

A Tale of Two Cities

Last week two important events took place, simultaneously. One was the [World Economic Forum for Africa](#), in Cape Town, and the other was the [Africa Partnership Forum](#), in Rome.

They had several things in common, including great locations. Both exist to catalyze partnerships for development. Both focused on the impact of the global economic crisis. While the APF is governmental and small, WEF is business oriented, had a big civil society presence and 1,000 participants. And expectations of government were very different.

The APF focused on the need for better international financial regulation, accelerated and more assistance from the IFIs, delivery on aid promises, and momentum on the Doha trade round. It addressed problems ranging from piracy, illicit drugs and financial flows, state capacity deficits and the importance of securing a global climate change deal that addresses Africa's needs.

The WEF embraced an even bigger range of topics. A strong undercurrent to them was that Africa's future depends upon wealth creation. Only that will lift people out of poverty, provide the means to address social and development challenges, and stave off instability. Opportunities abound; Governments need to put policies and incentives in place to encourage entrepreneurship and investment, then get out of the way.

At one meeting, the central role of governments was self evident. At WEF, governments were viewed as part of the problem as much as the solution.

The APP's annual report, launched at the WEF, might strike a chord in both camps. Progress depends upon robust and accountable partnerships between Africa, donors and the global south as well as between government, the private sector and civil society, based upon their respective core competences.

Getting the relationship between business and government right is fundamental to economic growth, poverty reduction and good governance, and there is still a long way to go. Maybe an APF with business is needed?

The APP Annual Report 2009

The APP report, which was launched in Cape Town last week, by Kofi Annan, Graça Machel, and Linah Mohohlo, provides informed snapshot of, an insight into progress in Africa and the measures that need to be taken to preserve it. The full report and executive summary is published in English and French. The executive summaries are available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Italian. The report is available for download on our website at www.africaprogresspanel.org; if you have any questions, please write to: info@africaprogresspanel.org



[An Agenda for Progress at a Time of Global Crisis: A Call for African Leadership](#)



[By Sipiwo Sobopha as appeared in a cartoon competition](#)

Selected Media Coverage of the Report

The launch of the Africa Progress Panel's 2009 Report in Cape Town generated extensive coverage on broadcast, online and print media in G8 countries and across Africa. 25 opinion pieces regarding the launch of the report were printed in newspapers in the UK, France, and Belgium and in key African media markets. APP Members: Graça Machel, Kofi Annan and Linah Mohohlo led the APP Report Press Conference- [Press release](#).

- [Watch the launch of the APP Annual Report 2009](#)- 10 June 2009
- BBC World Service Africa- [Radio interview with Kofi Annan](#)- 10 June 2009
- Radio France Internationale- [Interview with Michel Camdessus](#)-11 June 2009
- Reuters (UK)-The Great Debate: ["Green growth" strategy viable for African economy](#) by Michael Keating, Director, APP- 12 June 2009
- Joy FM's Audio Clip on the WEF on Africa: [Kofi Annan speaks on Africa and the recession](#)-11 June 2009
- MoneyWeb- World Economic Forum: [the Scary truth in numbers](#)- 10 June 2009
- allAfrica.com- Africa: [Key findings and recommendations of the Africa Progress Panel](#) -10 June 2009
- Daily Nation's [Q & A with Kofi Annan: Africa needs visionary leaders to guide it out of crisis](#)- 13 June 2009
- ONE Blog- [APP Report Launch](#) by Michael Keating- 10 June 2009

APP Activities

Kofi Annan Co-Chaired the World Economic Forum on Africa from 10-12 June in Cape Town; where he, **Graça Machel** and **Linah Mohohlo** launched the 2009 Annual Report of the APP ◊ In an op-ed published in South Africa's Business Day, **Graça Machel** said that ["Africa needs its leaders to rise to the challenges of the world crisis"](#) ◊ On 15 June, a joint op-ed: ["L'Afrique, chance pour un monde en crise"](#) by **Michael Camdessus, Graça Machel** and **Kofi Annan** was published in the French Libération ◊ On Thursday, 11 June, **Bob Geldof**, among other panelists launched the global antipoverty ONE campaign's [4th annual DATA Report 2009: "Monitoring the G8 Promise to Africa"](#), which outlines the progress of the G8 nations in fulfilling aid commitments to Africa ◊ APP's Director, **Michael Keating**, moderated a session at WEF on [the Role of Business in Achieving the MDG's](#). He highlighted the key findings of the report in an op-ed published in This is Africa, emphasizing that "Leadership is the key to recovery" ◊

