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## EDITORIAL

It is with great pleasure we announce the publication of Volume V of the Journal of Sociology and Development (JSD). It is with a deep sense of gratitude we acknowledge the contributors and reviewers' commitment towards the development and sustainability of the JSD. Similarly, we thank the Advisory Board members for their continued support. The online presence of the JSD has made the publication even more attractive, more visible and more easily accessible. We are therefore grateful to African Journals Online (AJOL) for hosting the JSD.

We thank and welcome three new members of the Editorial Board, namely Prof. Donna Pido from the Technical University of Kenya, Prof. Helen Ware from the University of New England (Australia), and Dr. Helen Bond from Howard University (USA). Their editorial support will redound to the quality of the scholarship for which the JSD stands, envisages and promotes. In a special way, we thank one Advisory Board member for financially supporting this publication.

The first three articles in this new volume contribute to the long-standing debate around rural development in Sub-Saharan Africa. Allegretti, Mutalemwa and Ngonzi approach the analysis of rural development in Tanzania through the perspective of life satisfaction to overcome some of the shortcomings of existing livelihood analysis. Using a cross-sectional survey conducted in Tanzania, the life satisfaction variable is regressed on local and global factors and how these are perceived to affect local lives. Moving on to Nigeria, Nkwede spotlights the attention to democracy, that is, the application of democratic principles as a 'bridge-builder' in the provision of sustainable development in the rural communities in Ebonyi State. Finally, Diyammi focuses on factors affecting the sustainability of water supply projects in rural Tanzania with an assessment of community participation, awareness and willingness to contribute to the maintenance costs.

The following four articles have a more marked political approach in their analysis, tackling aspects around conflict, political integration and equity. Komakech draws from urban and conflict studies to elaborate on the existing complex disruptions and connections in coupling among former Lord's Resistance Army returnees in Gulu city in northern Uganda. Oke examines the virtue of integrity among the nation's political office holders and the interconnectivity between integrity and good governance in the context of post-military regime in Nigeria. Omona attempts a reconstruction of efforts by the Government of Uganda and Uganda Christian University to include the principle of equity in policy responses and interventions during the Covid-19 pandemic.

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Finally, Rutagwelera brings onboard Aristotle's concept of Proportional Equality as a guide to understand what is meant by equality of all persons in the Tanzanian context, departing from the discrepancies between the principle of equality of all citizens in the Constitution of Tanzania and actual socio-political experiences of citizens.

As in most JSD Volumes, we conclude with theory-driven articles for furthering Africa-based scholarship on global questions around development. In the last article, Mutalemwa addresses the theoretical and political contestations of development and contextualises some of the possible definitions.

George Mutalemwa and Antonio Allegretti, JSD editors