



Year in Review 2007



Partnership
Africa Canada



Partnership Africa Canada

Mandate

Partnership Africa Canada works with organizations in Africa, Canada and internationally to build sustainable human development in Africa. PAC seeks to:

Strengthen African and Canadian efforts in research and policy dialogue relating to sustainable human development in Africa.

Facilitate, among African, Canadian and international decision-makers, the adoption and implementation of policies that foster sustainable human development in Africa.

Promote greater understanding of and commitment to sustainable human development in Africa.

Programme

PAC undertakes a number of inter-related activities with the broad aim of promoting sustainable human development in Africa. It focuses on several inter-connected themes, each of which has an impact on human security and development in Africa:

- Natural Resources and Development
- Peace and Human Security
- Governance
- Food Sovereignty

The initiatives undertaken in these areas are varied, but each serves to develop the central goal of deepening our understanding of issues critical to the development of Africa, particularly in regions that have experienced conflict. In carrying out this programme, PAC sees its role as a forum for research, dialogue and action on African development.

*Mount Cameroon shrouded in haze.
It is the highest mountain in West
Africa and is an active volcano.*

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Staying the course

Most would agree that there's no easy road to 'development'. This is especially true in countries in Africa that have experienced conflict. The scars of war are hard to heal, but most important is the need to deal with the factors that generated these conflicts in the first place. This requires sustained effort by all stakeholders – from within the given countries and from the international community.

In recent years, Western donor countries have contributed generously in terms of funding, personnel and equipment to help bring peace to conflict areas such as Sierra Leone, Liberia and the Democratic Republic of Congo. But now that the wars have ended – and each of these three countries has recently held successful democratic elections – the resources are scarce to help the countries deal with fundamental problems of poverty, gender inequalities and under-development.

In the context of Africa today, why is it that we are moved collectively to deal with an emergency, but we are slow to help with rebuilding? The enthusiasm of the G8 governments in 2002 for focussing attention on Africa seems to be waning. Five years may be a long time in international affairs, but it's only a short time where development is concerned. We must work harder to help our governments adopt a more long-term focus.

At the international level, Partnership Africa Canada has been able to help the Kimberley Process renew its efforts to eradicate conflict diamonds and to take measures to reduce the illicit diamond trade. We have also helped launch the Diamond Development Initiative, an international effort to support the artisanal mining communities, that are at the bottom of the diamond chain. In the Great Lakes region, PAC has been asked to advise on the creation of a certification mechanism for high-value minerals, an important initiative focussing on one of the root causes of the region's wars. At the same time, we are also supporting Congolese civil society organizations in their efforts to prevent violence against women – one of the worst manifestations of the recent conflict.

In all of our programmes we seek to partner with and support African civil society organizations, and particularly those networks and coalitions working on specific sectors. An important coalition has emerged recently in West Africa as a response to attempts by multinationals and governments to introduce GMOs into the region. The coalition represents hundreds of civil society organizations that believe in the principle of food sovereignty and are working to help communities protect their agriculture and biodiversity. In addition to supporting their work, PAC was able to bring representatives from the coalition to Canada to speak with Canadians about the common problems we face – food production, environmental protection and bio-diversity.

It's important to stress that there are some very positive developments taking place in Africa. One of the least well-known is the African Peer Review Mechanism of the African Union. Participating countries are undertaking detailed participatory reviews of their governance to identify areas for improvement. PAC has begun a programme of support to African civil society to enable it to better participate in the initiative. Better governance is clearly a priority in most countries, but especially in those that are rich in natural resources. PAC has consequently begun to actively support the Publish What You Pay campaign, particularly in Canada.

We trust that this report will show how Partnership Africa Canada, with the generous assistance of its supporters, has been able to consolidate and broaden its actions on a number of fronts. PAC has scored relatively good results in the implementation of its commitments. However, a lot still needs to be done to fully address the emerging concerns in Africa. We thank you for helping us stay the course.



Mary Rusimbi
President



Bernard Taylor
Executive Director

Partnership Africa Canada

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323, Chapel Street, Ottawa.
Location of PAC's office.

Photo: PAC



Natural Resources and Development

Diamonds and Human Security

Africa is a continent with large natural resource endowments. These resources can be an effective catalyst of the continent's development provided that they are managed in a sustainable manner and that the revenues generated from their exploitation are used to benefit Africa's populations. Sadly, in the past, natural resources have fuelled various conflicts. Thus, conflict diamonds used by rebel armies to pay for weapons have been a major international human security problem over the past decade in Angola, DRC, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

The Kimberley Process (KP), which aims to break the link between the trade in rough diamonds and armed conflict, has now been in effect since January 2003. It has rightly gained a reputation for being a successful peace and conflict prevention mechanism. Its success at bringing stakeholders together from the private sector, governments and civil society is perhaps unparalleled and has been widely noted and frequently referred to.

It is a regulatory mechanism which is currently adhered to by 48 members, representing 74 countries, with the European Community and its member states counting as an individual participant. Together these countries constitute 99% of the world diamond trade. As it gathers strength it is not without challenges, however, as greater controls and implementation of KP standards need continuous enforcement.

Project Profile

PAC's participation in the Kimberley Process this past year can be characterized as relentlessly safeguarding the effectiveness and credibility of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS). PAC's research and policy dialogue within the KP has helped the KP remain strong and provides a measure of confidence to the public with respect to the diamond trade.

In addition to regular participation in various KP committees, PAC took an active and critical role in the Three Year Review of the Kimberley Process in 2006 which aimed to assess and improve the KP's overall operations. PAC's research on Brazil's flawed implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme led to intervention by the Brazilian Federal police and to the suspension of all diamond shipments from Brazil between February to September 2006 and to a revamp of the KP implementation system there. PAC's subsequent report on Venezuela, which showed that 100% of Venezuela's diamonds were being exported fraudulently without Kimberley Process certificates, has brought the authorities of that country to take a more active role in the KP and to be moved to greater accountability in the international system.

The Kimberley Process is backed by a peer review process. In line with its objectives of capacity building and support to African civil society, PAC sponsored the participation of its Congolese partner CENADEP in a review visit to Tanzania. PAC also took part in the review mission to Liberia, a country which later finally joined the KPCS. Another significant achievement in 2007 was the creation by PAC and its partners of the KP Civil Society Coalition composed of organizations from the South (Africa and South America) and the North (Europe and North America).

An important aspect of PAC's work lies in supporting the learning and sharing of knowledge about conflict diamonds and related issues. Accordingly, we have continued to respond to requests for information and advice from researchers and academics around the world, and to offer presentations and media interviews. A major example of this collaboration with the media was the recent US History Channel's production of the documentary "Blood Diamonds" in which PAC's work is prominently featured.

"As a result of our participation in the KP Plenary in November 2007 at the invitation of Partnership Africa Canada, representing the *Cooperativa dos Garimpeiros da Região do Coromandel* and the *Cooperativa Regional Garimpeira de Diamantina*, and of us subsequently becoming members of the KP Civil Society Coalition, the Government of Brazil has recognized the importance of our involvement in the implementation of the KPCS in Brazil. A *Forum Brasileiro do Processo Kimberley*, which is a joint government, industry and civil society forum has now been created and meetings of the forum have been held both in November and December 2007. Without the invitation made by PAC to participate in the Kimberley Process, none of this would have happened."

Dário Machado, President - *Cooperativa dos Garimpeiros da Região do Coromandel*"

Natural Resources and Development

The Diamond Development Initiative

Controlling the trade in rough diamonds covers only one aspect of the problems associated with diamonds. The difficulties begin at the mining stage, where a significant proportion of mining in alluvial producing countries is of an illicit nature. Even where it is licit, however, artisanal alluvial mining is problematic. The Diamond Development Initiative (DDI) seeks to establish, through a new system of interconnecting partnerships, a developmental and regulatory environment in which rough diamonds can be mined and marketed for the benefit of artisanal miners, local communities and governments, and the wider diamond industry, thus giving meaning to the expression “development diamonds”. It is a logical outcome of the effort to halt “conflict diamonds”, which led to the Kimberley Process.

Artisanal miners are largely unregulated and unregistered, and they operate in conditions that make them vulnerable to a variety of predators. In addition to poor remuneration, they work in conditions where health and safety safeguards are virtually absent. While governments of alluvial diamond producing countries recognize “the immense contribution of artisanal mining” to their national economies, little has been done over the decades to improve either the remuneration or the working conditions of miners. The issue has profound economic and socio-political implications for several African countries and millions of people. Today, the plight of artisanal miners goes beyond conflict and touches directly seven of the eight Millennium Development Goals.

Project Profile

PAC has helped lead the DDI at each stage in its development and consolidation. Until late 2006, the DDI initiative had been coordinated by a small steering group of NGOs and representatives from industry, of which PAC was a member. In December 2006, DDI International was registered as a non-profit organization. Along with a representative Board of Directors, an Advisory Group of some 30 leaders from government, civil society and the diamond industry has been created. In October 2007 the DDI secured funding from the Government of Sweden and the Tiffany Foundation for its operations, which will now enable the DDI to develop a sound programme for the years to come.

In addition to providing support to the DDI as an institution, PAC has assisted with the development of a DDI project in the Kisangani region of DRC, a former rebel occupied-zone. The project aims to enhance security in the alluvial diamond fields through the reduction of poverty and improvement of living conditions of artisanal miners. Needs assessment studies and consultations with the local community have been carried out, and specific projects and programmes responsive to needs have been identified. In Sierra Leone, further research has been undertaken to try and establish standards and guidelines for commercial and developmental interventions in the artisanal mining areas.



*Artisanal diamond miners
at Maludi, Angola, 2007*



Peace and Human Security

Preventing Violence against Women in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

After a three year transition following a decade of war which claimed more than four million lives, DRC held successful national elections in 2006. However, various militia groups have continued to terrorize civilians in many areas of Eastern Congo. Since late 2006, new conflicts have erupted and nearly 400,000 people have been displaced.

Sexual violence against girls and women did not end with the cessation of armed conflict, nor after the elections. In fact, the incidents of sexual violence have recently soared. It is a sad reality that with the increasingly higher incidence and frequency of rape and of sexual violence, these crimes are being perceived as 'normal' by local communities in the context of war. The UN Human Rights Council on Violence against Women indicates that an estimated 4,500 cases of rape had been reported in just the eastern province of South Kivu alone in the first six months of 2007 with many more going unreported.

Sexual violence against women is a well-known problem today and specifically as it relates to conflict situations. The all too common attitude is that sexual violence and rape is a women's issue and can wait in light of so many difficulties facing a country coming out of war. The fact that this issue is a fundamental condition for peace has not been fully grasped and given the priority required.

Project Profile

After conducting in 2003 a consultation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo which identified the need to address violence against women and the apparent use of HIV as a weapon of war, PAC published in 2004 a report entitled *Why Gender Still Matters: Sexual Violence and the Need to Confront Militarized Masculinity*. Based on the report's findings, PAC began supporting the work of two Congolese organizations - Centre National d'Appui au Développement et à la Participation Populaire (CENADEP) and Promotion et Appui aux Initiatives Féminines (PAIF).

The purpose of this programme is to raise awareness about violence against women in the DRC in order to prevent it through social and legislative change. Project activities include the organization of meetings with target groups and between communities in conflict, training workshops, research, the development of an advocacy guide and the implementation of an action plan. The main focus of the programme during the last year has been consultations and workshops leading to the creation of an advocacy guide.

Following the guide's publication, the Congolese partners have been actively involved in its dissemination across the country. A large part of the awareness campaign relates to the revision of various laws, where such laws are discriminatory and contradictory. This advocacy activity will

continue over the next year. The awareness campaign has involved presentations, radio and TV shows, as well as lively theatre plays. PAC has also raised awareness about this programme in Canada in collaboration with various Canadian NGOs interested in the issue of conflict prevention and prevention of violence against women.

The International Conference on the Great Lakes Region

The International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) is a process which seeks to bring all the countries of the region together to dialogue and agree on strategies to bring peace and prosperity to the Great Lakes region. It is divided into four thematic areas: Peace and Security, Democracy and Good Governance Economic Development and Regional Integration; and Humanitarian and Social Issues.

The Conference groups eleven core countries, Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. Six other countries are members of the ICGLR: Botswana, Egypt, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia and Zimbabwe.

The first phase of the preparatory period ended with the Summit of Heads of State and Government in Dar es Salaam, in November 2004 at which the Heads of State signed the Dar es Salaam Declaration. In December 2006, the Heads of State and Government signed in Nairobi a Pact on Security, Stability and Development. This Pact included a number of protocols and programmes of action.

Project Profile

PAC has been an official observer of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region since 2004. As a result of its experience within the Kimberley Process, PAC was invited in 2005 by several African governments to provide expert advice in drafting protocols and projects related to the certification and movement of natural resources in the region. PAC participated at the Nairobi Summit in December 2006, and since the signing of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development, it has been working with the new ICGLR Secretariat (based in Burundi) in moving forward with the implementation of the two projects dealing with the certification and movement of natural resources in the Great Lakes region. This ongoing process seeks to ensure the development of an implementation mechanism.

Governance

The African Peer Review Mechanism

The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) is an innovative initiative of the African Union that aims to foster better governance in Africa. It facilitates peer reviews of a given country's political, economic and corporate governance and socio-economic development with a view to helping that country identify problem areas and develop an action plan to address them. The process is voluntary and each country has to contribute financially to help cover the costs of the review.

Civil society organizations are expected to play a major role by actively participating in the national committee which oversees the process and by submitting information and analyses on aspects of governance in their country. In fact, civil society has a dual role – to ensure that the process is participatory and transparent, and also to bring coherent and constructive views to the table. The final outcome of what is likely to be at least a twelve month process in each country is a detailed report containing a plan of action. The report and plan of action are reviewed by a panel of heads of state.

The APRM is a complex and unique initiative that is attracting a lot of interest within Africa and internationally. The overall quality of the reviews undertaken so far has been good, as the final reports and action plans attest. They have not been without their difficulties, however, as some governments have attempted to overly control the process. It is to the credit of the APRM Panel of Eminent Persons which oversees the process that a balance has been achieved in all cases and that the national dialogues on governance in these first five countries has been undertaken generally successfully.

By July 2007, twenty-seven countries had formally applied to join the African Peer Review Mechanism:

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

Countries that had yet to join the APRM were:

Botswana, Burundi, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Seychelles, Somalia, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Zimbabwe and Western Sahara.

Project Profile

There is good reason to believe that African governments are gradually showing commitment to the APRM process. Out of the twenty seven countries that have joined the APRM, five countries, namely Ghana, Rwanda, Kenya, South Africa, and Algeria have completed their reviews and drawn up programmes of action to address their governance difficulties. The reviews, which are essentially sharing and learning experiences, identified best practices as well as the challenges of each country's governance. Civil society organizations (CSOs) in these countries will be seeking to play an active role in helping to implement the programmes of action in order to bring improvements to governance.

PAC has continued to support civil society organizations to fully play their role in the APRM process at the country level. PAC has supported national workshops on the APRM in the Republic of Congo, Liberia, Guinea, Mali and the Democratic Republic of Congo. In June 2007, PAC collaborated with the Economic Commission for Africa in a pan-African workshop in Cameroon for CSOs from French speaking African countries. At the same time, PAC has continued to publish *The APRM Monitor*, a newsletter focusing on civil society participation in the APRM.

2008 is likely to see an acceleration in the implementation of the APRM, as new country reviews are held. A special meeting was convened in Algiers in November 2007 to review the experience gained so far and it made recommendations for improvements in the APRM methodology, including clarifying the APRM questionnaire and the guidelines for reporting on the national programmes of action. The meeting was described by the Panel of Eminent Persons as an "important milestone" in advancing the Peer Review process in Africa



APRM workshop in Mali,
June 2007

Food Sovereignty

Food Sovereignty in West Africa

The issue of food sovereignty is becoming an increasingly critical one in West Africa, a region where food has traditionally been produced and consumed locally. In the past, the major threats to farmers have tended to be limited to occasional severe drought or locust infestation, but things are changing. The threat of climate change looms on the horizon, although its probable impacts are as yet hard to predict. There are more immediate threats, however, whose origins lie in globalisation and the inability of governments to regulate and control their economies.

Communities that have traditionally produced rice have seen their livelihoods come under pressure as cheaper, sometimes subsidized, rice imports from the US or Asia flood their markets. Chicken producers have gone out of business because of the influx of cheap, industrially produced chicken pieces from Europe. Cotton farmers have seen prices fall in an international market dominated by highly subsidized US cotton, which has led to protests at the World Trade Organization.

Now a new, more insidious threat has recently appeared, namely the efforts on the part of multinational companies (supported by their governments) to promote agricultural trials involving genetically modified seeds (GMOs). A particular effort is being directed at the cotton sector, and already one country – Burkina Faso – has allowed GMO cotton trials to begin. At the same time, the World Bank is encouraging countries to develop legislation that will allow for such experimentation.

Project Profile

A new civil society network in West Africa, COPAGEN – Coalition des Organisations de la Société Civile pour la Protection du Patrimoine Génétique Africain - has developed in response to this situation. It opposes the pressures being put on West African countries to allow GMO trials and seeks to prevent them. At the same time, it is campaigning for West African countries to create legislation based on the model law provided by the African Union with respect to supporting biodiversity.

COPAGEN has member organizations throughout francophone West African countries, which are actively working to educate farmers and the general public about the issues at stake. COPAGEN supports independent scientific research which uses local resources, as well as traditional and modern science, for the benefit of small-scale producers and consumers. It also seeks to protect community rights over their genetic heritage, which is increasingly under threat from those from the outside that seek to patent plants and profit from them. West Africa's biodiversity is collectively owned and COPAGEN sees the privatisation of plants and agriculture as an expropriation of communities. Women are key actors in helping to maintain this biodiversity, which has deep cultural roots.

PAC is providing support to COPAGEN and is helping to strengthen links between this network and Canadian organizations. In March 2007, PAC helped facilitate a visit to Canada of three representatives from COPAGEN, who took part in public events in Ottawa and Montreal and met with government policy makers. There was considerable media coverage and interest in COPAGEN's critical response to the new Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), an initiative of the Bill & Melinda Gates and Rockefeller Foundations. COPAGEN is rightly concerned that the AGRA initiative may make the same mistake as past agricultural initiatives in Africa by ignoring small farmers and their communities and by simply seeking technological solutions to complex situations.



*T-shirt design,
Mali 2007*

Photo: PAC

Funding and Supporters

Statement of Revenue and Expenses

At March 31, 2007

PROGRAMME REVENUES

Canadian International Development Agency	171 508
Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada	120 000
International Development Research Centre	66 183
Irish Aid	245 670
Canadian NGOs	
World Vision Canada	52 000
Social Justice Fund – CAW	20 000
Other NGOs	4 573
Other partners	26 857
Other	19 266
Total	726 057

PROGRAMME EXPENSES

Peace and Human Security	131 221
Education, Advocacy and Kimberley Process Participation	135 757
Research and Publications	88 612
Diamond Development Initiative	110 395
Capacity Building for African Civil Society	172 077
Governance	71 727
Other	15 665
Total	725 454

A complete version of the Audited Statements by *van Berkomp & Ritz Chartered Accountants* is available from Partnership Africa Canada

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African and Canadian NGOs
 Canadian Autoworkers Social Justice Fund
 Canadian International Development Agency
 Cordaid
 Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada
 International Development Research Centre (Canada)
 Irish Aid
 DDI Partners

PAC works with many organizations in Africa, Canada and internationally, including the following:

Canadian International Development Agency
 Canadian Peacebuilding Coordinating Committee
 Centre du Commerce International pour le Développement (Guinea)
 Centre National d'Appui au Développement et à la Participation Populaire (DR Congo)
 Christian Relief and Development Association (Ethiopia)
 Comissão Episcopal para Justiça, Paz e Migração (Angola)
 Comité de Liaison des ONG du Congo (Republic of Congo)
 COPAGEN (West Africa)
 De Beers
 Diamond Development Initiative
 Economic Commission for Africa
 Fatal Transactions/NIZA (Netherlands)
 Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada
 FPS Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation (Belgium)
 Global Witness (Great Britain)
 Green Advocates (Liberia)
 Grémio para Ambiente, Beneficiência e Cultura (Angola)
 INADES-Formation
 International Development Research Centre (Canada)
 Kimberley Process Participants
 Madison Dialogue
 Natural Resources Canada
 Network Movement for Justice and Development (Sierra Leone)
 The Royal Institute for International Relations - EGMONT (Belgium)
 United Mineworkers Union (Sierra Leone)
 Working Group on Canadian Science and Technology Policy (Canada)
 World Bank-CASM
 World Vision Canada
 World Vision DRC

Liberian boy at Paris Diamond Mining Camp, Liberia, 2007



Photo: Shawn Blane

PAC Publications 2007

PAC's publications can be found on PAC's web site: www.pacweb.org. Hard copies are available from PAC offices.

Diamond Industry Annual Review - DRC 2007



The *Diamond Industry Annual Review - DRC 2007* is the third produced by Partnership Africa Canada and CENADEP. This issue of the *Annual Review* has a special focus on the country's artisanal miners: what they earn, how they are organized and supported, how they are exploited, and what needs to be done to solve the problems.

Other Facets, A periodic newsletter about the international effort to end diamond-related conflict.



In issue number 25:

- Internal debates blight Kimberley Process
- Taylor trial delayed until January
- Book Reviews: Doug Farah's "Merchant of Death", and R.T. Naylor's "Satanic Purses: Money, Myth and Misinformation in the War on Terror"
- Is conflict bad for private firms?
- MediaWatch
- "Blood Rubies" and the Burmese Junta
- Conflict diamonds go to school

The APRM MONITOR, a periodic newsletter about the implementation of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM).



In issue number 4:

- South Africa and Algeria Country Reports presented at Accra APRM Forum
- Big Table supports APRM
- African civil society and the APRM
- Is press freedom in Africa under siege again?
- New Chairperson of the APR Panel
- Media Watch
- New Publications about the APRM

Diamond Industry Annual Review - Angola 2007



Angola is one of the world's diamond powerhouses, blessed with both extensive alluvial deposits and hundreds of Kimberlite formations. The *Diamond Industry Annual Review - Angola 2007* is the third produced by PAC and its partners. This report reviews Angola's implementation of the Kimberley Process and takes a critical in-depth look at both the contribution of the diamond sector to government revenue, as well as the contribution of the diamond projects to development.

Land Grabbing and Land Reform: Diamonds, Rubber and Forests in the New Liberia, July 2007



This Report, co-published by Partnership Africa Canada and Green Advocates (Liberia), describes Liberia's timber, rubber and diamond sectors. It lays out what must be done by the Liberian government and civil society, as well as the donor agencies, companies and NGOs that work there, to make certain that there is no return to the old pre-war ways of doing things, and to ensure that the country's natural resources are used for the benefit of all Liberians, now and in the future.

Illicit Diamond Flows: Kimberley Process, Note for Plenary, November 2007



There is growing evidence of a large volume of illicit rough diamonds finding their way around Kimberley Process controls. In the joint paper, Partnership Africa Canada and Global Witness describe the problem and make important recommendations for dealing with it.

NEPAD in Perspective



The booklet was published by CRDA, Ethiopia, and Partnership Africa Canada. It aims to summarize in plain and accessible language the main concepts, concerns and questions surrounding NEPAD. This revised edition has a new section on the APRM.

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