

Financing Africa's Post COVID-19 Sustainable Development: Domestic versus International Resources Mobilization

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Abstract:

Even though the African continent has recorded the lowest deaths tolls caused by COVID-19, it is one of the slowest continents recovering from the pandemic. The effects of COVID-19 have crippled many developing progresses made prior to the pandemic and the government of many countries in the continent have already utilised the limited financial resources on the on-going crisis. Many African countries are seeking for financial assistance from institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF) the African Development Bank (AfDB), the World Bank and many other sources for post COVID-19 development. In financing Africa's post COVID-19 development, this article will examines domestic public and private and international resource mobilization for Africa's post COVID-19 development. It argues that both the revenues system of most African countries has to be restructured to ensure effective and efficient tax collection while reallocating more budgets for development. With regard to international resource mobilization, the Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) of the IMF, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) were analysed. Similarly, the Strategy for Economic Governance in Africa (SEGA) of the AfDB and Agenda 2063 of the African Union (AU) were also examined as models for sustainable post COVID-19 development in Africa. Finally, it argues that financing post COVID-19 development will requires contributions from domestic, international private and public sources but the domestic financial sources should provide most of the funds because borrowing will enslave the borrower to the lender.

Keywords:

Post COVID-19 funding for Africa; international and domestic resource mobilization; the AfDB; the IMF and SDRs for African countries; SEGA of the AfDB; Agenda 2063

I. Introduction

COVID-19 has halted and negatively affected the development of many African countries (AfDB grants \$1.6 million to support Mozambique national COVID-19 Response, 2021). Prior to COVID-19, the economic development of many African countries were progressively growing though at a slower rate. However, during COVID-19, many economic activities were frozen and the economies of many African states were struggling to cope with high rate of unemployment. In this regard, many African countries were seeking for loans from financial institutions such the IMF and the World Bank as well as the AfDB (Joins hands for a strong global recovery from COVID-19 urge by the President of AfDB, 2021). Accordingly, the IMF for example has also granted Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) to African countries to finance developmental projects (IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva's Remark at the Summit on Financing African Economies, 2021). Moreover, the IMF also provides funds and resource under adequate safeguards to solve maladjustments in their balance of payments

without resorting to measure destructive of national or international prosperity (Articles of Agreement of the International Monetary Fund 2020 Edition).

Similarly, the AfDB Group has championed much development funding in the African continent especially during the COVID-19 crisis (Loans & Grants of the African Development Bank, 2021). The Bank Group is aimed at spurring sustainable economic development and social progress in its Regional Members Countries (RMCs) and fight against poverty (AfDB's Board of Directors approves borrowing for 2021). Consequently, the AfDB achieves its objectives by: (i) mobilizing and allocating resources for investment in RMCs; (ii) providing policy advice and technical assistance to support development efforts (Mission & Strategy of the African Development Bank, 2020). In other words, the Bank Group have also granted loans to many African countries for developmental projects aimed to boost the economies of these countries and strengthen sustainable development during and after COVID-19. In this regard, on 1 April 2021, the Bank Group approves the total of \$4.1 billion for operations under the COVID-19 Response Facility (CRF) and has disbursed a total of \$3.7 billion (African Development Bank COVID-19 Response Facility, 2021). Additionally, the AfDB CRF has also granted a \$3 billion social bond to support its COVID-19 funding efforts. Consequently, the President of AfDB reacted to COVID-19 pandemic by saying that; 'we are in a race to save lives and we will leave no country behind'. Similarly, the Director of African Development Institute also responded as follows; 'our objective is to build more resilient African economies in the post Covid-19 world'. Beside the IMF and the AfDB COVID-19 responses to Africa, many other institutions such as the United Nations (UN) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) have adopted policies aimed at raising funds and support for African development and other low income Countries (Framework for COVID-19 Recovery, 2021). The French President recently hosted African leaders in a summit to seek support from financial institutions for development and investment in the African continent after the COVID-19 (African Heads of States set for May 18 Paris Summit on COVID19, 2021). After outlining the various responses with regard to the mobilization of resources available for financing African post COVID-19 in Part I, Part II will examine the domestic public and private resource mobilization in the age of digital revolution in this regard. Part III will consider the leveraging of international private and public financial system for Africa's development. Part IV will further examine resilient recovery and sustainable development for Africa. Finally, Part V shall provide the concluding remarks.

II. Research Method

The research methods used in this investigation is mainly empirical. However, theoretical techniques were also explored to establish the financial relationship between the IMF and Member Countries. Given the fact that COVID-19 is a new concept, most of the resources used in this investigation came from the IMF, the AU and the AfDB libraries. Statistic from the empirical methods shows that many countries especially African countries heavily depended on the IMF loans during the COVID-19 periods to propel their economies. The different information derived from these methods was employed to arrive at the conclusion of this investigation.

III. Discussion

3.1 Domestic Public and Private Resource Mobilization for Post Covid-19 Development

For several years the domestic public sector has championed the development in many African countries. However, the on-going COVID-19 pandemic requires the participation of private financial sector toward the development of Africa. Accordingly, the economic damages and fundamental disruption caused by COVID-19 crisis has made the involvement of the private financial sectors in developmental projects indispensable. This is because the pandemic has not only reduced government available resources but has also damaged most of the countries' growth potentials, shifting economic structure and stifled investors' confidence in the continent. The private sector has equally been hit by the COVID-19 crisis and it may take a long time for the some sectors to recover. According to experts, the five key sectors for Africa's post COVID-19 sustainable development including physical and social infrastructure are: education, roads, health, power or electricity, and water (Private Finance for Development 2021). In other words, promoting a strong recovery from COVID-19 pandemic would requires investment in these core sectors in the next decade with resource mobilization from both domestic public and private to accomplish these goals. In this regard, African countries should implement ambitious revenue mobilization and expenditure efficiency reforms to create space for more development spending (Private Finance for Development, 2021, p.9). Accordingly, the domestic reforms required to support development are: strengthening macroeconomic management, boosting government revenue collection, and implementing more effective spending. Consequently, the governments of African states may accomplish this process using the following mechanism: (i) raise more tax revenue to meet Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Expert believes that increase tax to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 5 percent over the next decade would be realistic to target development in the African continent; (ii) raise government spending efficiency could also generate savings, creating budgetary space for priority programmes and achieve outcome at lower cost; (iii) limit borrowing and adoption of cautious debt management strategies; and (iv) fight against corruption in the public service through accountability and efficient judicial system. Additionally, the private finance contribution would equally play a key role to African's post COVID-19 development. Examples of such private finance are from foreign investors such as the IMF and World Bank. While the World focuses on infrastructure development, the IMF concentrates on balance of payment issues (World Approves \$ 1 Billion Financing for Kenya's to Address COVID-19 Financing Gap and Support Kenya's Economy, 2021).

Furthermore, bilateral and multilateral development institute are also contributors in infrastructure development in Africa through Public Private Partnership (PPP). Finally, philanthropist and high-wealth foundations are another source of financial resource mobilization for post COVID-19 development in Africa.

Domestic resource mobilization remains the main source of finance for Africa's post COVID-19 developmental projects despite other financial sources (IMF African Department Series 2021, p. 9-11). In this regard, domestic resource mobilization consist of all the potential available sources of internal revenue system including taxation, (African Development Bank Strategy for Economic Governance, SEGA, 2021), curbing of illicit financial or capital flow, and non-tax revenues. This resource mobilization is very slow and weak in the continent and is also characterized by corruption and tax evasion (2021 AfDB

SEGA p.10). However, recent indicators shows progress against illicit funds flow from the continent according to tax transparency report (African Countries shows significant progress on Tax Transparency 2021). Consequently, given the fact that the AfDB is a catalyst of African development, (AfDB's Strategy for 2013-2022), its 2021 SEGA will facilitate domestic resource mobilization for development in the continent. The pillars of SEGA provides as follows:

(i) public sector effectiveness at the national and sub-national levels which that RMCs can optimally mobilizes, utilize, and control their public resources for effective service delivery; (ii) governance for structure transformation under which the Bank (AfDB) will build public institutions to foster structure change on the continent through higher productivity and ascent up the value chain in the economic in economic activities led by the private sector; and (iii) inclusive governance and accountability designed to foster the ability of RMCs to curb corruption, enhance stakeholder participation, and improve transparency in public sector.

SEGA therefore is an example par excellence of the PPP collaboration of the AfDB with RMCs using institutional tools to finance post COVID-19 development and SDGs in Africa (African Development Bank's New Economic Governance Strategy, 2021). Additionally, AfDB through SEGA and its High Five Agenda, for African development also facilitate the African integration through the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA). According to the AfDB, the implementation of the AfCFTA may reduce trade revenues in the short term but will definitely increase it in the long term. However, for African countries that have relied heavily on trade tax, the Bank through SEGA will supports the implementation of AfCFTA, (Implementing the AfCFTA: the Need for Deepening Private Sector Engagement and Commitment/ AfDB, 2021), and adapt their tax policies to boost non-trade tax revenues.

Moreover, the tax systems of most African countries are not optimal. This is because many African countries relies on indirect tax such as value added tax (VAT), charged on consumers and import duties on the one hand, and tax revenues from natural resources such oil, timber and minerals on the other hand. Accordingly, the prices of these natural resources are often fluctuated. In other words, the tax system of Africa is highly informal and is characterised with many flaws, nonetheless, implementation of SEGA will eliminate most of the loopholes and revamp the tax structure in many RMCs of the AfDB. Finally, the successful implementation of SEGA and the AfCFTA will mobilise huge financial resource to funds post COVID-19 development in Africa (Conditions for Success in the Implementation of the AfCFTA, 2020). These successes will depend on the willingness of individual member states and their leader on the one hand, and the elimination of all trading barriers, and harmonization of regional, continental and global trade policies in the case of the AfCFTA on the other hand. The next section of the article will examine how African countries may leverage international private and public financial system for its development.

3.2 Leveraging International Private and Public Financial System for Africa's Development

African countries would need the support of international private and public financial system to fund its post COVID-19 development goals. As indicated earlier, the core development area for sustainable development in post COVID-19 Africa are: education, health, roads, electricity, and water and sanitation. These projects will require

external financial resources from both private and public sectors given that the domestic financial system has already run out of funds. Therefore, African countries must take the advantages provided by international financial sources from institution such as the IMF especially through SDRs and the World Bank on the one hand, while making conditions at home favourable through reforms to attract FDI and other financial sources such as remittance and wealthy foundation on the other hand. Despite the advantages provided by these international financial sources, some of the conditions attached to this financial assistance would require that it is better to concentrate on domestic resources to fund Africa's post COVID-19 development (when It Comes to Public Finances, Credibility Is the Key, 2021). The next subsection will examine the SDRs grants and public policies reform favouring African post COVID-19 development.

3.3 Special Drawing Rights to African Countries

The IMF has a Department responsible for Africa which recently marked its 60th anniversary on 10 May 2021 (Transcript of the IMF Press Briefing, 2021). SDRs were created after the first amendment of the Articles of Agreement and it became operational in 1969 (International Monetary Fund Handbook: Its Functions, Policies and Operations, 2021). These SDRs was to supplement its members existing reserve assets as the demand for reserves was expected to grow in accordance with the growing world trade. The SDRs serves as a unit of account of the IMF and some other international organisations such as the AMF (AMF Protocol, Art.9). The IMF's SDR is based on a basket of five currencies which include: the U.S dollar, the euro, the Chinese renminbi, the Japanese yen and the British pound sterling (Special Drawing Rights, 2016). According to the Fund's Africa department African countries need to widen their tax base and pay heed to domestic political considerations and preferences. For example, the IMF has chosen to take a tougher line with the government of Equatorial Guinea and is withholding more than 85 per cent of a US\$280 million loan until the country implements a number of good governance reforms (Africa and the IMF- an unlikely duo, 2021). The current COVID-19 crises and its impact on Africa have led IMF to grant SDRs to African countries. The recent France-Africa summit is aimed to counter COVID-19 economic impact (France-African Summit 2021). Accordingly, it was agreed at the summit that rich nations will reallocate \$100 billion in IMF's SDRs monetary reserves to African states by October 2021 (Paris Summit Promises New Deal for Africa, 2021). According to the IMF managing Director Kristalina Georgieva, 'we cannot afford leaving the African economies behind', she also confirmed that the IMF would before the summit issue \$33 billion in SDRs for the African continent for this year. Therefore, the summit was intended to triple the amount of SDR monetary reserves available to African countries at zero interest rate. Similarly, the Fund authorizes the allocation of SDRs to members participating in the SDR Department. Accordingly, the allocation of SDRs to member countries is cost free, and it does not require contributions from donor countries' budget since SDRs are reserves and not foreign aid (Seven Things You Need to Know About SDR Allocations, 2021). With regard to the condition for allocating SDRs to member countries, all that is needed is that the country have balance of payment needs or is going through extreme economic crisis as is the case now with the effects of the present COVID-19 pandemic on the economy of many African countries. Furthermore, the SDR provides the basis for calculating the interest rate charged to members on their non-concessional borrowing from the IMF and is paid to members for their remunerated creditor positions in the IMF. Finally, holders of SDR may use their SDR for the following: (i) to settle financial obligations; (ii) to make loans; (iii) to make pledges; (iv) as security for the settlement of financial obligations; (v) in both swap and forward operations; and (vi) to make donations.

Besides the IMF's SDR zero interest rate loans to African countries; the IMF has also restructured the high debt loads of Chad through the ECF and the EFF instruments (IMF Continuing Chad Debt Restructure Talks after Deby death, 2021). This was because Chad urgently needs debt relief to recover from its present crises. Another African country that benefits from IMF zero interest rate is Sudan. According to the Sudanese government, both the IMF and Sudan agreed that the money will be used to pay salaries in arrears and the rest kept in the bank for urgent balance of payment needs (IMF Grants \$174m emergency loan to South Sudan, 2021).

In all, the granting of SDRs based-funding by IMF to member countries is without interest. This money should be used to fund post COVID-19 core development projects and enhance Africa's SDGs. The public policies and structural reforms are also needed in Africa to finance development.

3.4 Public Policies and Structural Reforms

African countries need to minimise borrowing and debt at all cost because borrowing is not a sustainable development strategy. Instead, individual countries would have to embark on fiscal reforms to increase domestic revenues on the one hand and adopt policies that would attract FDI on the other hand. Some of these reforms include promote digitalization, green technologies and trade as this will enhance resilience. Another area of reform as indicated earlier is on the revenue system (Fiscal Monitor, April 2021). The government of African would have to increase the tax to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 3 to 5 percent which is considered ambitious but achievable (Post-Pandemic Assessment of the Sustainable Development Goals, 2021). Accordingly, the tax policies will also be improved by eliminating tax incentives and tax preferences, exemptions that will undermine the efficiency, equity, neutrality and simplicity. Moreover, African countries would have to introduce carbon tax in their system to curb global warming. This is because many multinational corporations in Africa are free from carbon taxes. Additionally, revenues may also be increased by proper and transparent management of government resources. Consequently, proper management of public asset will reduce spending and multiply the money reserves for development. In other words, the government of African countries must adopt policies to reduce the various state departments spending on the one hand, and increase efficiency of public spending by avoiding for example pleasure and leisure travelling using state resources on the other hand. Finally, since most PPP finance resources come from abroad, the government of African countries should adopt policies that would attract FDI, fight against corruption, promote solid infrastructure with transparency and access to information, and reduction of risk such as the SEGA of the AfDB. These policies will enhance resilience development (Mastering the Risky Business of Public-Private Partnerships in Infrastructure, 2021).

3.5 Sustainable Financial Model for Africa Development

The AfDB' SEGA framework is one of the resilience effort adopted by the Bank to drive recovery in member states economies. Accordingly, SEGA is designed to drive sustainable growth in the economies of RMCs after post COVID-19. In other words, besides funding developmental projects in Africa, the AfDB has also created an economic recovery model for sustainable development in the continent of Africa. SEGA therefore is structured with the following objectives: "(i) ensure the sound management of public resources at the national and sub-national levels to achieve or maintain macroeconomic stability and the delivery of the High Fives; (ii) foster structural transformation by enabling a competitive private sector and level playing field for all enterprises; (iii) increase transparency, accountability, and inclusion in policy-making and service delivery; (iv)

combat corruption in public and private sectors”. Indeed, corruption alone has crippled the economy of most Africa countries since independence. Finally, SEGA is consistent with Agenda 2063 which is another strategic framework and model for sustainable development in Africa. In this regard, this penultimate section will examine Agenda 2063 as sustainable development model for Africa and financial future for African development.

3.6 Agenda 2063 as a Sustainable Development Model for Africa

Agenda 2063 is the Framework document that was adopted by the AU Assembly of heads of state and government in January 2015 in Addis Ababa (Framework Document of Agenda 2063). This document was adopted after many consultations with all African society both home and abroad, reflecting on the Africa we want by 2063. Agenda 2063 is therefore Africa’s blueprint and master plan for transformation of Africa into a recognisable and an undeniable global powerhouse of the future. It is the continent’s strategic framework that aims to deliver on its goals for inclusive and sustainable development, and collective prosperity pursued under Pan-Africanism (Agenda 2063 Overview). Accordingly, Agenda 2063 is captioned by the following words:

‘A shared strategic framework for inclusive growth and sustainable development and, a global strategy to optimize the use of Africa’s resources for the benefit of all Africans’.

This Agenda 2063 is founded on the AU’s vision of ‘an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena’ (Agenda 2063 Framework Document of 2015 p.12). The vision of this Agenda is supported by seven aspirations as follows: (i) a prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development; (ii) an integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideas of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa’s Renaissance; (iii) an African of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law; (iv), a peaceful and secure Africa; (v) an Africa with a strong identity, common heritage, shared values and ethics; (vi) an Africa whose development is people-driven, rely on the potential of the African people especially women, and youth and caring for children; and (vii) Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner (Agenda 2063 Aspirations, 2021). The last aspiration seeks to elevate the African continent to be an undeniable social, political and economic force in the world.

The continental framework has been developed and is aimed to address key developmental sectors such as agriculture, trade, transport, energy and mining (Agenda 2063 Continental Frameworks, 2021). These frameworks include: the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP), the Programme for Infrastructural Development in Africa (PIDA), the African Mining Vision (AMV), there is also Science Technology Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA), Boosting Intra African Trade (BIAT), and finally, Accelerated Industrial Development for Africa (AIDA). Likewise, Agenda 2063 also considered the national development plan of AU state members as well as the strategic plans of the Regional Economic Communities (REC) as the development priority (Agenda 2063 Framework Document of 2015 p.14). Accordingly, some of the national and regional priorities areas are as follows: (i) sustainable and inclusive economic growth; (ii) human capital development; (iii) employment generation especially the youth and females; (iv) good governance including capable institutions; (v) manufacturing-based industrialization; and (vi) science, technology and innovations. Similarly, the main Agenda 2063 flagship programmes which also address the issues of development as agreed by the AU political leaders are as follows (Agenda 2063 Flagship

Projects, 2021 : (i) the integrated high speed train network aimed to connect all African capitals and commercial centres to facilitate movement of people and goods; (ii) a Pan-African E-university designed to accelerate development of human capital, science, technology and innovation; and increase access to tertiary education for all African students in the world; (iii) formulation of a commodities strategy to add value and higher rents to all commodities in Africa; (iv) an annual African forum designed to bring African political leadership, the private sector; academia and the civil society to discuss developmental issues and constraints regarding Agenda 2063; (v) fast track the establishment of the Continental Free Trade Area by 2017 aimed to promote intra-African trade and use trade as an engine of growth and sustainable development; (vi) the African passport and free continental movement of people designed to bring down borders and facilitate continental integration; (vii) silencing the guns by 2020 designed to end all wars and conflicts in Africa; (viii) implementation of the Grand Inga Dam project to boost Africa's energy production to facilitate development and growth; (ix) the Pan-African E-Network designed to boost services in the continent and promote intra-African broad band; and (x) finally, the African outer space designed to strengthen Africa's use of outer space to bolster development (Agenda 2063 Framework Document of 2015 p.107-108). Finally, Agenda 2063 is linked and consistent to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs). These 17 goals include (United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, 2021): no poverty; zero hunger; good health and well-being; quality education; gender equality; clean water and sanitation; affordable and clean energy; decent work and economic growth; industry, innovation and infrastructure; reduced inequalities; sustainable cities and communities; responsible consumption and production; climate action; life below water; life on land; peace, justice and strong institutions; and finally partnerships for the goals (Goals and Priority Areas of Agenda 2063, 2021). The outcome Agenda 2063 is that Africa is expected to witness the following: improved standards of living; transformed, inclusive and sustained economies; increased level of regional and continental integration; a population of empowered women and youth and a society in which its citizens are cared for and protected; societies that are peaceful, demonstrate good democratic values, practice good governance principles and enhance Africa's cultural identity (Agenda 2063 Outcomes, 2021). Nevertheless, most of these benefits are still in the pipe line and, consequently, financing all the Agenda 2063 development projects may still require funds from the IMF and of course the AfDB.

3.7 Financing Africa's Future Developmental Projects

The IMF, the World Bank and the AfDB are currently the main financial sources for developmental projects in Africa. Indeed, the IMF is the financial powerhouse of Africa with regard to development, loans and balance of payment problems in Africa, and the latest African country to benefit from the IMF's EFF of US\$772 million is Angola (IMF Executive Board complete fifth review of the Extended Fund Facility Agreement with Angola and approves US\$772 million, 2021). Despite the contributions made by the IMF in the African continent towards developmental projects, Agenda 2063 has suggested different sources of finance and strategic plans for future developmental and investment projects in Africa as stipulated in the Framework Document. Some of the developmental projects include: infrastructure; science, technology and innovation-based industrialization, and processing of local-resources; agriculture, food security and environmental sustainability; intra-Africa trade; health and nutrition; education attainment and science, technology, engineering and mathematics-based education, research and centres of excellence; inclusive and sustainable growth. Indeed, all these projects require huge sums of money for their accomplishment. The financing sources identified by Agenda 2063 range from commercial finance from both public and private commercial sources; grants,

technical assistance, concessional loans, market price-based commercial loans; equity and other market-like instruments such as FDI and portfolio investment by the private sector. Furthermore, Agenda 2063 has also articulated three financial strategies as follows: (i) domestic resource mobilization; (ii) intermediation of resources into investment; (iii) access to finances. With regard to domestic resource mobilization and intermediation strategy, some of the potential sources of finance include: (i) government investment budget mobilized through budget reallocation, taxes, customs and revenues; (ii) government expenditure budgets reallocation; (iii) illicit capital flows mobilized through regulations, surveillance and enforcement; (iv) carbon credit, claimed from international development mechanism; (v) FDI through targeted investment promotion; (vi) private investment through project development; (vii) diaspora funds through bond, mutual funds and direct participation into projects; (viii) commercial bank and trade finance through capacitation and capitalization of banks; (ix) credit investment insurance and African Investment Bank, and Africa 50 Fund mobilized through institutional investors. Finally, the main source of continental financial sources is the levies on the African private sector firm as suggested by the report of the Obassanjo led high-level panel on alternative sources of funding the AU.

IV. Conclusion

Financing Africa's post COVID-19 development will require a drastic reform in the internal policies of African states to raise the necessary funds for development. The tax system of most African States would have to adopt policies such as the SEGA of the AfDB and be consistent with all the frameworks document of Agenda 2063. Africa's SDGs would have to concentrate on education, road, health, electricity, and water and sanitation. The various sources of finance adopted by the Framework Document of Agenda 2063 have to be implemented to the latter. While financial institutions such as the IMF, the World Bank, and the AfDB will be vital toward funding Africa's post-COVID-19 development, most of the fund should be generated by the government of various countries in Africa through revenues collection, efficiency in spending and management of state resources, the fight against corruption and of course through trade. The AfCFTA is also another vital source of finance for African development as long term revenues will be generated through intra-African trade (AfCFTA: COVID-19 as a catalyst for Accelerating Trade and Investment, 2021). Finally, the contributions from FDI, PPP and the private sector cannot be left out as fund generated from these sectors will also be vital for Africa's post COVID-19 SDGs. However, the domestic resources mobilization should be given the utmost priority to finance Africa's post COVID-19 development. Borrowing from the IMF and World Bank should must be minimised and if possible be avoided. African States must take the responsibility to create and generate their own resources to fund post COVID-19 projects. Certainly, in a capitalistic society, there is no free lunch and the borrower will always be a servant or slave of the lender. Most of the loans from international financial sources come with attached strings and conditions. In other words, instead of considering international resources, African States should be focusing on domestic resources mobilization to fund its post COVID-19 development.

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