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## Editorial Note

Sisay Asefa

Western Michigan University, [sisay.asefa@wmich.edu](mailto:sisay.asefa@wmich.edu)

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### Editorial Note

This issue of IJAD features six papers and one book review for our African and global readers. The papers include various efforts that humans make to improve lives. The lingering theme often focuses on the ability of African countries to find ways to collaborate in ways that can improve life for all African people.

There is an attempt to understand financial remittances in Eritrea, where people, especially the youth, leave their land in droves due to “push factors.” In the future, Ethiopia and Eritrea can benefit from regional economic integration that allows the free movement of people, goods and services to expand their markets and contribute to peaceful relations. In addition, researchers address the improvement of nutrition and food security by liberalizing regional trade across Africa. The goal should be to redistribute economic growth so people have access to good health and a nutritious diet. There is also the ethnographic study into women leaders who should be valued and supported because the empowerment of marginalized women can raise self-confidence and pride that can contribute to harmonious, peaceful and vibrant communities.

By examining the opportunities and challenges regarding key historical and cultural attractions to create employment in local communities, the author addresses the responsibility of local and regional governments to provide infrastructure such as roads, electricity, housing including hotels, and education that make these areas attractive to tourists.

The role of regional collaboration between East African countries through regional organization, which would create Pan African integrated communities, leads to suggestions for combining the regional organizations of the IGAD and EAC by merging them into Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in eastern African and the Horn of African. But, integration requires strong political will and good governance to reduce regional conflict and move toward sustainable progress of all people in the region. The improvement of governance and leadership is important in reducing oil price shocks due to several global factors and internal mismanagement of oil revenues.

The book review of *How Sub-Saharan Africa Can Achieve Food Security and Ascend Its Economy to the Initial Stages of Light Industrialization* by Woldezion Mesghinna investigates how Sub-Saharan Africa can achieve food security, and believes this transformation can only be done with good governance and leadership that minimize corruption, conflict and repression in every state. Strengthening a diversified economy and enhancing human capital could move the countries in Sub-Saharan Africa toward regional collaboration as well as economic unity.

We hope these articles lead to discussion, reflection and positive action that can benefit the people of Africa.

Sisay Asefa, Chief Editor