



Editorial Note

It is a pleasure to share the 9th Issue of the International Journal of African Development (IJAD) Vol. 5.1 for Spring 2018. This issue covers seven research papers that entail a wide range of topics of African development challenges and opportunities. The contributors explore topics such the danger of tribal identity politics based on case studies, energy transition challenges for sustainable development, the impact of motivation on employee performance in insurance companies, whether inclusive growth promote effective regional integration among African states, the value of indigenous knowledge for development debate, a comparative study of breaking the poverty trap across African states, and integrating the youth into politics and economics for the African Development Agenda 2063.

The contributing authors explore African sustainable challenges with case studies from Ethiopia, Nigeria, Ghana, and including regional and continental issues for Africa. The origins of the contributions include universities and research institutions from countries such as Ethiopia, Nigeria, Germany, Turkey, Uganda, Lesotho, Namibia, and Japan.

With this brief note, I invite our readers from African States and around the world to read the details of each paper in this volume and share them with your colleagues. I am happy to report readership of IJAD published papers in past issues are widely read and downloaded by thousands around the world. At this time, we have a back log of submissions that we plan to include in future issues after a peer review of the papers.

Finally, I thank all members of the IJAD Team, including our copy editor's excellent editing from participants who often have native languages that are not English. As well as the copy editor, there are others including our ScholarWorks team who work voluntarily including yours truly. In the future, we invite our readers to kindly donate funding as much as you can to Western Michigan University to continue both the work of IJAD and African Development Policy Research. We would also value advice regarding receiving funding from International Grant Agencies.

I wish you all happy reading of the important papers in this issue.

Sincerely,

Sisay Asefa, PhD, Professor of Economics
Editor in Chief of the *International Journal of African Development*