"Kama unataka kwenda haraka, nenda mwenyewe. Kama unataka kwenda mbali, nenda pamoja"
Greetings,

"Kama unataka kwenda haraka, nenda mwenyewe. Kama unataka kwenda mbali, nenda pamoja" - If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. This has been the hallmark of the work of the Institute for African Development since its founding in 1987. Global collaborations, linkages and partnerships as well as cross-campus cooperation have been the seeds that have borne fruit in the expansion of our programs. The various IAD programs bridge research and policy to impact development on the continent. Students, scholars and faculty have traveled far together in their research, outreach and instruction to discover new paths, devise new strategies and craft new policies that will help widen and broaden the roads we travel on in pursuit of knowledge.

Thank you for continuing on this journey with us.

Muna Ndulo
Director
Cornell’s Lab of Ornithology is worldly renowned for its work on birds, but birds are not the only forms of wildlife that are studied at the Lab. Among the largest animals studied there are the Central African Forest Elephants which are the focus of the Elephant Listening Project (ELP), led by Peter Wrege. For decades, the ELP’s work has taken place in rainforests across Africa, including forests in Gabon, Cameroon and the Central African Republic. Specifically, the ELP’s research helps to bring attention to issues of poaching and environmental degradation that affect Central African Forest Elephants.

Wrege also notes that “elephants are important species for maintaining the rainforests, and so by focusing on ways to improve their conservation, we are conserving everything else in the forests where they live.”

Since its inception, the Elephant Listening Project has been working to understand the patterns and movements of Central African Forest Elephants. Sound recordings play an important role in this work because elephants are difficult to track in dense forest environments. These elephants have been of particular interest to the ELP because as compared to other elephant species such as the Asian Elephant, Central African Forest Elephants still have viable populations, that can benefit greatly from enhanced conservation efforts.
An important strand of the ELP’s work has involved trying to understand how elephants communicate. By cataloging sounds from thousands of elephants, the ELP has made some progress towards a so called elephant dictionary, but there is more work needed in order to fully understand the complex communications of these animals.

Technology has and continues to play an important role in the ELP’s understanding of elephant sounds and communications. At Cornell’s Lab of Ornithology, the ELP has created and continues to refine the tools used for collecting elephant sounds. These tools are also shared with other researchers working on bio-acoustics, contributing to the development of the field.

Recorded data collected from African forests is brought back to Ithaca for analysis. The ELP’s many volunteers, including Cornell students and Ithaca locals, play an important role in this process, sifting through hours of recordings to aid in identifying useful information. This data provides insight into how elephant populations adapt to changing environments over time.

A key aim of the ELP is also to help build capacity among people within Africa to assist in monitoring and tracking of elephants in Africa. Some of the individuals that the ELP works with have been able to visit Cornell and benefit from further training and capacity building. Building capacity among individuals from Africa helps in promoting the long-term sustainability of the ELP’s conservation efforts.

Commenting on the importance of developing African research capacity, Wrege stated that “at some level [foreign researchers] don’t necessarily understand the complexities of how conservation has to fit into the cultures of [African] countries, so we need people who understand all of that, but who also have all the skills, so they can identify where do we need to work.”

Wrege stated that “Forest elephants are different and their problems are different, but [Forest Elephants] also give us maybe our best chance for having an elephant around for the next century.”

ELP Director Peter Wrege examines an audio recording device
Women’s economic empowerment is a global development priority that is related to at least twelve of the United Nation’s seventeen Sustainable Development Goals. Some of the most important outcomes of empowerment include women’s reinvestment in children’s well-being and education; economic growth and improved productivity; and higher participation of women in decision-making structures. These outcomes can all lead to comprehensive community development with transformative effects in developing countries.

Rural communities in the Republic of Guinea depend on natural resources for their livelihoods, including both agricultural products and foraged forest products. One key forest product (hereafter referred to as NTFP, non-timber forest product) is Néré, the seedpod of the tree Parkia biglobosa, also known as African Locust bean. Néré seeds are dried, fermented, pounded, and used as a traditional spice known locally as “Soumbara.” Soumbara is widely consumed across ethnic and regional groups in Guinea and surrounding countries, eaten daily in stews or with rice, and has a high nutritional value: it is rich in protein, iron and vitamin C. Néré is typically processed on a household level, though it is also commercially available in cities. Other parts of the seedpod such as the pulp are also consumed. Studies in Nigeria and Burkina Faso show that the value of Néré doubles when processed into Soumbara: in Burkina Faso, Néré fruits provide up to 73% of the total income per household.

This project intervened to reinforce the business, leadership, and technical capacity of thirty women entrepreneurs in food processing in the rural community of Bas-Simbaraya, Madina Oula, Kindia region, in the Republic of Guinea, in collaboration with the Guinean NGO NARSEME. The intervention facilitated the establishment of a women’s cooperative, Groupement Kenda (translation: Cooperative Soumbara), to process, package, and sell Soumbara in local and regional markets. All participating women are members of Village Savings & Loans Associations (VSLA), and had previously begun to build their skills in money management, leadership, and collective action, but may have lacked technical skills to profitably invest the money they saved and borrowed.

The project’s global objective was to support a means of sustainable livelihoods for women and communities who depend on natural resources. The specific objectives were to establish a processing facility for forest products; develop the value chain for Néré/Soumbara; and, reinforce the technical and business capacities of women entrepreneurs, and focus on how to improve community management of natural resources, in particular the community forest.

Principal actors in this project included Hillary Mara, a second year Masters’ student in the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs studying international development and agriculture. In designing this project, she brought together over three years of field experience in Francophone West Africa in rural development, including agriculture, natural resource management, and agribusiness, primarily with women’s groups. Elizabeth Jade Womack, a graduate student from the Dyson school with expertise in business, marketing, and working with women’s groups in food security and commercialization, also assisted on this project. Jade contributed to developing lesson plans, designing, implementing and analyzing the market surveys, and providing innovative means of communicating ideas to the cooperative group. The local partner, Natural Resources for Ecosystem Services and Livelihood Development (NARSEME), led by experienced Guinean development professionals intervenes in the Kindia and Women’s economic empowerment is a global development priority that is related to at least twelve of the United Nation’s seventeen Sustainable Development Goals. Some of the most important outcomes of empowerment include women’s reinvestment in children’s well-being and education; economic growth and improved productivity; and higher participation of women in decision-making structures. These outcomes can all lead to comprehensive community development with transformative effects in developing countries.

Rural communities in the Republic of Guinea depend on natural resources for their livelihoods, including both agricultural products and foraged forest products. One key forest product (hereafter referred to as NTFP, non-timber forest product) is Néré, the seedpod of the tree Parkia biglobosa, also known as African Locust bean. Néré seeds are dried, fermented, pounded, and used as a traditional spice known locally as “Soumbara.” Soumbara is widely consumed across ethnic and regional groups in Guinea and surrounding countries, eaten daily in stews or with rice, and has a high nutritional value: it is rich in protein, iron and vitamin C. Néré is typically processed on a household level, though it is also commercially available in cities. Other parts of the seedpod such as the pulp are also consumed. Studies in Nigeria and Burkina Faso show that the value of Néré doubles when processed into Soumbara: in Burkina Faso, Néré fruits provide up to 73% of the total income per household.

This project intervened to reinforce the business, leadership, and technical capacity of thirty women entrepreneurs in food processing in the rural community of Bas-Simbaraya, Madina Oula, Kindia region, in the Republic of Guinea, in collaboration with the Guinean NGO NARSEME. The intervention facilitated the establishment of a women’s cooperative, Groupement Kenda (translation: Cooperative Soumbara), to process, package, and sell Soumbara in local and regional markets. All participating women are members of Village Savings & Loans Associations (VSLA), and had previously begun to build their skills in money management, leadership, and collective action, but may have lacked technical skills to profitably invest the money they saved and borrowed.

The project’s global objective was to support a means of sustainable livelihoods for women and communities who depend on natural resources. The specific objectives were to establish a processing facility for forest products; develop the value chain for Néré/Soumbara; and, reinforce the technical and business capacities of women entrepreneurs, and focus on how to improve community management of natural resources, in particular the community forest.

Principal actors in this project included Hillary Mara, a second year Masters’ student in the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs studying international development and agriculture. In designing this project, she brought together over three years of field experience in Francophone West Africa in rural development, including agriculture, natural resource management, and agribusiness, primarily with women’s groups. Elizabeth Jade Womack, a graduate student from the Dyson school with expertise in business, marketing, and working with women’s groups in food security and commercialization, also assisted on this project. Jade contributed to developing lesson plans, designing, implementing and analyzing the market surveys, and providing innovative means of communicating ideas to the cooperative group. The local partner, Natural Resources for Ecosystem Services and Livelihood Development (NARSEME), led by experienced Guinean development professionals intervenes in the Kindia and Women’s economic empowerment is a global development priority that is related to at least twelve of the United Nation’s seventeen Sustainable Development Goals. Some of the most important outcomes of empowerment include women’s reinvestment in children’s well-being and education; economic growth and improved productivity; and higher participation of women in decision-making structures. These outcomes can all lead to comprehensive community development with transformative effects in developing countries.

Rural communities in the Republic of Guinea depend on natural resources for their livelihoods, including both agricultural products and foraged forest products. One key forest product (hereafter referred to as NTFP, non-timber forest product) is Néré, the seedpod of the tree Parkia biglobosa, also known as African Locust bean. Néré seeds are dried, fermented, pounded, and used as a traditional spice known locally as “Soumbara.” Soumbara is widely consumed across ethnic and regional groups in Guinea and surrounding countries, eaten daily in stews or with rice, and has a high nutritional value: it is rich in protein, iron and vitamin C. Néré is typically processed on a household level, though it is also commercially available in cities. Other parts of the seedpod such as the pulp are also consumed. Studies in Nigeria and Burkina Faso show that the value of Néré doubles when processed into Soumbara: in Burkina Faso, Néré fruits provide up to 73% of the total income per household.

This project intervened to reinforce the business, leadership, and technical capacity of thirty women entrepreneurs in food processing in the rural community of Bas-Simbaraya, Madina Oula, Kindia region, in the Republic of Guinea, in collaboration with the Guinean NGO NARSEME. The intervention facilitated the establishment of a women’s cooperative, Groupement Kenda (translation: Cooperative Soumbara), to process, package, and sell Soumbara in local and regional markets. All participating women are members of Village Savings & Loans Associations (VSLA), and had previously begun to build their skills in money management, leadership, and collective action, but may have lacked technical skills to profitably invest the money they saved and borrowed.

The project’s global objective was to support a means of sustainable livelihoods for women and communities who depend on natural resources. The specific objectives were to establish a processing facility for forest products; develop the value chain for Néré/Soumbara; and, reinforce the technical and business capacities of women entrepreneurs, and focus on how to improve community management of natural resources, in particular the community forest.

Principal actors in this project included Hillary Mara, a second year Masters’ student in the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs studying international development and agriculture. In designing this project, she brought together over three years of field experience in Francophone West Africa in rural development, including agriculture, natural resource management, and agribusiness, primarily with women’s groups. Elizabeth Jade Womack, a graduate student from the Dyson school with expertise in business, marketing, and working with women’s groups in food security and commercialization, also assisted on this project. Jade contributed to developing lesson plans, designing, implementing and analyzing the market surveys, and providing innovative means of communicating ideas to the cooperative group. The local partner, Natural Resources for Ecosystem Services and Livelihood Development (NARSEME), led by experienced Guinean development professionals intervenes in the Kindia and...
Mamou regions through the promotion of sustainable exploitation of natural resources, women’s entrepreneurship, and climate-smart agriculture. It has extensive experience implementing Village Savings & Loan Associations (VSLA).

This collaboration between the two groups allowed for an interesting sharing of ideas and pertinent technical knowledge. The group was also made up of a wide range of ages, from ~18 to ~70, permitting the respectful sharing of ideas across generations. The community natural resource management session brought together community leaders, including male religious leaders, elders, and the heads of associations, to design rules to protect the community forest in collaboration with the members of Groupement Kenda. The rules regulated activities such as burning and cutting of the Néré tree. The rules established by this group were formally submitted to the regional Environment (Eaux et Forets) office in order to become official regulations subject to penalty.

The remarkable motivation and enthusiasm of the women involved in this project was essential to its success. They and their families, and the community in general contributed greatly in terms of material support. An elder man in the community donated the parcel of land that served as the site of the factory. The members of Groupement Kenda and their families contributed significant in-kind labor for the construction of the processing facility, including transporting rocks, sand, and water, and overseeing the workers and use of materials in the absence of the implementing team.

Since the departure of the Cornell students, activities have continued with Groupement Kenda. NARSEME agents finished refining the factory and materials, supported the establishment of a VSLA group comprised uniquely of cooperative members, and are now planning to implement future trainings on topics including: nursery establishment, literacy training, product packaging, and more. They will continue to be present to support the cooperative as processing begins on the raw materials and produce their final product, including supporting sales and marketing. It is also hoped that Groupement Kenda will diversify to include processing of other forest and agricultural products, such as mangoes, pineapple, peanut butter, maize flour, etc.

Encouraged by the support and enthusiasm of the community of Bas-Simbaraya, NARSEME has stated its interest in the village serving as a “model community” for other sustainable livelihoods projects, including beekeeping, dissemination of improved stoves, and the production of Biochar. Hillary, who has a close relationship with Peace Corps Guinea, is in the process of arranging for a Peace Corps volunteer to serve in the community beginning early next year. NARSEME is also interested in recreating this project in another community in Guinea, likely in the Mamou region. For this reason, Hillary has compiled a Training Manual in French with the lesson plans and other pertinent information for the replication of this project.
MEASURING THE EFFICIENCY OF ZAMBIA’S SUPERIOR COURTS

BY
TINENENJI BANDA, JSD’12

It is widely acknowledged that respect for the rule of law and the protection of individual rights are necessary conditions for sustainable economic and social development. An effective and efficient justice sector is critical to the promotion of the rule of law. The building and strengthening of the human rights architecture, the deepening of democracy, as well as the enhancement of public participation in governance all require an effective judiciary. The courts play an important role in strengthening democratic institutions that are responsive to justice imperatives and protect, promote, and fulfil human rights. An effective judiciary has been described as “one that is predictable, resolves cases in a reasonable time frame, and is accessible to the public.”

In any democratic nation, the judiciary is central to the protection of the rule of law and the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms. It is also an essential check and balance on the legislative and executive branches of government, ensuring that the laws of Parliament and the acts of the executive comply with the Constitution and the rule of law. Only a competent, independent, and efficient judiciary can protect the rights of citizens and perform this important check on the exercise of executive power.

The IAD Development Initiative project, Court Efficiency, seeks to measure efficiency within the courts of Zambia. Although instances of inefficiency have been widely recorded through anecdotal means, they have never before been objectively documented. This project employs a dual methodology of both qualitative and quantitative analysis. Qualitatively, it engages in non-participant observation of the Subordinate Court of Lusaka in addition to the supplement of document examination and informal interview. Quantitatively, it uses a statistical analysis of published Supreme and High Court cases from between 2013 and 2017.

Ultimately, the investigators hope that the scope of the study will reveal the diverse set of causal factors responsible for inhibiting the smooth functioning of the judiciary.

The progress report draws the following preliminary conclusions. Regarding the Subordinate Court of Lusaka, it is found that a majority of cases are delayed past their scheduled time for no substantial reason. Furthermore, access to justice issues such as absent legal representation or inaccessibility of the court have proven to be common. Lastly, additional factors such as unfamiliarity with court procedure, the lack of judicial infrastructure, the inaudibility of the court, and missing court officials all add to court inefficiency. With regards to the Supreme and High Courts, the disproportionate number of rulings in comparison to judgments contained within the total released decisions suggests delay through continuous adjournment. Furthermore, the average disposal rate of cases was also found to be problematic from an efficiency standpoint.

This project has built important links with the judiciary and has buy-in from the Chief Justice who is interested in using the findings from the research to build capacity within the judiciary. The project has also built capacity at the University of Zambia School of Law, where several students have had the opportunity to work as research assistants and data gatherers; these research assistantship opportunities are scarce in Zambia. The Southern African Institute of Policy and Research has leveraged partnerships with NGOs, the Commission of Law Reporting and other justice actors to facilitate the research and augment the impact of the findings.
The Issues in African Development Seminar Series examines critical concerns in contemporary Africa using a different theme each semester. The seminars provide a forum for experts in African development to discuss and identify characteristics of development and suggest solutions to obstacles in the development process.

Additionally, the series serves as a focal activity for participants to explore alternative perspectives and exchange ideas. The series is organized around a specific theme chosen by the Institute each semester for its pertinence to the times. Past themes have included: Governance, Elections, and Nationalism; Land, Climate Change, Agriculture, and Food Security; Development, Religious Extremism, Security, and the State in Africa; and, Natural Resources in Africa: Advancing Economic Development Responsibly Africa. The theme for spring 2017 series was Governance, Elections, and Nationalism and for fall 2018, China and Africa: Political, Cultural, and Economic Engagement.

There are not many classes in which a non-major undergraduate student can join an active discussion of the presentations about ongoing research and projects with other faculty and graduate students. This class was great in doing that.

---Sim
Shinn termed China’s engagement as one of mercantilism rather than neocolonialism. China’s involvement with Africa is primarily meant to sustain the Chinese economy and increase its exports to Africa, he said.

These goals are not unique to China, as most development partners seek the same. The key difference, he argued, is the way the development projects are financed. Chinese projects are overwhelming state-owned and backed by government financing, which makes it difficult for companies or other countries with limited financial resources to compete.

Shinn explained that while Western countries are scaling back in the Africa banking sector, China has increased its involvement. Sixteen percent of China’s direct investment in Africa is in the financial sector. China’s largest bank, the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, recently purchased a 20 percent stake in Standard Bank, South Africa’s largest bank, for $5.5 billion, representing the largest foreign direct investment in the country to date.

China’s long-term strategy will be one of increased engagement in all areas on the continent, Shinn concluded. Although there will be competition from India and Brazil for African markets, it will be political or economic setbacks in China itself that will ultimately determine its engagement in Africa and other parts of the world.

According to the World Bank, China is now sub-Saharan Africa’s largest export and development partner, representing about a quarter of the continent’s trade. That share is expected to grow even greater in the coming years.

In 2015, China’s President Xi Jinping pledged $60 billion of new investment in major capital projects in Africa and announced plans to facilitate more collaboration with Africa over the next three years. These include creating regional vocational education centers in Africa and offering African students 30,000 government scholarships and 2,000 educational opportunities in China.

At a recent meeting in Beijing, President Xi announced China’s most ambitious foreign policy to date – the Belt and Road initiative. The initiative seeks to connect Asia, Europe, and Africa along five transport routes, and to build six international economic cooperation corridors. The growing engagement between Africa and China is the theme of the Institute for African Development (IAD) fall 2017 seminar series, China and Africa: Political, Cultural, and Economic Engagement, held every Thursday at 2:30 p.m. in G-08 Uris Hall.

The first speaker was David Shinn, former U.S. ambassador to Ethiopia and Burkina Faso and current adjunct professor of international affairs at George Washington University.
Wealth and income disparities present problems everywhere, but they are especially acute in Africa, where 330 million people survive on less than $1.25 a day. "Inequality is not just a moral issue it’s a global threat" said Muna Ndulo, professor of law and director of Cornell’s Institute for African Development (IAD). “Poverty, rising income and wealth disparity breed despair and fuel conflict. These challenges need to be addressed together if we are to have a more equitable world” he said. But many African governments have ignored, tolerated or even encouraged inequality as they have sought to develop their economies – or simply to remain in power. This challenge was the focus of the first-ever IAD summer symposium, “Inequality in Africa: Economic Vulnerability, Environmental Risks, and Inequitable Access to Justice,” held Aug. 3-5 in Livingstone, Zambia.

The two-day event brought together experts and stakeholders from universities, government agencies, nonprofit organizations and think tanks in eight countries. Their presentations looked at how governments in Africa deliberately deny poor people’s rights to resources and services and exclude them from equal participation in social, economic, political and cultural arenas.

In the opening address, Cornell government professor Nicolas van de Walle traced the specific nature of inequalities in Africa to the ways colonial powers privileged people living along trade routes and in places where taxes could be easily collected. These biases led to later difficulties in state-building. Professor Ndulo, who has consulted with several African governments and international agencies on legal and constitutional reforms, explained that the crisis of national identity in many countries causes social exclusion. He argued that governments must institute laws and other measures to ensure that all groups are represented in all spheres of national life.

In his talk about governments’ challenges in financing programs and policies for inclusion, Gilbert Mudenda, director of Zambia’s Institute for Policy Studies, explored ideas for improving tax revenue collection from mining and other industries. A presentation on a fast-track land reform program in Zimbabwe by Joeyline Kufandiriri Chitofiri of South Africa’s University of the Free State described the lives of farm workers after the reform. Tinenenji Banda (University of Zambia School of Law) and Marja Hinfelaar (Southern African Institute for Policy and Research) assessed information inequity, particularly unequal access to legal information in Southern Africa.
Other presentations looked at inequalities in customary law and legal systems, judicial infrastructure, fiscal decentralization, trade reforms and retail pricing. Although reducing poverty requires financial inclusion, Victor Murinde, AXA professor of global finance at SOAS University of London, said he thinks the current definition of inclusion is too narrowly defined. According to Murinde, financial inclusion needs to include access, use, cost and quality of available finance, as well as supporting factors like primary education and investment to strengthen participation in the economy.

The closing address by Steve Kayizzi-Mugerwa, adviser to the International Monetary Fund and former chief economist and vice president of the African Development Bank, underscored the importance of inclusive growth that broadens access to sustainable economic and social opportunities. The “developmental state” has an obligation, he asserted, “to keep social and economic exclusion from taking root.”

The symposium was jointly organized with the Southern African Institute for Policy and Research and co-sponsored by Cornell’s Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies and Center for the Study of Inequality.
Innovation in mobile technology continues to drive economies across the continent of Africa. That was the theme of the Institute for African Development (IAD) Annual Symposium, ‘Mobile Money, Financial Inclusion and Development in Africa’ held on April 19, 21 and 22, 2017. The symposium, which sought to examine the role of mobile money technology and services in transforming Africa’s development, was informative, engaging and impactful to the broad audience from within and beyond the Cornell campus. Building on a multidisciplinary framework, the forum addressed a wide range of issues including trends to areas of tensions around financial inclusion and development.

The diverse speakers represented academic and research institutions, global organizations, media groups, foundations, and UN agencies, such as the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Columbia University, CGIAR’s International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), World Vision International, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, UN Capital Development Fund and Intermedia, among many others. The use and impact of mobile money technologies to address socio-economic, political and environmental issues linked to climate change, humanitarian affairs, livestock, agriculture, business and markets, financial institutions and governments was highlighted and underscored based on research and work in countries such as Nigeria, Tanzania, Kenya, Ghana, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Sierra Leone with a comparative focus on India and Vietnam in Southeast Asia.

The symposium addressed a wide range of questions and issues within a multidisciplinary framework that covers topics from trends in financial instruments (e.g. mobile money; revolutionary credit/consumer protection; gender/inequalities; alternative lending
schemes; trust; etc) to areas of tension (e.g. financial exclusion vs. inclusion) to broader finance frameworks (e.g. universal financial systems; inclusive/responsible finance; etc).

A global learning forum for a Cornell student is fertile ground for growth. At the symposium, the student engagement was admirable and inspiring throughout the symposium. The Cornell students made the symposium a success from the volunteerism and planning to their incredible engagement with the speakers and other attendees. The event clearly had an impact in providing students with a new angle of thinking about development in Africa. Additionally, a whole session was dedicated to student posters where they had the opportunity to share ways they’ve interfaced with mobile money technologies while studying and working with agribusinesses, governments, and micro-credit groups in countries such as Rwanda, Guinea, Ghana and Kenya.

The Mobile Money Symposium was a transformative learning experience. I was inspired by the novel methods, specifically the behavioral mechanisms that governments, researchers, and private organizations are currently initiating to enhance financial inclusion at the bottom of the pyramid.

(Marilyn Y. Quaidoo, Master of Public Administration’18, Cornell Institute for Public Affairs (CIPA), College of Human Ecology)

It helps students, staff, faculty and community members sharpen their knowledge and skills for improved teaching, research and outreach around the globe. As one attendee emphasized, “I was so pleased to join you and others in the Cornell community. The program was a great success! The presentations were thought provoking and have left me inspired to return to this field for deeper study and engagement.”

The conference was co-sponsored by the Emerging Markets Program, Dyson School of Agricultural Economics & Management; Institute for Money, Technology and Financial Inclusion (IMTFI); Emerging Markets Institute, Johnson Graduate School of Management; International Programs, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (IP-CALS) and, the Einaudi Center for International Studies.
I really enjoyed the inter-sectional and interdisciplinary approach that the conference took in exploring the topic of mobile money, which helped participants to get a good sense of the breadth of topics and ideas within this space. One highlight of the conference for me was seeing the student presentations focused on financial inclusion and development. It was inspiring to see the work that Cornell students were doing on important financial issues around the world.

- (Jeffrey Joseph, Master of Public Administration ’17, Cornell Institute for Public Affairs, College of Human Ecology)
"...things aren’t going to be perfect...things are going to be different, difficult, even disturbing. But none of that is consequential if one is able to appreciate a foreign country, society, and culture as a truly welcomed guest. There’s no greater fulfillment or enrichment.”

- Tony Zhou

besides some commonality, what is core to any sort of ‘globality’ is also difference – most of the time shallow, but some unexpectedly deep... I realized that crucial in the idea of ‘global competence’ and navigating differences is a high degree of flexibility and the ability to set expectations.”

- Daniel Cheong
My IAD internship centered on Copper-Based Industrialization. I worked with my supervisor, Caesar Cheelo, at the Zambia Institute for Policy Analysis and Research (ZIPAR). I was drawn to this not only because of my interest in economics and infrastructural development, but also because of its relevance in Zambia’s economy. Combining these elements to attempt at providing useful policy recommendations, or at least some insights, promised to be challenging work. New information abounded – most important for the project, though, was knowledge of the copper industry, both globally and in Zambia. I was fortunate, I think, to have known very little about the copper industry as a whole, let alone in Zambia, as this gave me a blank slate on which to write this newfound information. I realized that the narrative of copper and copper extraction in Zambia was dominated by foreign (mostly Western) institutions and academics, just as the actual extraction was dominated largely by foreign mining companies. I was greatly encouraged and enriched by the collegiate environment at both ZIPAR and SAIPAR. At ZIPAR, a think tank, I could see researchers with both policy ideas and political acumen, and learnt much from their past experience and policy work.

My internship came to a close with the completion of my paper and presentations at ZIPAR. My work attempted to shift the focus from supply chain-centered industrialization to forward manufacturing in emerging, copper-intensive sectors such as renewable energies, with the goal of moving Zambia down the global copper value chain. I hope that this in some way shed light on possible paths Zambia can take with regard to mining and manufacturing policy. I also began to reflect on some takeaways from the experience and was grateful for the exposure to fieldwork in development economics. This experience both confirmed my interest and underlined the myriad complexities and potential for growth that drew me to the field in the first place. Second, I was also fortunate to interface with many professionals in the development space with a variety of perspectives -- local government, independent think-tank, international NGO, etc. This has given me a broader understanding of the latent dynamics and politics within the field of development, along with some examples of career paths moving forward. Third, I gathered that besides some commonality, what is core to any sort of ‘globality’ is also difference -- most of the time shallow, but sometimes unexpectedly deep.

Whilst reflecting on the reactions of fellow interns and students to this Zambian experience, I realized that crucial in the idea of “global competence” and navigating differences is a high degree of flexibility and the ability to set well-calibrated expectations. I hope to bring these lessons with me as I move into graduate school, and I look forward to the possibility of continuing work remotely with the staff at ZIPAR, along with new collaborations in the future.

Daniel Cheong
Economic and Computer Science major
Internship - Zambia Institute for Policy Analysis and Research
I interned at the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in the Horticulture unit within the Directorate of Crop Services in Ghana. To say that my time in Ghana this summer was simply “amazing” would be an understatement and would not fully encapsulate the full range of experiences and emotions that I had and felt while being there.

The biggest success of my trip to Ghana was my internship. The Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) was about a thirty-minute car ride from my host family’s home. Every morning, I took the local transportation called the tro-tro to the horticulture office. There, my supervisor would have assignments or trips that we would work on together. One such meeting was in the Ashaiman farming district where she was responsible for establishing a farmers’ field school. The meeting was very informative as I got to listen to small farmers selected for the field school discuss their normal farm operations. This helped our team perfect the budget and plans for the field school project. I also participated in a series of three-day meetings with major fruit and vegetable farmers and MoFA focusing on the problems that impeded these farmers’ ability to grow and meet the food demands of the country.

By the end of my internship, I had attended multiple meetings—some that included vegetable and fruit farmers in Ghana, helped complete mini projects and wrote the report on the large farmers/stakeholder meetings with the Minister of Food and Agriculture.

My internship experience in Ghana marked a pivotal and deciding point of my professional life. I have always been interested in food, agriculture and development, but working at MoFA has solidified this interest. Interning in a country outside the US and learning about issues that have plagued Ghana and West Africa reminded me of the importance of travel and being able to see how certain things work in different contexts than my own. It also reminded me of the influences of major economies on smaller ones. The decisions that the US government makes in terms of food and agricultural policy has so many implications and effects on other countries — from decisions on green labeling, and the organic/natural food movement to regulations and pricing on imported crops — I am now more aware of the importance of being a global citizen and participating in a way that benefits not just my own community but communities that lie beyond my back yard.

I believe that I have grown tremendously because of my stay in Ghana. I am now less afraid of putting myself in new positions and am more aware that the world does not revolve around a few regions, but that a few regions can influence much smaller ones. Finally, this experience has reaffirmed my belief that we should all strive to live in different parts of the world for long periods of time so that we can become more rounded and globally competent individuals.
“One Zambia, One Nation!” It is quite the powerful chant – one that resonates clearly across the busy alleys of the flea market, the excited rows of the soccer stadium, the serious meeting rooms of the office buildings, and the raucous tables of the local pubs. It is used as a political slogan, an infrequent greeting, and an automated voice messaging response all at the same time. Some say it’s just a long-standing tradition, others would even go as far as to call it a national symbol. But to an outsider, it’s all the same. What does it really mean?

At face value, “One Zambia, One Nation” seems quite trite. Linguistically, it’s nothing new beyond popular elements of the political canon of rhetoric. It also seems overly nationalistic and begs the question of discussing the place foreigners hold in the whole scheme of Zambia. But, and you’ll have to take my word for it, there’s something profoundly different in the way the chant is commonly used. Initially deployed by Zambia’s first president, Kenneth Kaunda, “One Zambia, One Nation” is a rallying cry -- one of collective outlook, of untarnished happiness, of indomitable resilience, and of national pride.

I interned with a project on the efficiency of the Zambian judiciary under the mentorship of the Southern African Institute for Policy and Research (SAIPAR) and worked specifically with Tinenenji Banda, JSD, ’94. Situated within an ongoing five-year study as well as a regional Access to Justice Initiative, my work used a combination of statistical and non-participant observer methods to discern key causal factors of court inefficiency.

I also conducted fieldwork, arranging for interviews with leading legal scholars and judges within the country. Ultimately, the results produced are impactful in providing the first comprehensive assessment of the state of the Zambian judiciary. I am proud that my work will be included in a published 2018 report by SAIPAR, as well as a possible independently authored paper exploring the relationship between efficiency and access to justice.

Being able to chant “One Zambia, One Nation”, to me, was the greatest part of my IAD summer internship. Although I received amazing mentorship and education with SAIPAR, my philosophy has always been that this experience ought to be more than just work – it should be about experience and engagement. With this chant, I genuinely felt that I was partaking in the same strong sense of dignity and patriotism held by the Zambian people. The thrill and exhilaration of not just witnessing or briefly exposing myself to, but rather full-on immersing myself in such lived common experience simply cannot be surpassed in any other way.

Under this internship, things aren’t going to be perfect and things aren’t going to be how one would expect them to be. Things are going to be different, difficult, even disturbing. But none of that is consequential if one is able to appreciate a foreign country, society, and culture as a truly welcomed guest. There’s no greater fulfillment or enrichment – that’s what the slogan of “One Zambia, One Nation” means to me.
I interned at the Namibian University of Science and Technology. My work and final paper dealt with the online exploitation of children which is an alarming issue for Namibian parents. Namibians are very polite and view not accepting a friend request on social media to be rude. This gives predators opportunities to take advantage of young people. My internship project paper focused on the issue of exploitation of minors on social media, an issue that seemed to be widespread in the capital, Windhoek. The project also outlined ways parents can become more technology literate in order to keep their kids safe. My paper will hopefully assist those working on issues of child exploitation in Namibia.

My experience in Namibia has made me examine the things that really matter in my life. I saw people in Namibia who have very little, yet live much happier lives. I have also been in awe of how friendly and welcoming Namibians are to each other and to visitors to their country.

One of the most important things I have taken away from this experience is that most developing African countries should not be portrayed as impoverished and primitive. There are whole organizations and people who do exactly what everyone else does, they just have different means of doing it. The infrastructure available may not support the current technology, but they still have advanced systems and means of life and they adapt quite easily.

My experience has also made me realize that working together and helping when needed is the best way to get work done. I also learned that time is precious, and if things are not done in a reasonable amount of time they might never get done. Trying and failing is better than being scared and never trying in the first place. I also learned that there is so much more to life than just work. While in Namibia I also acquired a sense of autonomy. I learned to take responsibility for the things I want to do, to love and respect others’ wants and needs, as well as helping others along the way.
Georges Batoussi  
**Industrial and Labor Relations**  
**Internship - Bayport Financial Services, Zambia**

After a one week orientation to the Zambian language, culture, and traditions at the Southern African Institute of Policy and Research (SAIPAR), I started my internship at Bayport Financial Services, a microfinance institution in the midst of transitioning into a full-fledged bank in Zambia. The CEO of the institution is a Cornell alumn.

During my time at Bayport, I completed a rotational internship that began in the Operations department, where I conducted loan issuance, refinanced loans for clients and worked on the mobile sales team. Following my time in Operations, I moved on to the Credit Risk Management department, where I analyzed client affordability.

My last and favorite rotation was the newest department at Bayport – the Deposit Taking Unit. During this rotation, I was heavily involved in sales. My time in the field is where I believe I had the largest impact. Being able to pitch a savings account product with no hidden fees that benefitted both client and business was a good experience. My sales pitches of the savings products that Bayport offers will surely have a tangible impact on the development of the Zambian economy. I was especially struck by how reliant Zambia’s economy is on copper production. I would oftentimes research the rampant devaluation of Zambia’s currency, the Kwacha (ZMW), caused in part by the economic downturn that ensued when world copper prices plummeted in 2015.

I learned a great deal in the workplace and engaged in culturally enriching experiences every day of my internship. I especially appreciated the community-like feeling throughout the country, especially on the packed buses. In the US, a person seldom strikes up a conversation with a random person on a bus. In Zambia, this was the norm. There is an element of trust, camaraderie and community unity that is absent in the US. The internship and experience were educational and enriching and I will take what I have learnt on my career path in developmental economics and finance on the African continent.
Sitting on the plane I never could have imagined that during the next nine weeks I would be part of the most amazing moments in Zambia. For instance, I was able to attend Zambia’s Launch of the Seventh National Development Plan in the same room as the President of Zambia. I was also able to conduct interviews with the Minister of National Development Planning, the United Nations Resident Coordinator, and the World Bank Country Manager at that national event. I was able to speak at a town meeting in Kalingalinga about movements for gender equality in my home country. I attended an event called “Day of an African Child,” where schoolchildren from all over Zambia presented skits and poems about improving their lives and the lives of other children like them. I interviewed leaders from eleven different non-governmental organizations geared toward women’s rights and visit the Ministry of Gender. I attended a soccer game of the Zambian national team. I learned how to navigate a foreign city on my own and where to find wifi on the weekends in the neighborhood I was living in called Kabulonga. Most importantly, I built meaningful relationships with fellow Cornellians and people around the world.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, I interned at the Southern African Institute for Policy and Research (SAIPAR). On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, I interned at ActionAid Zambia, Zambia’s branch of an international non-governmental organization. I wrote an occasional paper about the effectiveness of the Ministry of Gender for the research institute and an internal report on gender responsiveness in public services in schools for the NGO.

The most impactful thing I take away from my experience is all of the relationships I formed with the amazing people I met along the way. From the guest house to the grocery store to the mini bus to asking for directions, the Zambians I met were so welcoming. I cooked nshima with my local friends and visited markets with them. I practiced the languages Nyanja and Bemba with them and sang and danced. Although I was very nervous when I arrived in Zambia, I soon felt a sense of belonging that I will never forget.

My time spent in Zambia was much more than just an internship, a vacation, or a tour. It was a time of many firsts for me. It was my first time in Zambia, my first time in Africa, my first time working at a research institution or an NGO, my first time staying in a foreign country for an extended period of time, and my first time truly being on my own. I learned about Zambia and international development, about the economics of a developing country, how to navigate Lusaka using mini buses, how to cook for myself, and how to ask for help and directions. I took initiative in an unfamiliar setting and made friendships that helped me through the times when I was sad and nervous. Now I know that there is so much more to Africa and Zambia than what I had gleaned from different media sources before my departure. I grew as a person during my time in Zambia and it is an experience I will never forget.
I interned at one of the polyclinics in Ghana and the LA General Hospital. I assisted nurses with administrative matters when the hospital was busy. Occasionally, I attended health related conferences outside the hospital, but mainly I shadowed physicians and interviewed the medical staff about the many health challenges in the country. I learned more in a month in Ghana than I ever would have in a classroom, seeing almost all the different steps of life among individuals who possess very little. I was able to hear a baby's heartbeat in the womb and witness lives changed after doctor visits. I was surprised to see a mental health unit in the hospital as this is not the norm in most African hospitals. Ghana has a national health insurance.

Although many individuals do not benefit because of limited funds, many people have access to insurance. The country has developed several measures to manage cases of infectious diseases such as HIV, malaria and tuberculosis, although some taboo still exists in the country. Women in prenatal care are automatically provided with antimalarial pills and nets, and outpatients are checked regularly for tuberculosis. During my work at the hospital, I realized that there were actually few cases of infectious disease compared to cardiovascular disease which was the number one cause of all deaths. As a developing country, Ghana is experiencing shifts in disease trends and the government needs to examine why this is happening.

It is easy to learn of a country through books and news, but it is something else entirely to actually live in those conditions. Prior to my trip, I had been wondering how I could better serve the world, particularly Africa. After the trip, I decided to pursue an MD/MPH with a concentration in Global Health so that I will be able to participate in the development of policy and interventions that will help to improve the health system abroad. My stay in Ghana made me more aware of how difficult life is for most people. It saddened me to see some patients left to die in the hospital because the family could no longer afford the care. It was difficult to see an entire OPD service with just one half broken blood pressure apparatus, an emergency room with seven beds, and a pharmacy with barely enough drugs.

I had the occasion to help people, to talk with them about their lives, and to learn more about their culture. I just wish I could have done better. However, I hope that other students will have the same opportunity as I did. They will visit the same places I had the privilege to visit and even those that I did not visit. I have always believed that not many people know about life outside the US. This trip changed the way I see the world and my future as well as the many things I take for granted. I left Ghana with great memories of a beautiful place, outstanding people, a new family and an awareness of global realities.
This summer I interned at the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection at the Department of Gender in Ghana. My work entailed aiding efforts in women’s empowerment as well as the implementation of an affirmative action bill throughout the nation. Additionally, I had the chance to teach children ages three to five at the Emperor Academy School.

What most surprised me about Ghana was the friendliness of the Ghanaian people. As soon as I stepped out of the airport, I was greeted by various friendly faces shouting “Akwaaba!” from all directions. There were a number of challenges that I faced while being in Ghana. Among these, were the drastic cultural and environmental changes that I had to learn to adapt to as well as learn to appreciate, such as communicating with people face-to-face rather than relying on technology to foster communication. Moreover, being on my own in Ghana allowed me to gain independence and learn to do basic things such as traveling certain distances alone and learning to do things for myself, such as cooking. The bulk of this hardship was an internal struggle and test of my confidence and independence, both of which I managed to build upon while residing in this incredible country.

Arriving each morning at the Emperor Academy and seeing the sheer glow and excitement on the faces of children, who were simply excited to learn how to count to 40 as well as review the letters of the alphabet, showed me that I must be doing something right. Just as I helped these children, they in turn helped me to discover my self-worth as well as appreciate what I have to give back to the community, whether it be a community in Africa, or here in Ithaca.

Additionally, one trip that I will never forget was our trip to the slavery castles in Cape Coast. Seeing these castles still standing from hundreds of years ago filled me with strong emotions. While visiting Cape Coast that day, I was able to feel a small glimpse of what my ancestors had to face, and I was also introduced to the hope that kept them strong.

"My overall experience in Ghana led me to find a part of myself within the country. What I initially thought would be an outsider experience, turned out to be an experience of a reflection of who I am."

Princess Monica Gordon
Education and Gender
GapNet, Ghana
Rhoda Offei holds a Bachelor of Laws degree from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) in Ghana. She was called to the Ghana bar in September, 2016 and practiced in Ghana before moving to the United States to pursue her Masters of Law at Cornell. Rhoda began her career as a Pupil in Ankoma-Sey & Associates, a law firm in Ghana and later became an Associate in the firm. She worked on a variety of cases ranging from land disputes, matrimonial issues, and recovery of debt to actions for breach of contract.

Rhoda is a member and the Secretary of a non-governmental organization, Trans-Generational Impact, which focuses primarily on empowering the youth through organizing career guidance seminars. Since its founding, the NGO has organized a number of career seminars that targeted senior and junior high school students in Ghana and has made meaningful impact in the lives of these students. Rhoda hopes to employ all the skills and knowledge she acquires from her studies at Cornell to help organize more career guidance seminars to transform the lives of young people.

Her desire to specialize in corporate finance and other business related areas of law informed her decision to pursue her Masters at the Cornell University. She intends to use the knowledge she acquires from her LLM program to contribute to the fiscal and financial policies in Ghana.

David Ndereba received his Bachelor of Arts from Cornell in Computing and Information Science and is currently pursuing his Masters in Computer Science from the same department.

Born and raised in Nyeri, Kenya, David learned about the technology boom and observed how technologies such as MPesa (a mobile money transfer platform started in Nairobi, Kenya) solved everyday challenges and transformed people’s lives and businesses. He was inspired to pursue studies in a tech related field in order to be part of the generation of Kenyans that help the country embrace information technology and build the economy around it. David is the founder of Wings to Soar, a platform designed to help talented students from developing countries gain access to higher education in countries with advanced technology. His goal for Wings to Soar is to encourage these young adults to learn from the best in order to be equipped to advance technology in their own countries.

David acknowledges that as a software engineer, he has to keep learning new technologies as they evolve. He intends to be involved in building the Silicon Savannah, a technology and business city in the heart of East Africa.
Mapange Nsapato holds a Bachelors of Law (LLB) degree from the University of Zambia. He is a member of the Zambian bar and practices law in the firm of Chibesakunda & Co. Advocates (a part of the DLA Piper Group). He has worked on various instructions including banking and finance, mining, corporate advisory and litigation representing corporations, banks and mining firms, among others. Mr. Nsapato has been involved in some of Zambia’s landmark cases, including the 2016 presidential election petition.

Mr. Nsapato is an avid reader of biographies of world revolutionists dedicated to political struggle in Africa and beyond including Nelson Mandela, Fidel Castro and Mahatma Gandhi. The influence of these revolutionaries, all lawyers, led to his resolve to study law. “I was greatly intrigued by the interplay between service to country, law and social change” he recalls. “I wanted to study law in order to be of service to my community much like the men I read about in those biographies.” Mr. Nsapato is a volunteer with the Zambia National Legal Aid Board which provides free legal services to underprivileged Zambians. He has represented various indigent accused on charges including murder, aggravated robbery and theft. An associate editor of the Southern Institute of African Studies (SAIPAR), legal section, he chose Cornell Law to learn from the top legal minds. He plans to return to Zambia to teach and to continue his pro bono work. In addition to English, Mr. Nsapato is fluent in Bemba and Russian.

Amarachi Emeziem received her first degree in Computer Science with honors from Anambra State University in her home country, Nigeria. Upon her graduation, she participated in the Nigerian National Youth Service program for a year where she taught computer skills and general computer applications to high school students in the Niger Delta area of Bayelsa State.

Since 2012, Ms. Amarachi has worked as a high school teacher under the employment of the Imo State Ministry of Education. She has served as a mentor to young student – especially female students – empowering them to embrace self-development through education, skills acquisition, smallholder agro-engagement and rural community development.

She hopes her graduate studies in international development at Cornell will help her develop policy-making skills, community development, advocacy and engagement.

Titus Maritim earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering with a specialization in transportation systems from Cornell and is now pursuing his Masters of Engineering Management degree with specialization in Operations. He has a strong interest in sustainable development and has been involved with the Cornell chapter of Engineers without Borders for several years. He has a passion for operations and intellectually stimulating work that involves applying analytical skills and knowledge of modelling techniques to minimize operational inefficiencies and support decision making.

Mr. Maritim has been involved in the project management team overseeing the design implementation and construction of two high visibility capital projects on the Cornell campus, Klarman Hall and the Upson Renovation project. He assisted with monitoring budget and streamlining operations to mitigate risk and avoid costly inefficiencies during the execution of the project. Upon graduation, he intends to pursue opportunities in industry that are related to operations and risk management.

Mapange Nsapato holds a Bachelors of Law (LLB) degree from the University of Zambia. He is a member of the Zambian bar and practices law in the firm of Chibesakunda & Co. Advocates (a part of the DLA Piper Group). He has worked on various instructions including banking and finance, mining, corporate Advisory and litigation representing corporations, banks and mining firms, among others. Mr. Nsapato has been involved in some of Zambia’s landmark cases, including the 2016 presidential election petition.

Mr. Nsapato is an avid reader of biographies of world revolutionists dedicated to political struggle in Africa and beyond including Nelson Mandela, Fidel Castro and Mahatma Gandhi. The influence of these revolutionaries, all lawyers, led to his resolve to study law. “I was greatly intrigued by the interplay between service to country, law and social change” he recalls. “I wanted to study law in order to be of service to my community much like the men I read about in those biographies.” Mr. Nsapato is a volunteer with the Zambia National Legal Aid Board which provides free legal services to underprivileged Zambians. He has represented various indigent accused on charges including murder, aggravated robbery and theft. An associate editor of the Southern Institute of African Studies (SAIPAR), legal section, he chose Cornell Law to learn from the top legal minds. He plans to return to Zambia to teach and to continue his pro bono work. In addition to English, Mr. Nsapato is fluent in Bemba and Russian.
Tarig Ahmed is a fellow in Cornell's department of Natural Resources, Environmental policy, and Climate change. He received his BSc in Mechanical Engineering (Hons) from Sudan University of Science and Technology, Sudan in 2007; and through the Chevening Scholarships Award, obtained an MSc degree in Sustainable Energy and Entrepreneurship (with Distinction) from The University of Nottingham, UK in 2016. In his home of Khartoum Sudan, Tarig has been a Solar Energy Division manager at the Ministry of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity in the Renewable Energy directorate since 2009, when he first served as Renewable Energy specialist. His practice at the Ministry covers energy policies, energy economics, the planning and development of renewable energy projects, and climate finance. Tarig is also currently in the process of co-founding Sudanese Solar Energy Society “SSES”. 

Humphrey Fellows from Africa 2017-2018
Emmanuel Adewale Ajani is a fellow at the International Programs, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (IP-CALS). He is a Mechanical Engineer and an Assistant Chief Engineer at the National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure (NASENI), Abuja, Nigeria. Mr. Ajani is the Head of the Renewable Energy Unit and thus coordinates research and development activities in Solar Energy, Small Hydropower, Wind Energy, Biomass, Climate Funds and Energy Efficiency. His job responsibility involves conducting feasibility and detailed site surveys for potential renewable energy sites. His focus for the Humphrey program is on developing a suitable business model for improving access of middle income earners to renewable energy systems such as solar energy.

Sulemana Alhassan is a fellow visiting the College of Agriculture and Life Science from Ghana. He holds a Masters in Post-Harvest Technology, as well as a certificate in Post-Harvest Management of Cereals and Legumes from the University of Sydney, Australia. Sulemana has 16 years of experience working as an Agricultural Officer, with a primary focus on educating stakeholders on good agricultural practices. During this time, he has extensively coordinated and supervised Agricultural Extension Agents for effective implementation of various planned agricultural field activities. Through his work, he hopes to reduce poverty and increase incomes of stakeholders along the value-chain. He was recently the “Focal Person for Resiliency” for the Department of Agriculture’s Northern Ghana Project under Tamale Metropolitan Assembly. Mr. Alhassan’s aspiration is to help the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in Ghana to achieve food security, increase income of all stakeholders in the value chain, reduce poverty in the country, and ultimately contribute to sustainable development of agriculture in Ghana.

Bob Mandinyenya is a conservation biologist from Zimbabwe working with the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. He received his BSc (Hons) in Forest Resources and Wildlife Management at the National University of Science and Technology in Zimbabwe and is currently pursuing an MPhil at the same institution. He works as a Principal Researcher for the African Lion and Environmental Research Trust (ALERT), a wildlife conservation NGO through which he manages research and conservation projects in Victoria Falls. Mr. Mandinyenya is a staunch advocate for sustainable development, and collaborates with communities to mitigate human/wildlife conflict, to ensure food security, and to propose and implement policy covering sustainable social and economic concepts (including the monitoring, modelling and assessment of land use change). At Cornell, he hopes to gain experience working as part of a larger team and to engage with diverse conservation professionals who share his broad goal of improving interactions among all inhabitants of our natural world.

Ackson Joseph Mwanza is a fellow from Zambia in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. He holds a BSc in Agricultural Sciences from the University of Zambia, and is currently an MBA Candidate at the same institution. In Zambia, he works as a Senior Agricultural Officer for the Ministry of Agriculture. Mr. Mwanza’s work at Cornell focuses on improving the livelihoods of small scale farmers and rural communities through the development of successful pluralistic extension management systems, and by employing effective project design, implementation and management. His program also concerns improving the coordination of staff-results-based management, and strong agricultural policy analysis. Upon completion of these projects at Cornell, He looks to formulate proposals to improve public extension service delivery, and to provide recommendations which complement governmental efforts to solve broader challenges faced by local farming communities in Zambia.
The Cornell Institute for African Development is a major location of academic and policy discourse on Africa. A wide ranging program of conferences, topical seminars, and lectures provides an abundance of pertinent scholarly work on Africa. IAD publishes scholarly books including conference volumes, many as part of a book series published in collaboration with Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

Using the phenomenon of public interest litigation (PIL) as the primary focus of analysis, this book explores the manner in which the judicial branch of government in the three East African states of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda has engaged with questions traditionally off-limits to adjudication and court-based resolution. It is rooted in an incisive investigation of the history of politics and governance in the sub-region, accompanied by an extensive repertoire of judicial decisions. It also provides a critical and informative account of the manner in which courts of law have engaged with State power in a bid to alternatively deliver or subvert justice to the socially marginalized and the politically victimized.

"... this book is an in-depth study of public interest law in East Africa, primarily Kenya, Tanzania and South Africa. The author brilliantly and passionately demonstrates how the law and courts work to perpetuate class distinctions." - Frank A. Salamone

IAD hosted a book launch for the Poverty Reduction in the Course of African Development publication which honors Erik Thorbecke, H.E. Babcock Professor of Economics, for his lifetime achievements on poverty reduction, especially in Africa.

Professor Thorbecke is the former Director of the Program on Comparative Economic Development at Cornell, and he is a longstanding member of the Advisory Board for the Cornell Institute for African Development. He has made contributions in the areas of economic and agricultural development, the measurement and analysis of poverty and malnutrition, the Social Accounting Matrix and general equilibrium modeling, and international economic policy. His Foster-Greer-Thorbecke poverty measure (Econometrica, 1984) that he developed (with James Foster and Joel Greer) has been adopted as the standard poverty measure by the World Bank and practically all UN agencies and is used almost universally by researchers doing empirical work on poverty.

In light of the opportunities and the challenges facing African economies in the 21st century, the volume traces the evolution of poverty in the course of economic development in sub-Saharan Africa. By engaging with, and seeking to develop on, the work of Professor Erik Thorbecke, examines the evolving dynamics of poverty in multiple dimensions. It also discusses how to lay down foundations for improved governance and institutions that will realize inclusive development in sub-Saharan Africa. Thus, the volume contributes to our understanding of the dynamics of pro-poor growth and pro-growth poverty reduction, and to the on-going policy and academic debates on how to overcome fragility and vulnerability and secure inclusive development through socio-economic transformation in sub-Saharan Africa.
**The Oxford Companion to the Economics of Africa**

Edited by Ernest Aryeetey, Shantayanan Devarajan, Ravi Kanbur, and Louis Kasekende

The publication is structured around thematic perspectives grouped under distinctive topic headings and alphabetic country perspectives. 100 entries on the economics of Africa by leading economists.

**The Economy of Ghana Sixty Years after Independence**

Edited by Ernest Aryeetey and Ravi Kanbur

Coincides with 60th anniversary of Ghana’s independence. Comprehensive coverage of macroeconomic, sectoral, and social issues. The editors are two of the foremost authorities on the economy of Ghana and on Africa more generally.
Photo Competition Results

First Place
Hongdi Zhao

Second Place
Edem Dzodzomenyo

Deogratious Munene Jr

Third Place tie
Marcella Imoisili

Next IAD Photo Competition begins August 28th
Submit photos from Africa internships (Summer 2018)
"I am so grateful to IAD for making it possible for me to attend the 43rd annual National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). It has helped me gain meaningful networks . . . thanks to the interaction with Goldman Sachs engineers, a few weeks after the convention I was accepted into the Goldman Sachs Engineering Essentials Programs" - Vivian Kiniga, Information Science '19

Continuing Cornell's collaboration with the University of Liberia - Donation of computers to the Louis Arthur Grimes School of Law, Monrovia, Liberia
“I am proud of the struggle and I urge young people not to be dismissive of it and of those who struggled... use the rights for which we fought to bring about change.”
  Anti-apartheid activist, and, Professor of Law.
Professor Muna Ndulo and some of the 2017 graduates.

Winnie Awino (LLM, Law)  
Uganda

Robert Owusu-Mireku (PhD, Electronics Engineering) - Ghana

Carol Njiru (LLM, Law)  
Kenya
Seminar Series Spring 2017
CRP 4770 (5237) / 6770 (5238)

February
2  Good Governance and the Challenge of Building an Inclusive Constitutional Order
   Muna Ndulo, Director, IAD
   Professor of Law, Cornell University
9  Electoral Politics in Africa: Changes in Continuity Since 1990
   Nicolas van de Walle, Maxwell M. Upson
   Professor of Government, Cornell University
16 Gendered Legacies of Militarism: A Challenge to Good Governance in Uganda and Beyond
   Alicia Decker, Associate Professor, Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies and African Studies
   Pennsylvania State University
23 The Politics of Emergence and Development Prospects in Africa
   Mamoudou Gazibo, Professor of Political Science, University of Montreal

March
2  The Impact of Intergovernmental Transfers on Local Revenue Generation in Africa
   Takaaki Masaki, Postdoctoral Fellow, Government, College of William and Mary
9  Ethnic Politics and Democratic Accountability
   Eric Kramon, Assistant Professor
   Political Science & International Affairs
   George Washington University
16 Urbanization and Party Politics in African Democracies
   Danielle Resnick, Senior Research Fellow
   Development Strategies and Governance International Food Policy Research Institute
23 Authoritarian Successor Parties in Africa: What Role for Democratic Success?
   Rachel Beatty Reidl, Associate Professor of Political Science, Northwestern University
30 The Impact of Elections on Institutional Development in Africa
   Ken Opalo, Assistant Professor
   Walsh School of Foreign Service
   Georgetown University

April
13 The Anatomy of Fragility in Sub-Saharan Africa: Understanding the Inter-relationship between Fragility and Deprivation
   Erik Thorbecke, H.E. Babcock Professor Emeritus of Economics/Food Economics, Cornell University
27 Holding Elected Representatives Accountable: Efforts of a Ugandan CSO
   Kristin Michellitch, Assistant Professor of Politics, Vanderbilt University

May
4  Student Panel

Thursdays • 2:30 pm • Go8 Uris Hall

Free and Open to the Public
Institute for African Development
China and Africa
Political, Cultural, and Economic Engagement

August
31 An Overview of China’s Engagement with Africa
   David Shinn, Adjunct Professor, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University

September
7 Words Matter: Rhetoric vs. Reality in China-Africa Relations
   Jessica Achberger, Adjunct Assistant Professor of History, Michigan State University
14 The History of China’s Involvement in Africa: A Reflection of China’s Own Development
   Jean Kachiga, Assistant Professor, Political Science & International Studies, SUNY Brockport
21 Chinese Migrants in Africa: Preliminary Social, Political, and Economic Impacts
   Yoon Jung Park, Adjunct Professor, African Studies Program, Georgetown University
28 Ports and Fish: What China’s Ocean Policy Means for African Maritime Security
   Tabitha Grace Mallory, Affiliate Faculty, Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington

October
12 China-Africa Dispute Settlement: Law, Economics and the Culture of Arbitration
   Won Kidane, Associate Professor, School of Law, Seattle University
19 From Knowledge Transfers to Power Projection: The Impact of Professionalization Training on China-Africa Relations
   Lina Benabdallah, Assistant Professor, Political Science, Wake Forest University
26 Edge of Capital: Chinese Garment Production in South Africa
   Liang Xu, Ph.D., History, Harvard University

November
2 How African Countries can Capitalize on their Partnerships with China
   Nama Ouattara, Adjunct Professor, Economics, George Washington University
   Youyi Zhang, Ph.D. Candidate, Government, Cornell University
16 Constructing Africa: Chinese Investment, Infrastructure Deficits, and Development
   Olufunmilayo Arewa, Professor of Law and Anthropology; Director, Center for African Business, Law, & Entrepreneurship, UC Irvine
30 Student Panel

Thursdays • 2:30 pm
Go8 Uris Hall
ABOUT IAD

The Institute for African Development (IAD) fosters and strengthens the study of Africa within Cornell University. Since 1989, IAD has focused Cornell University initiatives, interdisciplinary projects and research on Africa with the overarching goal of strengthening and expanding the depth and breadth of African development studies. The Institute mobilizes support from a broad constituency and is committed to advancing Africa development studies in global perspective by collaboration and academic linkages with other departments, academic units, and institutions both within and outside the University.

IAD STAFF

Muna Ndulo, Director
mbn5@cornell.edu

Jackie Sayegh, Program Manager
jsb25@cornell.edu

Evangeline Ray, Publications Editor
Assistant Program Coordinator
er26@cornell.edu

Paulina Villacreces, Graduate Student Assistant
pmv52@cornell.edu

PUBLISHED BY

The Institute for African Development
Cornell University
190 Uris Hall, Ithaca NY 14853-7601

Office Phone: 607-255-6849/5499
Office Fax: 607-254-5000
E-mail: CIAD@cornell.edu

Editor: Jackie Sayegh, Program Manager

ABOUT THE COVER

Entrepreneurs of Madina Oula, Guinea showing off their work of processed Néré, the seedpod of the tree Parkia biglobosa, also known as African Locust bean. The project Strengthening Women’s Entrepreneurship in Non-Timber Forest Products: Néré Processing in Madina Oula, Guinea was funded by the Institute for African Development mini-grant. Cornell graduate student, Hillary Mara, CIPA’17 headed the project which included Elizabeth Jade Womack (Applied Economics and Management). All participating women are members of Village Savings & Loans Associations (VSLA), and they have already started to build their skills in money management, leadership, and collective action.