



Capacity Building for Socio-economic Development in Africa: A Case for Developmental State

Peace A. Jiboku¹ and Joseph O. Jiboku²

*¹International and Public Affairs Cluster, School of Social Sciences,
University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg Campus, South Africa
Telephone: Student Number: 212520820, E-mail: jiboku.peace@gmail.com*

*²Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities,
University of Fort Hare, East London Campus, East London 5200, South Africa
Telephone: Student Number: 201210493, E-mail: jibokujoe@yahoo.com*

KEYWORDS Capacity. Democracy. Development. Governance. Institutions. Skills. State

ABSTRACT Despite Africa's economic growth in recent years, it remains the least developed of the world's major regions. Africa still harbours most of the least developed countries in the world while it also houses a number of the world's fastest growing economies. The continent therefore presents contrasting trends. Its persistent political, socio-economic and environmental challenges reveal an indisputable reality: On the one hand, development initiatives implemented at the national, regional and continental levels have yet to impact on the majority of the people. On the other hand, there appears, perhaps, to be gaps in policy conception, formulation, implementation and evaluation. These are concerning issues which need to be addressed especially with the challenges posed by a fast globalising world. This paper presents a theoretical research and a critical review of the topic. It draws a linkage between democracy, governance and development in a conceptual framework and argues for capacity building for individuals and institutions on ground in Africa towards achieving sustainable socio-economic development in the continent. To this end, the paper advances the call for developmental African states that would trigger the much needed transformation of the African continent.