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Editorial

In an era of change, new ideas emanate in the field of public Affairs and are exemplified in the debates surrounding, Public Administration, Public Policies and sustainable development Goals. As the economic constriction of the world creates new re-thinking from an oil-based economy, we are forced in Africa and Diaspora to re-orient our thinking into agro-economic developments and mixed economic thinking. The African Union has emphasised the importance of communications and deliberations amongst nation states. This is important for continental collaboration, transparency of information and decision making.

Kimaro and **Fourie** argue that capacity of public service human resources provides the key in the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) function and agenda. They further re-iterated that the public service in Africa, and globally are under pressure to produce and show outcomes as a measure of government's effectiveness in meeting their goals.

Ile and **Makiva** adumbrate that an empirical investigation to evaluate the effectiveness of legislative oversight and accountability towards ensuring transformation targeted at historically disadvantaged South Africans (HDSAs) in the petroleum is noted and calls for an effective legislative oversight and accountability process in the petroleum downstream overview.

Sebola proposed that communication in the South African Public Participation Process must have effective communication tools and that with an effective communication approach to citizens of the country, participation in the policy process and decision making would be effective and consolidated. **Marais, Quayle and Burns** address the importance of the role of access to information in enabling transparency and public participation in the governance of the state. The article explores how transparency may be operationalised through access to information and how this can be implemented in South Africa.

Owusu-Sekyere and **Jonas** investigates the relationship between democracy and economic growth in five Anglophone West African countries using data from 1970 to 2014.

Kraai, Holtzhausen and Malan illustrates the importance of the section 79 committees as an oversight mechanism which was established in respect of Section 43 of the *Local Government Municipal Structures Act of 1998* of the municipal council in relation to the separation of powers governance framework.

Naidoo makes a significant attestation to corruption features that are prevalent and as captured with the South Africa's public service. The findings from this study, highlights the multi-dimensional nature of corruption, indicating that departmental risk should not simply be judged on its cumulative or aggregate effect.

Majila, Taylor and Raga propose measures on curbing corruption which has become a key priority for a number of countries. The article provides a comprehensive literary review of anti-corruption agencies in Hong Kong, New Wales and South Africa based on the findings of the review.

The intellectual renewal of ideas will continue. Antiquarianism of logical thinking must be eradicated. An African idea of intellectual engagements within the Diaspora continues.

Professor J O Kuye
Chief Editor

