Africa

Abstract: This book on gender and feminism provides an overview of Western and African ideas regarding gender and of participatory methodologies paying particular attention to the exclusion of grassroots feminism from the growing body of knowledge and action. Contents: Introduction : our imagination, their realities - Simi Afonja; Chapter one: Gender and feminism in African development discourse - Simi Afonja; Chapter two: Gender images : the deification of motherhood in Igbo society - Solomon C. Madubuike and Valerie A. Solomon; Chapter three: Enhancing the capacity of women leaders of community organizations towards peace building in the Niger Delta Region, Nigeria : the role of women's groups in conflict resolution - Yomi Oruwari; Chapter four: Classical and contemporary categories of participatory learning approaches - A.O. Olutayo and E.A. Fayankinu; Chapter five: Gender and leadership in market associations : a study of Bodija Market, Ibadan, Nigeria - Ifeanyi P. Onyeonoru, Taiwo Eneji and Cordelia Chiagozie; Chapter six: The praxis of gender and community development in Nigeria - Okunola, R.A. and Aluko, Yetunde; Chapter seven: Renaissance of women's interest in the monarchy - F.A. Olasupo. [ASC Leiden abstract]

Botswana

Abstract: While HIV prevention research conducted among adolescent populations may encounter parental resistance, the active engagement of parents from inception to trial completion may alleviate opposition. In preparation for implementing a large randomised controlled trial (RCT) examining the efficacy of a behavioural intervention targeting adolescent sexual risk behaviours, a formative evaluation was undertaken to assess parental reactions to the proposed trial. Six focus groups were conducted with parents of adolescents (aged 13-17) from rural, peri-urban and urban junior secondary schools in Botswana. Focus groups explored comprehension and acceptability among parents of the forthcoming trial including HSV-2 testing, the return of results to the adolescent (not the parent), trial information materials and the parental consent process. Parents welcomed the study and understood and accepted its moral and ethical considerations. Their reactions regarding return of HSV-2 results only to adolescents (not the parent) were mixed. Parents understood the consent process and most agreed to consent, while indicating their desire to remain informed and involved throughout the RCT. The focus group discussions (FGDs) provided valuable information and insights that helped strengthen the study. As a result of parents’ feedback, counselling procedures were strengthened and direct linkages to local services and care were made. Informational materials were revised to increase clarity, and materials and procedures were developed to encourage and support parental involvement and parent-child dialogue. Ultimately, parental feedback led to a decision by the Government of Botswana to allow parents to access their child's HSV-2 test results. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.2989/16085906.2015.1135295 (Restricted access)

East Africa

Abstract: Poverty and social inequality are significant drivers of the HIV epidemic and are risk factors for acquiring HIV. As such, many individuals worldwide are at risk for new HIV infection, especially young women in East and Southern Africa. By addressing these drivers, social protection programmes may mitigate the impact of poverty and social inequality on HIV risk. There is reason to believe that social protection can be used successfully for HIV prevention; social protection programmes, including cash transfers, have led to positive health outcomes and
behaviour in other contexts, and they have been used successfully to promote education and increased income and employment opportunities. Furthermore, cash transfers have influenced sexual behaviour of young women and girls, thereby decreasing sexual risk factors for HIV infection. When HIV outcomes have been measured, several randomised controlled trials have shown that indirectly, cash transfers have led to reduced HIV prevalence and incidence. In these studies, school attendance and safer sexual health were directly incentivised through the cash transfer, yet there was a positive effect on HIV outcomes. In this review, we discuss the growth of social protection programmes, their benefits and impact on health, education and economic potential, and how these outcomes may affect HIV risk. We also review the studies that have shown that cash transfers can lead to reduced HIV infection, including study limitations and what questions still remain with regard to using cash transfers for HIV prevention. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.2989/16085906.2015.1135296 (Restricted access)

Kenya Parental mediation of adolescent media use and demographic factors as predictors of Kenyan high school students' exposure to sexual content in television / Kyalo wa Ngula, Hellen K. Mberia, and Ann Neville Miller. - In: African Journal of AIDS Research: (2016), vol. 15, no. 1, p. 1-8 : tab Abstract: Research in Western nations suggests that parents' involvement in their children's media use can make a difference in how adolescents select, process and respond to sexual television messages. Little or no published research has investigated this issue in sub-Saharan Africa, even though adolescents and young adults remain among the groups at highest risk for HIV transmission. This study investigated the relationship between Kenyan adolescents' level of exposure to sexual television content and their parents' mediation of their television use. A cluster sample of 427 Nairobi public high school students was surveyed regarding parental mediation of their media use and their intake of sexual television content. Co-viewing with opposite sex friends was associated with higher intake of sexual TV content. This relationship was stronger among boarding school students than among day school students. Parental mediation and co-viewing variables predicted three times as much variance among boarding than among day school students. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.2989/16085906.2015.1131727 (Restricted access)

Nigeria

Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning / National Planning Commission - Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, 2013. Abstract: The website of the Nigeria National Assembly offers access to digitized parliamentary documents such as acts, bills, hansards, notice papers, votes and proceedings and order papers, mostly from the last two decades. [ASC Leiden abstract] 
#Homepage# =A http://www.nassnig.org/

#Acts# http://www.nassnig.org/document/acts
#Bills# http://www.nassnig.org/document/bills
#Hansards# http://www.nassnig.org/document/hansards
#Notice papers# http://www.nassnig.org/document/notice_papers
#Votes and proceedings# http://www.nassnig.org/document/votes_and_proceedings
#Order papers# http://www.nassnig.org/document/order_papers

Nigeria
Abstract: The website of the Nigeria National Planning Commission gives access to their current national plans. On the page "NV20:2020" you can find a general document on their vision for 2020 and 29 separate documents each elaborating on a specific thematic area, such as agriculture and food security, education, employment, foreign policy, health, Niger Delta & regional development, security, trade and commerce et cetera. Under "Transformation Agenda" you can find documents stating the federal governments key priority policies, programmes and projects for 2011-2015 and a 2013 mid-term report. Under "Resources" you can find several other downloads. [ASC Leiden abstract]

#Homepage# http://www.nationalplanning.gov.ng/


#Downloads# http://www.nationalplanning.gov.ng/index.php/ resources/downloads

Nigeria

Nigeria Watch / Nigeria Watch - Marseille : Institut de recherche pour la développement (IRD), 2006.

Abstract: Nigeria Watch is a research project monitoring lethal violence, conflicts, and human security in Nigeria. It began in July 2006 and is based on the campus of the University of Ibadan with the support of the French Institute for Research in Africa (IFRA-Nigeria) since July 2013. Their site contains a database recording date, place, participants and number of deaths of violent events in Nigeria since 2006. Their site also offers access to numerous downloads of their annual reports, working papers and other publications. [ASC Leiden abstract]

#Homepage# http://www.nigeriawatch.org/

#Database# http://www.nigeriawatch.org/index.php? urlaction=evtListe&cherche=1


Northeast Africa


Abstract: The eight member states (Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda) of the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) have the largest proportions of cross-border mobile pastoralists and refugees in Africa. Although all IGAD countries have had national HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment programmes since the late 1980s, the IGAD Regional HIV & AIDS Partnership Program was (IRAPP) established in 2007 to mitigate the challenges of HIV among neglected pastoral and refugee communities. This article assesses vulnerability of pastoralists and refugee communities to HIV and interventions targeting these groups in the IGAD countries. Outcomes from this study may serve as a baseline for further research and to improve interventions. Published articles were accessed through web searches using PubMed and Google Scholar engines and unpublished documents were collected manually. The search terms were HIV risk behaviour, vulnerability, HIV prevalence and interventions, under the headings pastoralists, refugees, IGAD and north-east Africa for the period 2001-2014. Of the 214 documents reviewed, 78 met the inclusion criteria and were included. Most HIV/AIDS related studies focusing of pastoral communities in IGAD countries were found to be limited in scope and coverage but reveal precarious situations. Sero-prevalence among various pastoral populations ranged from 1% to 21% in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and Uganda and from 1% to 5% among refugees in Sudan, Kenya and Uganda. Socioeconomic, cultural, logistic, infrastructure and programmatic factors were found to contribute to continuing
vulnerability to HIV. Interventions need to be further contextualised to the needs of those impoverished populations and integrated into national HIV/AIDS programmes. HIV/AIDS remains a major public health concern among the pastoral and refugee communities of IGAD countries. This calls for IGAD to collaborate with national and international partners in designing and implementing more effective prevention and control programmes. Furthermore, interventions must extend beyond the health sector and improve the livelihood of these populations. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

South Africa


Abstract: This article presents key findings from the 2012 HIV prevalence, incidence and behaviour survey conducted in South Africa and explores trends in the HIV epidemic. A representative household based survey collected behavioural and biomedical data among people of all ages. Chi-squared test for association and formal trend tests (2002, 2005, 2008 and 2012) were used to test for associations and trends in the HIV epidemic across the four surveys. In 2012 a total of 38,431 respondents were interviewed from 11,079 households; 28,997 (67.5%) of 42,950 eligible individuals provided blood specimens. HIV prevalence was 12.2% [95% CI: 11.4-13.1] in 2012 with prevalence higher among females 14.4% than males 9.9%. Adults aged 25-49 years were most affected, 25.2% [95% CI: 23.2-27.3]. HIV prevalence increased from 10.6% [95% CI: 9.8-11.6] in 2008 to 12.2% [95% CI: 11.4-13.1] in 2012 (p < 0.001). Antiretroviral treatment (ART) exposure doubled from 16.6% in 2008 to 31.2% in 2012 (p < 0.001). HIV incidence in 2012 among persons 2 years and older was 1.07% [95% CI: 0.87-1.27], with the highest incidence among Black African females aged 20-34 years at 4.5%. Sexual debut before 15 years was reported by 10.7% of respondents aged 15-24 years, and was significantly higher among male youth than female (16.7% vs. 5.0% respectively, p < 0.001). Reporting of multiple sexual partners in the previous 12 months increased from 11.5% in 2002 to 18.3% in 2012 (p < 0.001). Condom use at last sex dropped from 45.1% in 2008 to 36.2% in 2012 (p < 0.001). Levels of accurate HIV knowledge about transmission and prevention were low and had decreased between 2008 and 2012 from 31.5% to 26.8%. South Africa is on the right track with scaling up ART. However, there have been worrying increases in most HIV-related risk behaviours. These findings suggest that there is a need to scale up prevention methods that integrate biomedical, behavioural, social and structural prevention interventions to reverse the tide in the fight against HIV. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

South Africa


Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to bring to the attention of the AIDS research community the existence of an oral history project known as the Memories of AIDS Project. The project focused on HIV/AIDS support group members, non-governmental organisation (NGO) workers and home-based carers in the Umgungundlovu (Pietermaritzburg) District Municipality, South Africa. The project was carried out by the Sinomlando Centre for Oral History and Memory Work, a research and community development centre of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, over a period of three years (2011-2013). Sixty-five individual oral history interviews of 1 to 4 hours duration and 11 focus group sessions were recorded, transcribed and translated from isiZulu into English when necessary. The life stories of community workers and support group members documented in the interviews show, on the part of the informants, a remarkable degree of agency and assertiveness in matters of sexuality, gender relations and religious beliefs. They found innovative ways of navigating through the conflicting claims of biomedicine, Christianity and African traditional religion. As much as the epidemic caused grief and suffering, it opened the
What does sustainability mean in the HIV and AIDS response? / Gemma Oberth and Alan Whiteside. - In: 

Abstract: Immense progress has been made in the fight against HIV and AIDS. Achieving and exceeding the AIDS targets for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) was accomplished, in large part, due to an unprecedented financial investment from the international community. Following an $800 million dip in donor disbursements in 2010, the discourse has since shifted to the need for greater sustainability of funding. But what does sustainability mean? Current efforts focus heavily on fiscal imperatives such as increasing domestic funding. This is important - needs are increasing at a faster rate than donor funding, especially with increased treatment coverage. The problem is that measures of financial sustainability tell very little about the actual sustainability of specific programmes, disease trajectories or enabling environments. Recognising that current definitions of sustainability lack clarity and depth, the authors offer a new six-tenet conceptualisation of what sustainability means in the HIV and AIDS response: (1) financial, (2) epidemiological, (3) political, (4) structural, (5) programmatic, and (6) human rights. Based on these, the authors examine examples of donor transitions for their approach to sustainability, including PEPFAR in South Africa, the Global Fund in Eastern Europe, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in India (Avahan). They conclude that sustainability must be understood within a broader framework beyond funding stability. They also recommend that certain interventions, such as programming for key populations, may have to continue to receive external support even if affected countries can afford to pay.


Abstract: There is little analytical literature on the theory and empirical analysis of party factionalism that leads to splits and the formation of new political entities. The existing theoretical literature identifies factors and processes that are split-enabling. When coupled to the dynamics of organizational change, these conceptual tools provide a unique framework for analyzing party-political dynamics in South Africa from an historically comparative perspective. This analysis identifies key trends in party splits in both 'white' and 'black' politics, which serves to illuminate more recent developments with regard to the realignment of opposition politics in South Africa. A conceptual framework combining organizational theory with the literature on party factionalism and party splits has facilitated our case-study focus on the formation, electoral performance and decline of the Congress of the People (Cope) as an opposition party in South Africa. The authors argue that Cope emerged from factional disputes within the ANC and has subsequently largely been shaped by the dynamics of its split and formation from the ANC, despite its attempt to break ties with the parent party. Existing analyses of Cope examine its performance in terms of policy, electoral and oppositional performance, while the approach this article adopts is to argue that the process of Cope's formation significantly shaped the conditions of its future internal dynamics and political performance.


Abstract: The African National Congress (ANC) result in South Africa's national and provincial elections of 2014 sings in two voices 'extraordinary repeat victory' and 'monolith in gradual decline'. The fact that the party continued to dominate, with 62% of the national vote, was a significant achievement in this fifth set of national-provincial elections in democratic South Africa. In none of these elections has the ANC polled below 60%. Yet, from whatever angle its result is analysed, decline and decay are evident. The national result trend is one of serial decline over
the last three elections. The opposition challenge came from both left and right and the ANC took losses on both flanks; turnout was down, as many of its supporters chose abstention over vote-switching; the ANC became more dependent on rural votes in an urbanizing South Africa and results in the metropoles suggest further degeneration, unless the party invents turnarounds. A trend reversal remains possible, yet would be exceedingly difficult given the extraordinary campaign that was required to bring in the 62% in 2014. This article dissects the story of the ANC in Election 2014 in four parts. It begins with the phenomenal election campaign. Secondly, the article analyses the campaign machinery that carried the 2014 quest and explores how the ANC came to rely on large numbers of volunteers. Thirdly, the article turns to the election results, dissects the trends and explores the explanations. Finally, it considers the implications of the result, which was a resounding electoral victory, with large national margins over opposition parties, yet with disquieting implications for the ANC. The analysis draws on the author's 2013-14 research into voter attitudes and on continuous monitoring of election-related developments. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract, edited]

South Africa
Public servant or censor?: the South African Broadcasting Corporation in the era of political television advertising / Sarah Chiumbu and Antonio Ciaglia. - In: Journal of African Elections: (2015), vol. 14, no. 1, p. 149-170
Abstract: Political television advertising is becoming an important feature of democratic elections and essential to election campaign strategies. In this article the authors take a close look at the role the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) is playing in the new era of political television advertising ushered in in 2009. They focus their analysis on the banning by the SABC of election advertisements by two major opposition political parties before the 2014 elections. The country's regulator, the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (Icasa) upheld the decision of the SABC when the two parties filed complaints. The banning of the advertisements and Icasa's decision are assessed on two important principles for public broadcasting editorial independence and public accountability. The authors argue in this article that the action by the public broadcaster undermines freedom of expression and the credibility of both the SABC and Icasa, especially when contextualized within other controversial editorial decisions taken by the broadcaster over the years. Further, they argue that laws governing political advertizing in South Africa are constitutionally problematic and contain contradictions in how they should be applied and implemented by both broadcasters and Icasa. The authors conclude by arguing for a review of these laws. Bibliogr., notes, sum. [Journal abstract]

South Africa
Abstract: In the 2014 election the Democratic Alliance (DA) strengthened its electoral support nationally as well as in the Western Cape province, South Africa, where it governs. It gained over a million new national votes, increasing its total from 2 945 829 in 2009 to 4 091 548 in 2014. It also unseated the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) as official opposition in KwaZulu-Natal and became the official opposition in the Eastern Cape, Mpumalanga, Northern Cape and Free State, while strengthening its opposition status in Gauteng from 21.86% of the vote in 2009 to 30.78% in 2014. In the Western Cape it gained 59.38% of the vote, an increase from 51.46% in 2009. This article considers whether the DA's 2014 electoral gains suggest a strengthening of opposition politics in South Africa. It focuses on whether the DA meets the obligations of an opposition party with regard to providing an institutional space for counter-political elites to organise and providing a viable alternative to the ruling party together with facilitating debate over political issues and public policy while also performing an oversight role. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

South Africa
Abstract: South Africa's election management body, the Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC), faced an unprecedented situation in the run-up to the country's fifth elections. The IEC was
mired in a controversy that threatened to explode into public protests. The dispute, which involved the chairperson of the commission, Pansy Tlakula, was sparked by her relationship with a businessman, Thaba Mufamadi, a member of Parliament (MP) representing the governing African National Congress (ANC) and chairperson of Parliament's finance portfolio committee. This raised concerns about whether or not the IEC would manage the elections impartially. The Public Protector, Thuli Madonsela, suggested that Parliament should censure Tlakula, a measure that might result in her removal from office. The proximity of the elections, however, militated against the resolution of the saga, leading to Tlakula staying on to oversee the elections. The article focuses on this saga and examines two related issues: the handling of the complaint by the responsible public institutions and its general impact on the public perception and credibility of the IEC. The article tracks the parliamentary process that was initiated to probe and recommend a remedy to the complaint, to its referral to the Electoral Court and to the result. The intention is to discern what the handling of this challenging episode says about South Africa's public institutions and public culture. In doing so, the article shines a spotlight on the specific lessons learnt from the saga and on their impact. The author employs an institutionalist theoretical framework to explain their conclusions. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

South Africa
Abstract: In the 2014 general elections Agang SA won 52 350 votes (0.28% of the 18 654 771 votes cast) and only two seats in the National Assembly of South Africa. The electoral performance of the newly-formed party was dismal, especially in comparison to that of its fellow debutant, the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF). This article explores the reasons for Agang SA's poor performance and concludes that they may include both the fact that its political message did not resonate with the wider population and the fact that its campaign strategy was ineffectual. However, it would seem that the main reason for the party's failure was that it was formed around the character and personal successes of one individual its founder, Dr Mamphela Ramphele. Ramphele's reputation wittingly or unwittingly shaped the character and orientation of Agang SA, and her political indiscretions compromised its electoral potential. The future of Agang SA is bleak and its collapse almost inevitable. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

Subsaharan Africa
Abstract: This paper critiques the approach to the elimination of gender inequality as an HIV prevention strategy in the just ended era of the Millennium Development Goals, with the aim of contributing to the formulation of policy guidelines for sub-Saharan Africa in the Sustainable Development Goals. The aim is to underscore the mutual responsibility of women and men in achieving a sustainable HIV response and ending the epidemic. While taking into account the real vulnerability of women, prevention programmes can reflect gender dynamics more accurately so that attention is given to the role of both sexes in propagating - or stemming - a predominantly heterosexual HIV epidemic. More emphasis could be given to the harm caused to both men and women by certain norms related to masculinity and sexuality, and the subsequent need for combined efforts in reducing intimate partner violence and concurrency. The empowerment and engagement of both women and men as agents of change would need to be dealt with more creatively. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]
http://dx.doi.org/10.2989/16085906.2016.1150310 (Restricted access)

Subsaharan Africa
Abstract: Home-based rehabilitation (HBR) has been shown to improve the lives of people living with a wide range of chronic diseases in resource-rich settings. This may also be a particularly effective strategy in resource-poor settings, where access to institution-based rehabilitation is
limited. This review aimed to summarise and discuss the evidence related to the effectiveness of home-based rehabilitation (HBR) interventions designed specifically for adults living with HIV. A scoping review methodology was employed, involving systematic search techniques and appraisal of appropriate evidence. English-language journal articles that assessed the quality of life or functional ability outcomes of HBR interventions for adults living with HIV were considered for this review. Out of an initial 1 135 publications retrieved from the search of databases, six articles met this review's inclusion criteria. While this review highlights the scarcity of empirical evidence related to HBR interventions for adults living with HIV, the findings of these six articles are that HBR is a safe management option that may confer a number of physical and psychological benefits for this population. Future research on HBR interventions should include a wider range of assessment measures, including cost-benefit analyses and specific tools designed to assess the functional ability and participation in activities of daily living of participants involved in these programmes. In particular, more research on HBR is required in resource-poor environments, such as sub-Saharan Africa where HIV is endemic, to assess whether this is a feasible strategy that is both effective and practical in the areas that may need it most. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract] http://dx.doi.org/10.2989/16085906.2016.1159968 (Restricted access)

Subsaharan Africa

Implementation of the millennium development goals : progresses and challenges in some African countries / edited by Nicholas Awortwi and Herman Musahara - Addis Ababa : Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA), 2015. Abstract: In September 2000 world leaders from 189 countries gathered at the United Nations General Assembly to consider the challenges of the new millennium. They adopted the Millennium Declaration, which set out a vision for inclusive and sustainable development, broken down into 18 concrete targets and 48 indicators for the period 2000-2015. This book brings together studies on progresses and challenges in the implementation of the MDGs in Lesotho, Kenya, Botswana, Madagascar, Tanzania, Ghana, Uganda and Nigeria. Each country case study focuses on one or more selected goals. The conclusion presents lessons for the post-2015 development agenda. Contents: Introduction: Tracking progress and challenges in implementation of the MDGs in Africa (Nicholas Awortwi); Progress and challenges in eradicating extreme poverty and hunger and combating HIV/AIDS and other diseases in Lesotho (Jotham Dhembha, Simbai Mushonga, and Eltony Mugomeri); Schooling without learning: long-term implications of free primary education for income and welfare inequalities in Kenya (Emmanuel Manyasa); Universal primary education in Botswana: implementation, achievements and challenges (Robert Molebatsi and Kenneth B. Dipholo); The challenges of the implementation of the MDGs in a fragile State: universal primary education and gender equality in Madagascar (Mireille Rabenoro); Achievements, experiences and challenges of implementing the Millennium Development Goals 3 and 6 in the United Republic of Tanzania (Elizabeth M. Msoka); Gender equality and women's empowerment in Botswana: progresses and challenges (Tapologo Maundeni); Scaling up and sustaining gender inclusion in Botswana: progresses and challenges through the MDGs in Ghana: MDG-C1 (Ellen Bortei-Doku Aryeetey and George Domfe); Improved maternal health to realise the Millennium Development Goal 5 in Kenya (Benard Mwori Sorre); Governance and management issues in rural safe water supply in Uganda: implications for the realisation of Millennium Development Goal 7C (Asingwire Narathius); In roads in alleviating slum conditions across Nigeria (Lee Pugalis, Bob Giddings and Kelechi Anyigor); Conclusion: successes and challenges of the implementation of the MDGs, with lessons for the post-2015 development agenda (Herman Musahara). [ASC Leiden abstract]