

International Financial Accountability, Transparency And Integrity For Achieving The 2030 Agenda.

Ghana and for that matter, the entire sub-sahara African countries were lagging behind in the process of achieving the 2030 Agenda, as agreed at the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

Financial accountability continued to be a mirage. Development projects continue to follow electoral fortunes rather than sustainable economic benefits for the nation states.

Financial accounting for local government projects continue to be problematic.

Divestiture of state assets to make finances available for achieving Agenda 2030, have not been transparent. Usually, essential public services are targeted. But sadly, cronies in high positions connive and buy those properties for themselves for profiteering.

The other worrying phenomenon fighting against the achievement of Agenda 2030, is contracting of loans at the so called bond market. The problem is that, the loans are just too expensive and the repayments are tied to the exchange of essential public service organizations.

Services, which have become the main GDP drivers, are not under the control of our government. Our governments are only in charge of commodities which prices at international markets are very volatile. There are therefore so much pressure on our trade and balance of payments. Both are always in the negative.

The COVID-19 pandemic has made the matter even worse. All the economic indicators have been thrown overboard. Every aspect of the economy is having a nose dive and in some cases, it is becoming chaotic.

About three or four weeks lockdown has exposed the vulnerability of our economies. We are left with no or very weak structures which would take us not less than about five years to rebuild.

In conclusion, we would need debt relief or five years debt servicing holidays to enable us get back on track for the 2030 Agenda.