

AFRICAN DEBT CAMPAIGN



Name, Title, Organisation

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AFRICAN FORUM & NETWORK
ON DEBT & DEVELOPMENT

What is the African Debt Campaign- Stop the Bleeding?

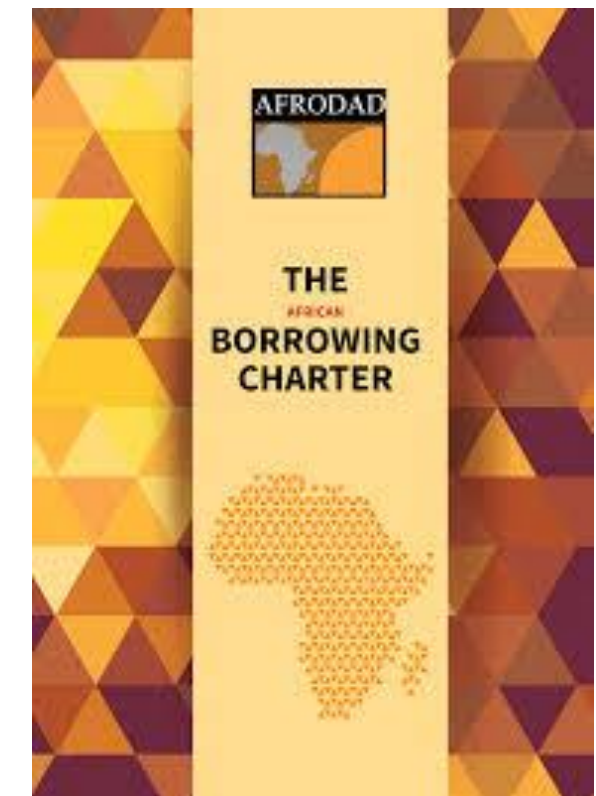
2015

STB was launched to fight illicit financial flows that amount to **USD 88billion** per year



2024

STB Debt Campaign seeks to address the **\$1.3 trillion** debt burden afflicting Africa and her people



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What is the African Debt Campaign- Stop the Bleeding?

The African Debt Campaign is a broad movement of citizens from civil society, trade unions, women's rights activists, and youth activists.

Citizen Action – The overarching objective for citizen action and activism is winning the hearts and minds of the populous. It is about winning back the conversation on the social contract; the democratisation and humanisation of the debt crisis that connects to the real day-to-day struggles of African citizens.



https://x.com/ituc_africa/status/1770810386112987256



The Stop the Bleeding Consortium (STBC)

- African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)
- Africa Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET)
- International Trade Union Confederation Africa (ITUC Africa)
- Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU)
- Tax Justice Network Africa (TJNA)
- Nawi - Afrifem Macroeconomics Collective (Nawi Collective)
- Trust Africa (TA)



Why the African Debt Campaign?

Africa's efforts to consolidate its domestic resources mobilisation are being severely undermined by the growing debt burden. Many African countries are stuck in the debt trap. This situation is further accelerated by the high incidence of illicit financial flows (IFFs) that sees revenue leakages of up to USD88 billion leave the African continent annually.

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How the Campaign works

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Political mobilisation: The African Debt Campaign supports political mobilisation to prevent African countries from unsustainable debt burdens and IFFs and advocates for equalising the power balance between debtor governments and creditors fairly and transparently where African governments are rule makers and not rule takers

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How the Campaign works

Structural Shift in Narrative – The genesis of what we define as structural shift is situated in three contexts:

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- (i) Political – this comes from the AU. The Agenda 2063 is the continental blueprint and envisions the structural transformation of the continent.
- (ii) Economic – the African debt campaign needs to challenge the orthodoxy of the neo-liberal economic development agenda.
- (iii) Social – The African Debt Campaign must speak to the renewal of the social contract between the state and the citizen.

How the Campaign works

- 3** Ideation, Intellectual Alternative, and Challenge to Neo-Liberal Convention – This pillar of the campaign is about winning the minds and intellect of the population.
- 4** Negotiation Strategies – The African Debt Campaign needs to address power imbalances that exist in different ecosystems e.g. Citizen-State; Developing Country-Developed Country; Debtor-Creditor; and Africa-Global Architecture.



How the Campaign works

This African Debt Campaign seeks to mobilise, organise, and re-awaken advocacy on debt and influence policy-makers at country and regional levels on prudent debt management and equitable investment in public services.

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Three Pillars of the Campaign

- 1. Political engagement**
- 2. Civic mobilisation**
- 3. Legal Advocacy**

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Political Engagement

The campaign is about making **Africa a rule-maker** and not a rule-taker. This requires political engagement from global to national processes with a common position on public debt endorsed at the African Union. The African Debt Campaign will advance a better outcome for the African State and the African citizens, especially marginalised groups - women, youth and children.

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Civic Mobilisation

Democratising the debt discourse through Education (intellectualism), participation, and humanisation of public debt (e.g. gender, youth) issues and how they interlink with the wider economic system (e.g. taxation), the social system (e.g. service provision), and the political system (e.g. Transparency, Accountability, and Governance (TAG) of elected officials)

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Legal Advocacy

Reforming and redressing the power imbalances in the debtor-creditor-citizen ecosystem requires there to be disruptive litigation to force legal policy and institutional reform. Exploring how the legal pathway can be used to:

- (i) Strengthen the voice of the public through the use of Public Interest Litigation on Debt matter
- (ii) Strengthen the legal and policy framework for debt contraction and management – Fair and Transparent Arbitration Mechanism
- (iii) Highlight the weaknesses in the existing debt contract.

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STOP THE BLEEDING
CURBING ILLICIT
FINANCIAL FLOWS
FROM AFRICA

“I freed a thousand slaves. I could have freed a thousand more if only they knew they were slaves.”

– Harriet Tubman



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How to Participate in the Campaign



<https://shorturl.at/4wJxf>

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Thank You

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