the local institution, gather information from the community, make the project sustainable, and let everyone involved

starting from the same level of knowledge and skills.

### **Taking action**

After various mission of some Italian experts on recycle and waste management, it was confirmed that, since most of waste was organic, it would have made sense to involve the local farmers (only them at the beginning, the more motivated) into a compost production. The two committees participated actively agreeing with that proposal and the pilot area community had also been involved on a voluntary basis to clean and level the ground where a simple compost plantation would have been hosted (without any technology). It was during one of our regular meeting, twice a month, that the committees came up with the idea to extend the compost production also in schools, during the COPSE’s annual environment and sanitation educational programme (before “Clean Up the world”, a worldwide campaign of Legambiente, which is also partner into the project). Soon we will start building a public toilet and the community will also participate in the laboring process.



by Benjamin Kwasi Agordzo\*

\*Ghanian,  
PhD candidate,  
Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna

## GHANA 2008 GENERAL ELECTION - 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER

## FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY & PROCESSION?

Civil & Political  
Rights in the Wake  
of the Vote



### Introduction

According to Article 21 (1) (d) of the 1992 Constitution of Ghana, "All persons shall have the right to freedom of assembly including freedom to take part in processions and demonstrations." Following the promulgation of the 1992 constitution of Ghana, the

enjoyment of the above right had generated lots of unending controversy despite Supreme Court decisions on the matter. This essay discusses the situation prior the promulgation of the 1992 constitution of Ghana with particular reference to the Public Order Decree;

continued

and the circumstances leading to the Supreme Court decision and the birth of the Public Order Act. The rest of the essay discusses the thorny issue as to whether the Public Order Act is consistent with the 1992 Constitution; and, whether the full and unrestrained enjoyment of this right is a recipe for chaos as Ghana goes to the polls in a crucial election in December 2008. The essay concludes with suggestions for all stakeholders to work towards ensuring peaceful election in December 2008.

### The Public Order Decree of 1972, (NRCD 68)

Section 8(1) of the Public Order Decree stipulated that any person or group of persons who intended holding a public event should apply first to a Superior Police Officer for permission. Should the police officer be "satisfied upon reasonable grounds" of a possible breach of the peace, the said police officer could refuse the holding of such public event.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, the Police Commissioner was empowered by Executive Instrument to prohibit the holding of a public event for up to one week.<sup>2</sup> Clearly, under the Public Order Decree, one could not hold any public event (be it a meeting, procession or celebrating a

traditional custom) without applying for, and receiving a permit from the Police.<sup>3</sup> This was the status quo that prevailed before the advent of the 1992 fourth Republican constitution.

### The Turning Point

Despite the promulgation of the 1992 Republican constitution of Ghana in which the rights to freedom of assembly, procession and association were enshrined, the police continued to require permits before public events are held. For instance, in February 1993 Police granted two permits to the **New Patriotic Party (NPP)** to hold rallies only to withdraw them at the last minute before the events. In the same month, the police broke up a peaceful demonstration led by the NPP and in addition arrested and prosecuted some of the protestors for demonstrating without permit. It was against this background that the NPP took the police to court seeking a declaration in the Supreme Court on the following grounds:<sup>4</sup>

- That Section 7 of the Public Order Decree

3 See E. K. Quarshigah "The constitutional Right to freedom of assembly and procession in Ghana in the light of the decision in the Public Order case and the Public Order Act", in E. N. A. Kotey, ed. University of Ghana Law Journal vol. XX 1996 – 1999 (Accra: Yemens Press Ltd.), pp. 1-25.

4 Ibid. pp. 2-3.

1 See Section 8(2) of the Public Order Decree  
2 Ibid. Section 7(1).

continued



which empowered the Minister of Interior to prohibit the holding of public events for a period in a specified area was unconstitutional.

- That Section 8 of the Public Order Decree which required permit from the police before holding a meeting, procession or celebrating any custom was unconstitutional.
- That Section 12 (a) of the Public Order Decree which empowered a superior police officer to stop or disperse a procession or meeting was also unconstitutional
- That section 15 of NRCD 68 which made it an offence to hold such meeting or procession without permission was inconsistent with article 21(1)(d) of the 1992 Constitution cited overleaf.

The Supreme Court comprising seven Justices unanimously concluded that sections 7, 8, 12, and 13 of the Public Order Decree contravened article 21(1) (d) of the 1992 Constitution.

This decision was hailed by civil society organizations and pro-human rights activists as it opened the floodgates for public events without prior information to the police for the first time.

### **Enter the Public Order Act 1994 (Act 491)**

Within one year after the Supreme Court decision, Parliament enacted the Public Order Act apparently to bring some sanity into organizing public events. The gist of Act 491 is that any person intending to hold a special event in any public place shall notify the police of his intention five days before the date. Where the police officer reasonably believes that the special event could endanger public safety, the said officer would request for postponement or relocation of the said event; and where the organizer fails to comply, the police officer may apply to a judge for an order to prohibit the holding of the special event.

### **Controversy**

In the opinion of many, Act 491 only sought to give parliamentary approval to NRCD

68. According to Quarshigah (1999: pp. 6-8), actions of the police in Act 491 could constitute "prior restraint" with the likelihood of outright denials. He opined that the replacement of the word "permit" with "request" did not make any difference as both produce the same consequences aimed at imposing prior restraints on the right to freedom of assembly, procession and demonstration. This is exemplified in the fact that the application of a police officer to judges in respect of intended public event is envisaged to be *ex parte* applications considering the timing involved. Quarshigah lamented how parliament could derogate from a fundamental right such as right to freedom of assembly without explicitly stating the circumstances that qualify such derogation. He concluded that "fundamental rights are too fundamental to be derogated from by nebulous provisions."<sup>5</sup>

Though Quarshigah admitted that a regulation that has the objective to notify the police of an intended special event is understandable only if it is to enable police make provision for the maintenance of law and order and also advise; but not to request postponement and relocation. In this respect, the duty of the police is to ensure that the special event is peaceful and that it is not disrupted. Unfortunately, Act 491 gives room to the police to manipulate the process in a rather arbitrary manner; and it is in this vein that Act 491 is seen to have some "possible unconstitutional effect".<sup>6</sup> Consequently, civil society groups in Ghana have joined in the chorus of condemnation of Act 491 as an affront to the enjoyment of fundamental human right of freedom of assembly by Ghanaians. Quarshigah (1999: 25) concludes that:

*The Public Order Act is clearly an invidious piece of legislation, crafted to confuse the public and ostensibly designed by states to frustrate the monumental human rights strides made by the Supreme Court in the protection of the right to peaceful assembly, procession and demonstration in the Public Order Act. The Public Order Act*

5 Ibid. p. 15

6 Ibid. p. 17.

*represents a reversal of the gradual and painful march towards the inculcation of the culture of respect for human rights into the psyche of the law enforcement agencies....*

It is important to note however that despite the existence of this law, Civil Society Groups such as the Committee for joint Action (CJA) and other individuals have continued to agitate to reinforce the fact that the police have no authority whatsoever to deny citizens this right. Nana Oye Lithur of the Commonwealth Secretariat in Ghana for instance took a swipe at the Ghana Police Service for denying citizens their right to peaceful assembly and demonstration.<sup>7</sup> According to her:

*The Police do not have the legal right to deny people the right to organize a vigil. They must take note of their lack of legal power to deny authorization.....In the name of security, they have violated the human rights of Ghanaians to freely assemble and demonstrate.*

In the same vein, the CJA has within 2008 ignored security advice and warnings from

7 Nana Oye Lithur is a columnist in the Daily Graphic under the theme Women and the Law. Tuesday July 3, 2007, p. 11.

the police and gone ahead to organize demonstrations some of which nearly turned violent especially in Tamale as police tried to disrupt the demonstrations. Thus, gradually but surely, civil society agitation to assert the right of the Ghanaian to assemble and demonstrate contrary to police advice is being realized. For instance, after taking a swipe at the police Oye Lithur organized a candle procession in Accra even though the police had earlier advised against it.

### **Police Double Standards in Applying Public Order Act?**

Though the Act 491 aims at ensuring that the police take precautionary measures to forestall breaches of the peace in the exercise of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, the arbitrary manner in which police sometimes handle such notices; coupled with the way police discriminate against parties in their bid to exercise this right smack of double standards. A chronology of events is important to illustrate this point.

In November 1999, a presidential aide called street demonstrations by registered political parties "a provocative attempt to destroy the democratic order and a declaration of war on

continued



the national democratic order and an act totally against the national interest.”<sup>8</sup> The Police did not allow the demonstration to take place. Earlier in October, 1999, an opposition Member of Parliament (MP) was prevailed upon by police not to organize a demonstration against the unsolved murders of women in her constituency. Yet the police allowed the National Council on Women in Development to stage a government-sanctioned demonstration on the same issue.<sup>9</sup>

An NGO, Jubilee 2000 group (whose platform is debt forgiveness for developing countries) gave the greater Accra police the required 5 days’ notice of their planned demonstration in 1999 according to the requirements of the Public order Act 1994. The police denied them permission to demonstrate, stating that the police needed more time to investigate the Jubilee 2000 organization.<sup>10</sup> On the other hand, demonstrations against those who publicized a tape alleging the then President’s role in several human rights abuses during the PNDC era occurred even without the required 5 days’ notice, but under police protection.<sup>11</sup> Obviously, these are clear cases of double standard.

On May 2, 2000, Accra textile traders were disallowed from demonstrating to protest a textile price hike because they lacked a police permit. On the contrary, Police

allowed thousands of trade union members’ demonstration nationwide to demand an increase in the minimum wage on July 25, 2000. Similarly, in February, 2000, police prevented the **National Reform Party (NRP)** from holding a rally at Labadi although the NRP had given the police the required advance notice of the event, yet the **NDC** was allowed to hold a rally in the same vicinity.<sup>12</sup>

This double standard by the police seem to have abated between 2001 and 2002; only to resurface in 2003 when in March, 2003 at Navrongo, police cancelled opposition party rallies to accommodate the Vice President’s visit to the area, just before a closely contested parliamentary by-election. Again, in April, 2003 at Gomoa East, police again cancelled opposition rallies immediately before a by-election, because the Vice President was visiting the area.<sup>13</sup> Such cancellation of opposition rallies effectively disrupted opposition campaigns.

In March, 2005 at Kumasi police sought a court order to postpone opposition street protest. In April the same year, police cancelled a planned demonstration by media practitioners to protest the lack of development in the Ashanti Region.<sup>14</sup> In July, 2006 the government denied an application from the Gays and Lesbians Association of Ghana to host a proposed international conference in Accra

8 Country Report on Ghana (1999).

9 Ibid.

10 Ibid.

11 Ibid.

12 Country Report on Ghana (2000)

13 2003 Country Report on Ghana.

14 2005 Country Report on Ghana.

continued



in September.<sup>15</sup> In 2007, police prevented the people of Adafor from demonstrating to draw government attention to the devastating effect of the sea erosion on their land. In all the above cited cases, it is clear that the police demonstrated double standards; thereby weakening citizens' right to freedom of assembly and association. It is against this background of arbitrary application of Act 491 that the CJA and others are calling the bluff of the police on this matter.

But if the incident at Kpatinga-Gushegu near Tamale in August where a clash between the **National Democratic Party (NDC)** and the **New Patriotic Party (NPP)** resulted in six deaths, the burning and destruction of eight vehicles and twenty three houses and the displacement of hundreds of people are anything to go by, then there is the need for all political parties, civil society, government and the police in particular to work together to avoid further conflicts in the run-up to the December 2008 elections to avoid a repetition of what happened at Kpatinga.

### The Way Forward

As much as possible, all forms of executive influences on the police in respect of executing Act 491 should not only be avoided, but seen to be avoided. This way, the police would use their discretion and good judgement in supervising Act 491 with all fairness without looking over their shoulders. The police must be allowed to do their work as professionals.

It is also equally important for police to know their limits in respect of Act 491 and not to play to the gallery. Too often, police commanders have made comments on receipt of notifications for demonstrations; which utterances tend to poison the political atmosphere and subsequently prejudice their own actions. For police to be able to do this there is the need for a series of workshops to be organised for the police command nationwide on this matter

especially on the attitude of the police. This is because by exhibiting the right attitude towards various actors, the police would still earn the respect of various parties even where the court decides against the said parties. The need for police to raise their professionalism to meet such exigencies by shelving partiality at this time of Ghana's landmark election cannot be gainsaid. In this vein, the police must expeditiously prosecute all those who fall foul of the law irrespective of which parties they belong to. This would give all actors confidence in the police and also make them have faith in the judgement of the police.

Political parties, civil society groups and other actors must realise that much as Act 491 does not derogate from the right to freedom of assembly, the same Act deems it expedient for the police who are in charge of maintaining law and order in the country to be notified. By this, Act 491 anticipates the need for the police to examine and scrutinise the implications of such notifications in order to advise the parties and if possible, the courts. If the aim of Act 491 is for the police to merely receive such notification, then the provisions in respect of such notification is of no significance. On the contrary, it can be reasonably inferred from Act 291 that it anticipates the notification would alert the police to make adequate provisions to protect citizens in the exercise of their constitutional right and for the public interest in accordance with Articles 12 (2) and 21 (4) (a) of the 1992 Constitution of Ghana. Therefore much as the police are not the final authority in this matter, their advice cannot be ignored. This then calls for cooperation and collaboration between the police on one hand; and political parties and various actors to give meaning to Act 491. This is one way we can avoid the suspicion and acrimony that characterise such notifications to the police. But for this to work would depend on the attitudes of all the parties particularly the police whose utterances and actions are crucial in this respect.

It is also important for various political parties to play the game according to laid down

<sup>15</sup> 2006 Country Report on Ghana.





regulations and common sense. For instance if commonsense had been applied, the Kpatinga incident would have been avoided. This is because considering the volatile nature of Tamale against the background of recent events; it was reckless on the part of the two parties to have put the lives of their supporters into such jeopardy. Political parties should not just preach peace but must be law-abiding themselves. This incident should therefore be a guide to organising future events.

Admittedly, the President and the Vice must be accorded the first place in all special events. Here, the police have no choice but to perform their constitutional obligations in this respect. However, where other political parties are denied such rights to give undue advantages to the ruling party as occurred in Navrongo and Gomoah East in 2003 just before closely contested by-elections by the cancellation of rallies to enable the Vice President address NPP rallies, then this smacks of undue executive influence on the police. It is important for both the police and the executive to distinguish between state and party activities because mixing the two creates problems for the police.

The media also has a crucial role to play in educating citizens to avoid putting their lives in danger. If the media – Print, Radio and TV – would collectively wage anti-violence campaign in these last days before the December election,

it would have positive effects on peace in Ghana before and after the election. In addition, the media especially the print and radio can do Ghana a lot of good by avoiding sensational headlines. Such anti-violence campaign must be supported by other bodies such as the NCCE and the Christian Council of Ghana among others. It is in this respect that the initiative by a group of musicians to preach peace all over Ghana before the December election must be commended.

### Conclusion

That the December 2008 elections in Ghana are crucial is not in doubt. Central to the success of the elections is for all parties to enjoy the right of freedom of assembly to enable them carry on with their campaign. To this end, there is the need for the police not just be fair and firm; but be seen to be doing so in respect of all notifications for special events. The police cannot succeed in this venture alone unless all actors and stake holders are brought on board. The attention of the world is turned on Ghana and we must not fail the world in showcasing Ghana as the star of Africa.

Formed from the merger of the British colony of the Gold Coast and the Togoland trust territory, Ghana in 1957 became the first sub-Saharan country in colonial Africa to gain its independence under the leadership of Dr Kwame Nkrumah . Its democratic process was several times disrupted by high number of coups . In 1981, Lt. Jerry Rawlings took over power and banned political parties. Ironically Rawlings restores the country to multiparty politics in 1992 with a new constitution. He went on to win 1992 and 1996 elections under that NDC party but as per the constitution he could not run for a third term in year 2000. The leader of the then opposition NPP party John Kuffuor won year 2000 and 2004 elections. As per the constitution, John Kuffuor can not stand for elections again in year 2008.

Apart from the national elections for the post of head of state and president, there is going to be legislative elections to elect 230 members of parliament.

The 7<sup>th</sup> December 2008 election is going exciting, interesting and closely fought one.

by Alessandro Volpi\*, Alessandro Breccia\*\*

\* Professor & \*\*Researcher of Contemporary History,  
University of Pisa, Italy

[translation from Italian by Michele Gonnelli]

# The impact of **financiarization** on the African economy

Starting from 2001 the African economic scenario has deeply changed as an effect of international dynamics occurred on a global basis. The entrance of China into the WTO generated the pre-conditions for a dramatic rise in the prices of raw materials, agricultural goods and energy.

The impact of the overwhelming Chinese demand, particularly significant starting from 2003, has been exponentially boosted by the financierization of the world economy, which translated the most popular market

the possibility introduced by the WTO to treat the agri-goods as they can be given in financial terms has generated a strong inflationary spiral. During the last weeks it has been registered a big increase in the production of grains, up to nearly 680 million tons, according to FAO, but the prices did not decrease consequently.

In such a context many exporting countries have had the opportunity to extinguish their foreign debt, to store high value money stocks and take advantage of the new global powers hierarchy, which is connected now more than



expectations in immediate factual economic realities.

The surprising increase of primary goods price is only partially explained by the real demand:

ever to the control of energy resources and raw materials.

The importing countries suffered instead a situation more complicated: the African

continent has become in the past years a net importer of agri-goods, and that had dramatic consequences on the agro-inflation phenomenon. The price of rice, which normally has a reference role on the markets, has laterally jumped to more than the 50% in Ivory Coast and the Central African Republic, the 39% in Cameroon, the 45% in Senegal, 42% in Mauritania, while in Sierra Leone it went up to 300%.

The growth of the real demand for nourishments, the above mentioned financierization of the agri-goods, the introduction in the diet of some population (i.e. Chinese) of meat and milk products, the reduction of cultivated lands, caused by environmental deteriorations, and the spread of bio-fuels are the causes of the current problematic scenario and possible problematic developments.

The whole dynamic has as strong financial character.

The agricultural goods, attached through the bio-fuels to the energy cluster and therefore affected by the fossil resources market, have become for many stockbrokers proper investment goods. That makes the African continent much more appealing for stock exchange activities and speculations.

This trend was accompanied by the huge development of some African Stock-Exchanges, such as those in South Africa and Gabon. To this regard it is worth remembering that the south-African bank INVESTEC and the Saudi company JADWA INVESTMENT have opened negotiations in order to launch on the African market an investment fund which will be ruled according to the *Sharia* precepts.

It will represent the first one of that sort in the Middle East and just for the first year it will have more than 100 billions \$ at disposal. Those investments are addressed mainly to South Africa and Nigeria, countries of preference for direct portfolio investments, due to their richness in terms of raw materials and the particularly developed financial and stocks markets.

The liberalisation and privatisation programmes which have been implemented so far in several countries (such as Botswana, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambico,

Togo, Uganda and Zambia) have further attracted foreign investments, which currently constitute a significant portion of the GNP and of the general monetary base.

Profits opportunities are represented by securities and bonds issued by private or para-public companies (which often operate in the energy, transports, public utilities or infrastructure sectors) in search for financial support to the benefit of their national and regional development plans.

At the same time, the privatisation of national banks, new rules for the minimum starting stock and the increased national competition have prompted big international financial institutions to penetrate the African markets. Some examples: the investments in the *ABSA South Africa* and the *South Africa Standard Bank* from *Barclays Bank* and the *Commercial and Industrial Bank of China*.

Also the bond market is evolving. In various countries of the area the issue of *sovereign bonds* to mid- and –long term constitute a common alternative financial tool: foreign investors finance big portions of the national debt of following countries: Nigeria (20%), Malawi (17%), Zimbabwe (14%), Ghana (11%).

Ghana has been the first HIPC (*Heavily Indebted Poor Country*) country to enter the international markets, issuing in September 2007 a 10 years-term bond of 750 millions \$, in order to sustain its own infrastructural development. Gabon followed the same example one month later, with 1 billion bond, in order to pay back the *Paris Club*. In December 2007 also the Republic of Congo opted for the same solution, through a private placement of 478 millions \$ in exchange of its debt towards the *London Club*. Les Seychelles issued an international 5 years-term bond of 200 millions \$ to pay back its multilateral creditors.

New issues are expected in 2009 from Kenya and Nigeria.

While some African countries have started to play a timid role on the international financial market, the financierization of the global economy deeply impacts on the everyday life of their people; Africa has new challenges and treacherous opportunities to deal with.

by Daniele Lenci\*

*\*International Consultant,  
Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna*

The work of the Scuola Sant'Anna and the University of Ghana  
in the heart of Africa - Accra

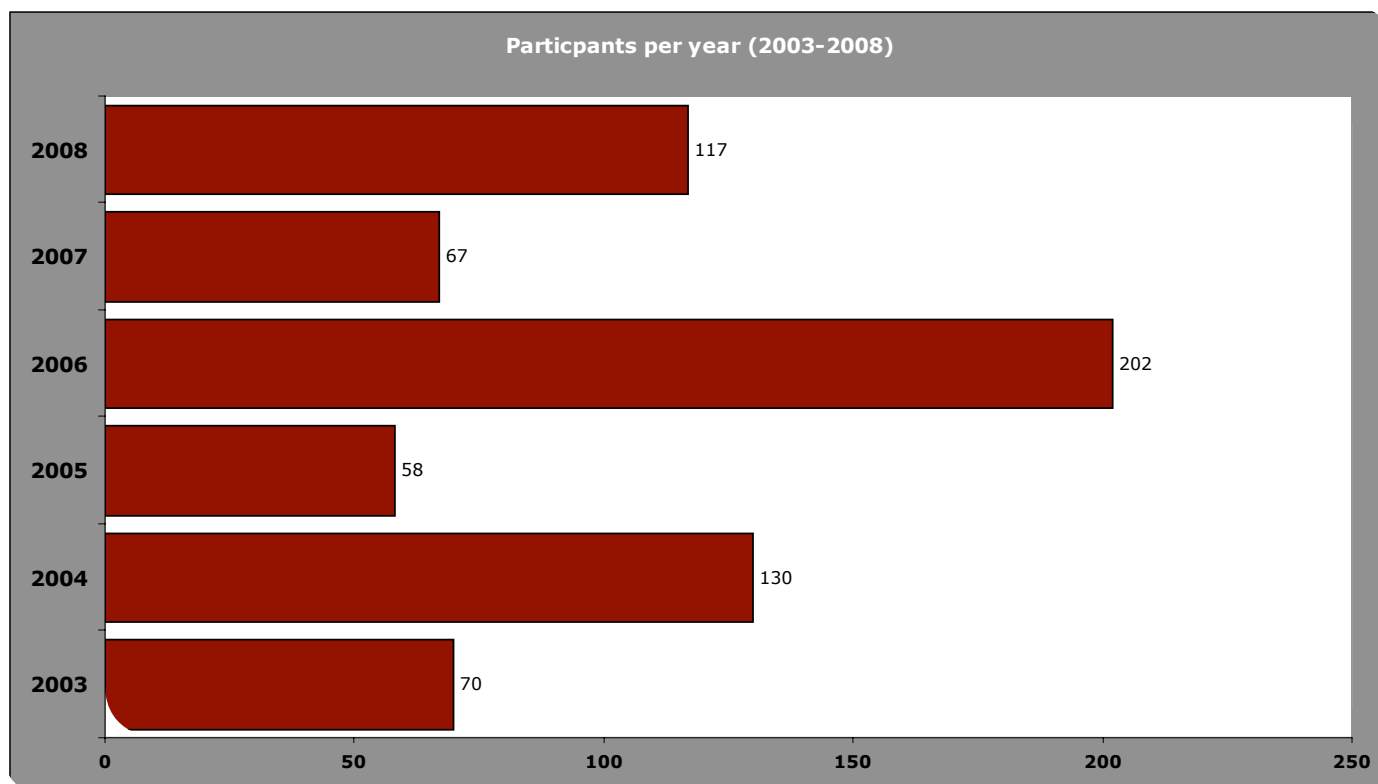
# AFRICAN SOLUTIONS TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS

Free Training for Peace-Keepers delivered to more than 600 africans

At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, Africa appears as the region of the world most affected by poverty, inter-state conflicts, forced migrations and cross-border insurgencies. Working as International Consultant for the **International Training Programme on Peacebuilding and Good Governance for**

**African Civilian Personnel (ITPPGG)** at the University of Ghana, represents a privileged position to understand the huge challenges the African continent has to undergo in terms of conflicts resolution, democratization, good governance and development. Yet, it also constitutes a great opportunity to get to know





- through the contact with the students of the training programme - the complexity of the African reality made of different languages, religions, cultures and traditions. Indeed, the participants in the ITPPGG training courses arrive from all over Africa (so far 47 different African states have been represented among participants), many coming from conflict-affected and post-conflict countries.

## THE ITPPGG

The International Training Programme on Peacebuilding and Good Governance for African Civilian Personnel (ITPPGG) was established in 2002 by the Legon Center for International Affairs (LECIA - University of Ghana) and the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna of Pisa under the auspices of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and with the financial contribution of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Cooperazione Italiana).

The Programme has been set up in response to the shortage of trained civilian personnel for Peace Support Operations (PSOs) with the objective of increasing the readiness and professionalism of African civilians

participating in peacekeeping and other PSOs and to enhance their capacity to respond effectively to the complex challenges of post-conflict reconstruction.

The ITPPGG trainings assist African civilians, with different skills and professions, to deal with various issues related to peacebuilding, such as good governance; conflict prevention, management and resolution; election management and observation; human rights; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex combatants. The aim of the Programme is to provide a ready pool of trained and skilled African personnel to fill the civilian component of field PSOs and to complement the work of the military and police personnel

## ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PROGRAMME

Over more than 5 years of activity, the ITPPGG has organized and implemented a number of training courses addressing a whole range of topics. The training activities include:

- Foundation Courses,
- Training of Trainers Workshops,
- Specialization Courses, and
- Pre-mission Training.

continued

The **Foundation Courses** last three weeks and are designed to provide in-depth understanding of the conceptual framework of PSOs and also serve as an introduction to the main tasks usually performed by civilian personnel in the field missions.

A one-week **Training-of-Trainers Workshop**

for the ITPPGG is mainly focused on the development of the *curricula* of the training courses, the identification of resource persons, the establishment of contacts with agencies, institutions, international organisations and NGOs, and the identification of potential donors and partners for the training activities.

<b>Number of Courses provided as of July 2008:</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Number of applications:</b>	<b>around 3500</b>
<b>Number of participants in the courses:</b>	<b>644</b>
<b>Number of training days provided:</b>	<b>290</b>
<b>Participants working on field missions after the training:</b>	<b>around 40%</b>
<b>African countries represented in the courses</b>	<b>37</b>

(ToT) follows each Foundation Course. The ToT aims at developing participants' training skills and methodologies enabling them to replicate their experiences through the organization of small scale training activities in their localities. Ten out of the 30 participants of each Foundation Course are selected to attend the ToT.

The **Specialization Courses** (Election Observation Course, Human Rights Course, DDR Course, Course for Correction Officers and Law Enforcement Officers) focus on specific topics and areas of interest while retaining some of the main characteristics of the Foundation Courses. Thus, they are practically oriented and seek to provide participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to operate carefully and effectively in international field missions.

The ITPPGG has also carried out **pre-mission trainings** on "*Human Rights, Conflict Resolution and Protection of Vulnerable Groups*" for the personnel of the United Nation Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE).

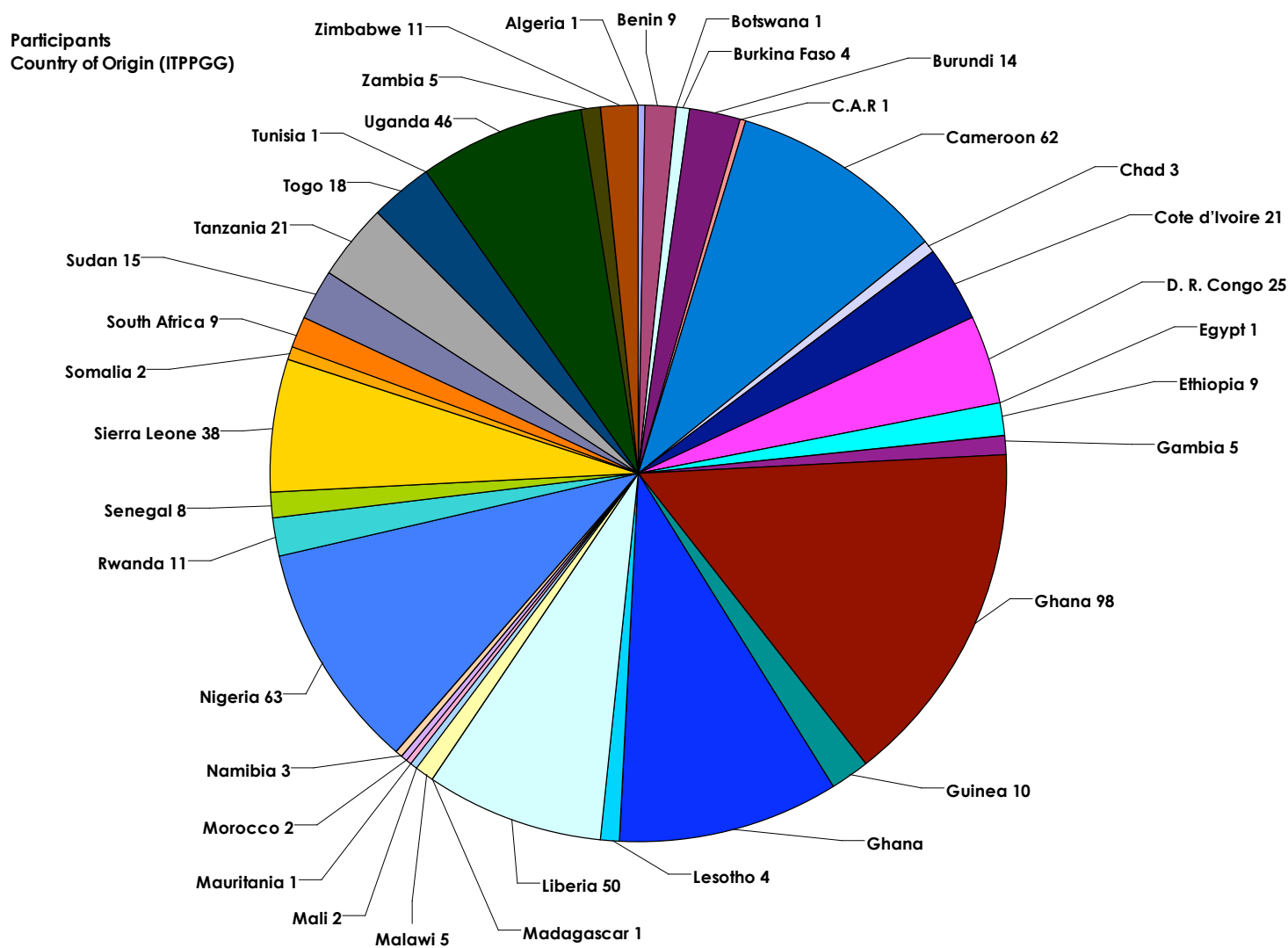
## INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANT

My activity as International Consultant

By delivering the training courses it is finally possible to appreciate the outcome of all the efforts made during the previous months. Organizing a training course is a complex task. You need to bring together a relatively high number of people, coming from different countries and backgrounds, and be able to deal with a series of different and often unexpected issues (logistics, transports, etc.), along with the so-called last-minute problems (i.e. problems with visas procurement, cancellation of flights, unavailability of facilitators, etc.). All these aspects need a prompt and effective reply otherwise they risk to jeopardise all the work done.

The starting of a training course means also to interact with facilitators (always very high-level experts in their specific field, such as international consultants, officers of international organizations, police and army officers, electoral commissions' personnel, and internationally renowned academics) and with the participants. It is always very interesting to get acquainted with 'students' coming from all over Africa, listening to their stories and experiences, learning about the situation

continued



Country of Origin of participants to the ITPPGG Courses (2003-2008 data)

and problems of their countries, feeling their gratitude for having been selected for the training (**courses are free and participants get 75% of the travel expenses reimbursed**), sharing with them the hope about their personal professional future and for the future of their Continent. The greatest satisfaction is to know that following attendance of an ITPPGG training course participants may begin or enhance their career in the field of peacebuilding (almost 25% of the participants are recruited in a field mission 6 months after the end of course).

The ITPPGG may play only a marginal role in the African quest for peace and development, nonetheless it is contributing - through the training of African professionals in all peace support related areas - in enabling Africa to respond to the crises breaking out in the Continent with its own human resources. The Programme uniqueness lies in the fact that it has been planned and developed with sensitivity to the African environment and culture, Africa's context and needs: "*African solutions to African problems*" may be one of the answers to help Africa overcoming its present plight.

**Merry  
Christmas  
&  
Happy New  
Year 2009  
to all of You**

**the  
ITPCM STAFF**



the itpcm & iccids base in Pisa, archive photo

## International Training Programme for Conflict Management

Staff members & Contacts:

**Andrea de Guttry**  
Director  
deguttry@sssup.it

**Barbara Carrai**  
Executive Director  
bcarrai@sssup.it

### Communication & Design:

Michele Gonnelli  
Communication Officer  
m.gonnelli@sssup.it

### Secretariat:

Federica Faldella  
profile@sssup.it

Pasqualetta Campus  
itpcm@sssup.it

### Address:

Via Cardinale Maffi, 27  
56127 PISA (Italy)  
tel: +39 050 882685 fax: +39  
050 882665 email: **itpcm@  
sssup.it www.itpcm.sssup.it**



### Decentralised Cooperation Branch:

Annarosa Mezzasalma  
Project Officer  
annarosa@sssup.it

Barbara Nicoletti  
Research Fellow  
b.nicoletti@sssup.it

Ilaria Dal Canto  
Programme Officer  
i.dalcanto@sssup.it

Luisa Nardi  
Research Fellow  
l.nardi@sssup.it

### Peace Keeping Branch:

Camila Ferrini  
Project Officer  
c.ferrini@sssup.it

Emanuele Sommario  
Research Fellow  
esommar@sssup.it

Gabriella Arcadu  
Programme Officer  
garcadu@sssup.it