

Africa and Foreign Aid: Peace, Security, and Poverty



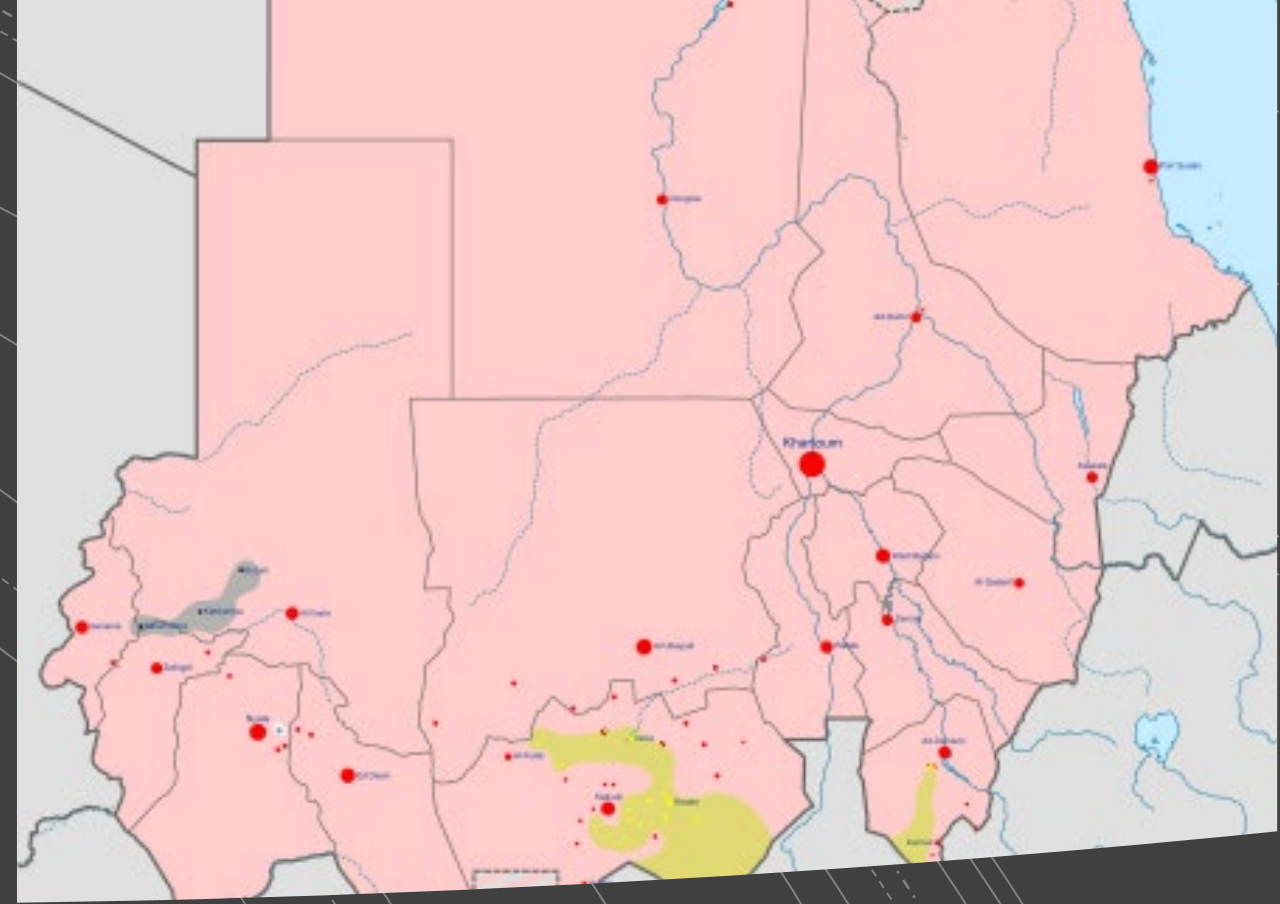
By Jasmine H.
HIST 108
York College, CUNY
Prof. Remi Alapo
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Major Events that occurred

There were many events that occurred that would lead Africa into becoming a country that many lands lack peace, security, and poverty stricken. But there are two events in particular led to why Africa needs Foreign aid.

- War of Darfur
- HIV/AIDS epidemic



South Sudan

- Major conflict occurred between Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM or Sudan Liberation Army-SLA) and Justice & Equality Movement (JEM). This conflict first commenced in 2003 due to JEM believing the government was oppressing Darfur's non-Arab civilians. This led to the War of Darfur, which consisted of many rapes, exploitation of civilians, violation of human rights, and looting. The SLM and JEM were against the support from the Janjaweed and the government. This war between the government and the rebel groups was considered a mass genocide and brought more poverty to Darfur. The violence would spread in all parts of Africa, making foreign aid even more important in highly affected parts of Africa such as South Sudan.

HIV/AIDS Epidemic

- HIV/AIDS is disease that continues to affect many parts of Africa. Therefore, Foreign Aid is very necessary in order to combat the spread. When events such as the War of Darfur occurred the disease started to spread at a more rapid paces. Many women were raped and some would contract the disease in this horrific manner.
- As mentioned by Boundless world history
“Although the continent is home to about 15% of the world’s population, over 67% of the infected, more than 25.5 million individuals, were Africans according to data collected by the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNAIDS in 2015”(HIV/AIDS para.1).



Foreign Aid

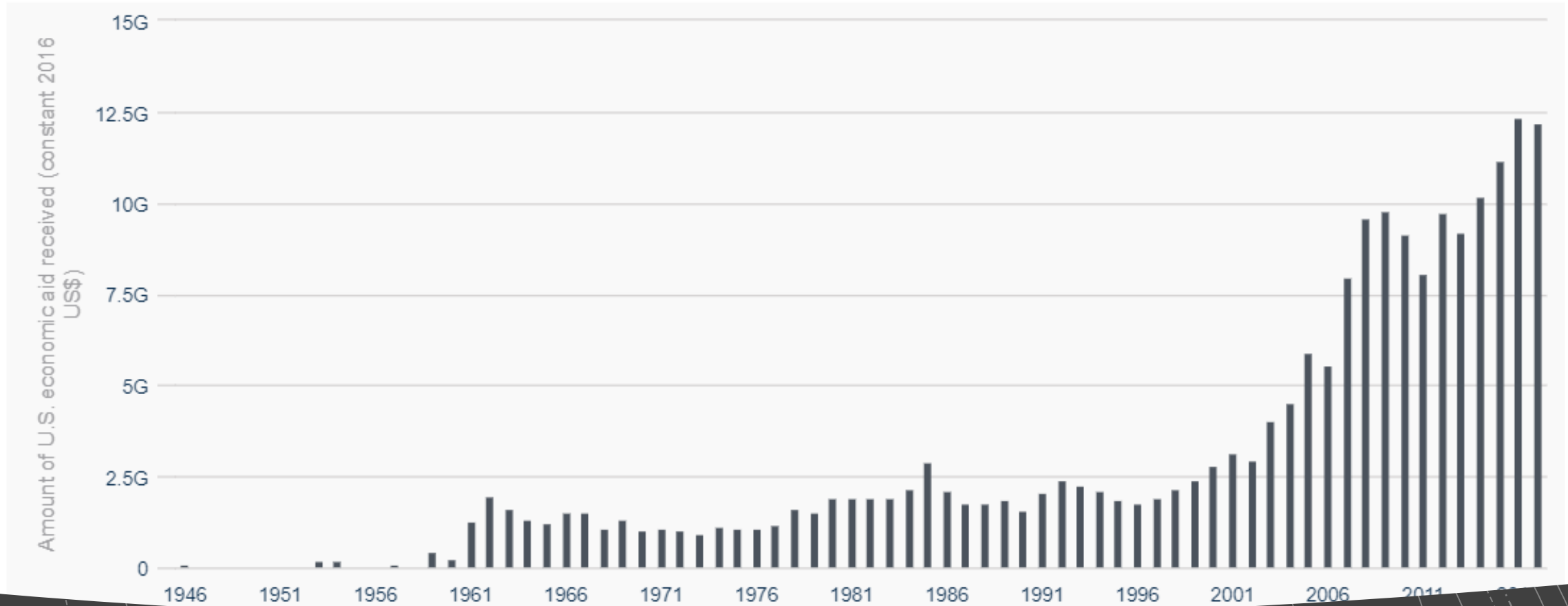
- Idealism vs. Reality

Idealist view: Most people believe that Foreign Aid is distributed fairly in order to help the unfortunate. As mentioned by World101,

“American thinks that 28 percent of the federal budget goes toward foreign aid. The truth: foreign aid makes up only 1 percent of the U.S. budget”(para. 1).

In other words, many Americans believe Foreign Aid is abundant. This might be due to the logic that because Africa consists of many developmental areas the foreign aid from America should be sufficient when it isn't.

Sub-Saharan Africa



U.S. Foreign Aid to Regions Over the Years

Advantages

- Foreign Aid does have its advantages as it is there to help developing countries.
- Also, foreign aid helps to build stronger bond with allies.
- Foreign Aid can help with an immediate crisis and help improve a countries civilian life.
- The Foreign Aid from the United State can be sent to any country that needs the immediate help.



Disadvantages

- The disadvantages consist of lack of amount in foreign aid.
- Instead of dealing with the long-term help that is needed, foreign aid tends to be a quick and easy fix.
- Sometimes the foreign aid can be highly influenced by politics rather humanitarian reasons. Therefore, the foreign aid is not always for the best interest of the other country.
- Foreign Aid is not typically the top priority.

Current Challenges for Foreign Aid

- The current challenges is not only the lack of the Foreign Aid, but also many other reasons.
 - Food Shortages
 - Environmental disasters
 - Rebellious and Extremist Groups
 - Lack of Education

Future Opportunities and Ideas for Foreign Aid

- Empowering Women
 - It is mentioned by Jennifer Elbert (2013) that “Empowering women in post-conflict societies is particularly important because women often make up the majority of the population and they have primary responsibility for raising the next generation”(p. 731).

Future Opportunities and Ideas for Foreign Aid Continued

- More Foreign Aid Contribution and change of policy of implications.
- As mentioned by Kumar, A., & Saleh, O. (2021),
“The foreign aid policy has to be tailor-made for recipient countries”(p.88).

References

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