

Chapter 1 : Challenge of Change

manifestation of broader political instability and the challenge of creating happens in such societies is the naked confrontation of social forces in which.

Show more Social instability can have significant and often unpredictable consequences for businesses. Social instability in the form of strikes, demonstrations and other types of civil unrest can have far-reaching and often unpredictable consequences for business and society as a whole. The good news is that there are ways to assess and mitigate these risks that can leave companies in a better position to survive. Social instability is closely connected to other risks that rank high in the Global Risks report, such as unemployment, failure of national governance and fiscal crises. The Arab Spring began when an unemployed year-old Tunisian set himself on fire to protest his treatment by police. Spreading protests led to the fall of the Tunisian government and sparked similar action in a number of other Arab countries. Four long-lived regimes that had been considered stable were removed, while in Syria the protests escalated into a civil war that has claimed more than , lives and fueled the rise of the Islamic State movement. An analysis of the Arab Spring using the Zurich Risk Room, a tool that maps the connections between more than 80 risks in countries, identified a broad mix of contributing factors behind the widespread and contagious protests. These included economic disparity, high youth unemployment, brain drain, rising food prices, lack of access to loans, political volatility, crime, corruption, poor social safety net protection, expropriation and human-rights abuses. But it can say that a country is similar and needs to be monitored, because if certain risks get even worse, conditions might reach a tipping point and go from being unstable to protest to armed conflict or regime change. After falling in , food prices climbed again, and economic crisis gripped most of the world. Economic disparity is closely related to unemployment and underemployment. Global unemployment stood at 5. Youth unemployment is nearly three times higher than for older workers, even though the younger generation has attained higher levels of education. Social unrest surged in , after decliningâ€”along with unemploymentâ€”in the s and s, the ILO says. Is it income inequality? It has to do with rule of law, whether the constitution in a country is respected, whether there are strong institutions of horizontal accountability, independent courts, etc. Often, successful foreign investment begins with a community officer being assigned to work interactively with local communities as the project or operation develops. Companies also can work with governments to identify the skills and jobs needed, Mr. Radulovic says, so that funds for training and education are put to the best possible use. Corporations also need to focus on risk mitigation. They may want to transfer some of their risk via insurance, such as political risk policies that offer coverage for losses due to political violence, expropriation, currency inconvertibility or government default. Companies are also increasingly looking at the role their captive insurance can play in managing these risks. The credit losses coming out of the global financial crisis, and in the past few years the political risk insurance claims, have not only made risk managers more aware of the risk, but also of the value that insurance can bring. But there are measures firms can take to get ahead of the risk and be resilient when these types of events unfold.

Chapter 2 : Social issues in China - Wikipedia

financial instability in the s, makes incomes and living standards two-thirds higher in a generation. 2 Raising per capita incomes to this extent transforms a society's living standards, providing the resources to address critical social problems.

In the decades that followed independence, they worked to shape the cultural, political, and economic character of the postcolonial state. Some worked against the challenges of continued European cultural and political hegemony, while others worked with European powers in order to protect their interests and maintain control over economic and political resources. Decolonization, then, was a process as well as a historical period. Yet the nations and regions of Africa experienced it with varying degrees of success. By , formal European political control had given way to African self-rule“except in South Africa. Culturally and politically, however, the legacy of European dominance remained evident in the national borders, political infrastructures, education systems, national languages, economies, and trade networks of each nation. Ultimately, decolonization produced moments of inspiration and promise, yet failed to transform African economies and political structures to bring about true autonomy and development. The Year of Africa "Most of our weaknesses," declared Kenneth Kaunda, first president of Zambia, in a March speech, "derive from lack of finance, trained personnel, etc. We are left with no choice but to fall on either the east or west, or indeed, on both of them. When decolonization began, there were reasons for optimism. The year was heralded throughout Africa and the West as "the Year of Africa" for the inspiring change that swept the continent. During that year, the Sharpeville massacre in South Africa shook the world to awaken to the horrors of white minority rule as South African police fired into a crowd of peaceful black protesters, killing sixty-nine in full view of photographers and reporters. Also in , seventeen African territories gained independence from the strong arm of European colonial rule. Fully recognizing the potential for the remarkable change that African independence could bring to global politics, on February 3, , Harold Macmillan, prime minister of Great Britain from to , delivered his famous speech, "Wind of Change," to the South African parliament. The Cold War It was this fear of Soviet influence in Africa, particularly on the part of the United States, that created such a major problem for African nations. Western powers viewed African independence through the lens of the Cold War, which rendered African leaders as either pro-West or pro-East; there was little acceptable middle ground. The aim of my government which starts today is not to be pro-left or pro-right. We shall pursue the task of national building in friendship with the rest of the world. Nobody will ever be allowed to tell us, to tell me: We shall remain free and whoever wants friendship with us must be a real friend. Nonetheless, as Africans declared themselves nonaligned, pro-West, or Marxist sympathizers, Cold War politics deprived them of the freedom to truly shape their political paths. Although Western European powers granted aid to African nations, they also coerced governments to support their agendas and instigated and aided coups against democratically elected governments. They also fomented civil unrest to ensure that governments friendly to their Cold War agenda remained in power and those that were not were removed by political machinations or assassination. In the Congo, for example, Joseph Mobutu took a strong anti-communist position and was subsequently rewarded by Western powers. Neo Colonialism In the s, Frantz Fanon, the anti-colonial intellectual and psychoanalyst, among others, described neo-colonialism as the continued exploitation of the continent from outside and within, together with European political intervention during the post-independence years. One of the many questions that African leaders faced was whether continued economic and political interaction with former colonial powers threatened their autonomy and political viability. The ex- colonizers wanted to retain their former colonial territories within their sphere of influence. This continued relationship, Fanon argued, benefited African politicians and the small middle class but did not benefit the national majorities. The result was tension between the ruling classes and the majority population. In he wrote in *Toward the African Revolution*: Every new sovereign state finds itself practically under the obligation of maintaining definite and deferential relations with the former oppressor. This competitive strategy of Western nations, moreover, enters into the vaster framework of the policy of the two

blocs, which for ten years has held a definite menace of atomic disintegration suspended over the world. And it is surely not purely by chance that the hand or the eye of Moscow is discovered, in an almost stereotypical way, behind each demand for national independence, put forth by a colonial people. Foremost among these initiatives was the Bandung Conference, held in Bandung, Indonesia, from April 18 to 24, 1955. Representatives from twenty-nine Asian and African countries gathered to chart a course for neutrality in the Cold War conflict. The attendees agreed that to avoid being trapped within a Western or Soviet political orbit, developing nations must not rely on the industrialized powers for economic and political aid. Therefore, they vowed to work together by pooling their developmental and technological resources to establish an economic and political sphere, a third way, to counterbalance the West and the Soviet Union. However, it was a challenge for African nations to forge international links beyond words on paper: In addition, the senior administrators who ran the colonies under European rule, to be replaced by Africans with far less experience. Moreover, the political system that African leaders inherited was structured to benefit the evolving ruling classes with little regard for the needs of the people. Moreover, the failure to dismantle the internal political structures imposed by European colonial regimes allowed ethnic and regional-based political competition which acted as such a strong obstacle to national unity and progressive rule to remain at the core of local and national political structures. In addition, with few exceptions, European powers continued to dominate the economic affairs of the former colonies. Under European rule, people were forced to grow cash crops. This practice continued after independence, and the farmers remained vulnerable to the vagaries of the world market. A fall in world prices created political instability. This was the case in Ghana in the 1940s when the price of cocoa collapsed, and in Rwanda in the 1950s, when the price of coffee fell. Pan-Africanism and Socialism The most outstanding post-independence leaders were cognizant of the challenges of the Cold War and ongoing European economic and political influence and sought remedies to ensure the autonomy and development of their nations. Few pursued initiatives that transformed their nations into bastions of economic and political stability. Nonetheless, they worked steadfastly to dismantle the colonial political structures and replaced them with systems that reflected the history, culture, and needs of the people. In addition to launching a bold and expansive, if economically unviable, industrializing program, Kwame Nkrumah believed in the political and economic unification of the African continent. A federally unified state, he argued, would allow Africa to pool resources to rebuild the continent for the benefit of its people as opposed to multinational corporations. Divided we are weak; united, Africa could become one of the greatest forces for good in the world. There are debates about the forces behind the coup that overthrew him in February 1966, but there is strong evidence from the State Department Archives that the United States was interested in removing him from power and that they worked to manipulate the international cocoa price to fuel dissatisfaction with his regime. Julius Nyerere, first president of Tanzania from 1962 to 1992, argued for shifting the political paradigm away from the European models inherited from the colonial era and toward indigenous African forms. In particular, he advocated for African socialism, which more closely aligned with the communal practices of "traditional" African societies. In his Arusha Declaration, published in February 1967, Nyerere declared African socialism as the model for African development. Contrary to the Western model of economic development, Ujamaa socialism, and African socialism generally, emphasized collective responsibility and advancement in place of the individual: It is stupid to rely on money as the major instrument of development when we know only too well that our country is poor. It is equally stupid, indeed it is even more stupid, for us to imagine that we shall rid ourselves of our poverty through foreign financial assistance rather than our own financial resources From now on we shall stand upright and walk forward on our feet rather than look at this problem upside down. Industries will come and money will come, but their foundation is the people and their hard work, especially in agriculture. This is the meaning of self-reliance. Self-reliance and the freedom to aggressively pursue an autonomous global political position proved elusive in an era in which the West defined its friends by their perceived position within the Cold War divide. Unique among the overtly socialist leaders in Africa, Nyerere enjoyed political longevity and friendly relations with Western and Eastern Bloc nations. Tragedy in Congo In Congo, Patrice Lumumba, its first prime minister, also battled the forces of the Cold War but with more tragic consequences. On Independence Day, June 30, 1960, Lumumba delivered a speech in the presence of the king of

Belgium, denouncing the atrocities of colonial rule and declaring that Congo would establish an autonomous government and an economy for the people: We are going to keep watch over the lands of our country so that they truly profit her children. We are going to restore ancient laws and make new ones which will be just and noble And for all that, dear fellow countrymen, be sure that we will count not only on our enormous strength and immense riches but on the assistance of numerous foreign countries whose collaboration we will accept if it is offered freely and with no attempt to impose on us an alien culture of no matter what nature He served as prime minister for fewer than seven months before he was deposed and assassinated as part of a plot drawn up by the United States, Belgium, and their allies within the Congo. In Angola gained its independence from Portugal, and three nationalist groups subsequently fought for control of the government: In a meeting at the White House, U. The twenty-seven-year civil war caused so much destruction to the nation that UNICEF declared Angola the worst place in the world to be a child. Angola stands as a harsh illustration of the direct consequence of civil war, Cold War politics, and failures in African leadership. Between the early s and the mids, as African leaders south of the Sahara took direct control of their economies, political institutions, and resources, they entered the brutal trap of Cold War era global politics. More important, there was an acute failure of African leadership in many of the newly independent African nations as Western aid and a focus on anti-communism paved the way for political corruption and self-interest among African leaders. Decolonization, therefore, released Africans from their status as colonial subjects but failed to rid African nations of the sway of their former colonial rulers, other Western powers, and a culture of political and economic exploitation and corruption.

Chapter 3 : Family Instability - Causes And Consequences

The papers included in this Proceedings volume cover a very broad field of interest, and include topics such as social aspects of technology transfer, managing the introduction of technological change, ethical aspects, technology and environmental stability and anticipating secondary and tertiary effects of technological development.

While the many benefits of organized and efficient cities are well understood, we need to recognize that this rapid, often unplanned urbanization brings risks of profound social instability, risks to critical infrastructure, potential water crises and the potential for devastating spread of disease. These risks can only be further exacerbated as this unprecedented transition from rural to urban areas continues. How effectively these risks can be addressed will increasingly be determined by how well cities are governed. The increased concentration of people, physical assets, infrastructure and economic activities mean that the risks materializing at the city level will have far greater potential to disrupt society than ever before. Urbanization is by no means bad per se. It brings important benefits for economic, cultural and societal development. Well managed cities are both efficient and effective, enabling economies of scale and network effects while reducing the impact on climate of transportation. As such, an urban model can make economic activity more environmentally-friendly. Further, the proximity and diversity of people can spark innovation and create employment as exchanging ideas breeds new ideas. But these utopian concepts are threatened by some of the factors driving rapid urbanization. For example, one of the main factors is rural-urban migration, driven by the prospect of greater employment opportunities and the hope of a better life in cities. But rapidly increasing population density can create severe problems, especially if planning efforts are not sufficient to cope with the influx of new inhabitants. The result may, in extreme cases, be widespread poverty. The Global Risks Report looks at four areas that face particularly daunting challenges in the face of rapid and unplanned urbanization: In each of these areas we find new risks that can best be managed or, in some cases, transferred through the mechanism of insurance. Transportation infrastructure roads, railroad, airports, ports Electric power supply and distribution Water supply and sewage Communications infrastructure This underinvestment is particularly notable in the U. Infrastructure failure would have significant implications for property and business continuity for city authorities as well as local and central Government bodies. Insurers can help in these areas in terms of risk engineering advice on infrastructure maintenance and also appropriate levels of insurance property damage and business interruption coverage. As cities expand rapidly, there is a risk that infrastructure will not keep pace with their growth or the increased expectations of their populations. Action is urgently needed to close the infrastructure gap and reduce the potential for risks to have catastrophic cascading effects. The OECD estimates that governments will have to spend approximately USD 71 trillion by to provide adequate global infrastructure for electricity, road and rail transport, telecommunications, and water. This level of financing may not be achievable given that many governments are under tight budget constraints and that many developing countries allocate much of their national income to meeting the basic needs of their population. Consequently, cities are looking for public-private collaboration to involve the private sector in the design, construction and maintenance of infrastructure. In advanced economics, emergency medical care can be accessed within hours and advanced facilities for longer term treatments are readily accessible. However, when urbanization is rapid and unplanned, a combination of high population density, poverty and lack of infrastructure can have the opposite effect, fostering conditions for communicable diseases to flourish. It is striking that, today, almost million urban dwellers lack adequate sanitation. The economic impact of Ebola is enormous for the affected countries and neighboring states. One of the key aggravating factors to the Ebola crisis was the lack of a governance mechanism that would allow an effective link between what was being observed at the country and city levels and the alert mechanisms needed to trigger an emergency response. Climate Change Rapid, inadequate and poorly planned expansion of cities can also leave urban populations highly exposed to the effects of climate change. The migration from rural areas to cities is at least partially driven by the increasing prevalence of extreme weather; however cities tend to be located near the sea or natural waterways, where they are at more risk of flooding. Making cities more resilient to extreme weather

events should be a priority for both local governments and the private sector. The insurance industry has a lot to offer in terms of risk management advice, products and services. It provides an overview and key insights into the flooding. Ultimately, new migrants in cities are expected to create greater economic value than they would have in the countryside. This in turn has the potential to drive greater personal wealth and the desire to protect personal assets and income, offering another role for the insurance industry. However, even when cities are successful, the process of absorbing migrants into urban economies is not necessarily smooth. While moving to a city offers individuals more opportunities to improve their living conditions, the high cost of living and competition for livelihoods can also trap people in poverty. Rapid and unplanned urbanization can also quickly lead to urban violence and social unrest. Widening inequalities also tend to be more starkly visible in urban than rural areas. The combination of inequality, competition for scarce resources such as land, impunity from the law and weak city governance increases the risk of violence and potential breakdowns in law and order. Some cities in developing countries are already extremely dangerous, for example San Pedro Sula in Honduras suffered killings per , residents in Urbanization can also create connected and cascading effects. For example, high population density fuels property bubbles while a shortage of affordable housing contributes to social exclusion, with this combination threatening to destabilize the wider economy and increase social instability. Ultimately, urbanization creates opportunities but also exacerbates risks, and the speed at which it is happening challenges our capacity to plan and adapt. This is particularly true in developing economies. For rapid urbanization to provide opportunities to all, carefully considered urban planning and good governance with effective regulatory frameworks are required. The inability of governments to provide appropriate infrastructure and public services is at the core of many urban challenges in developing countries. What is more, as the world continues to urbanize, power will increasingly be concentrated in cities. This power – ranging from economic to social – not only makes cities the center of gravity, but offers greater scope to find practical solutions to the most pressing challenges. Indeed, many observers and organizations are now focusing on cities and the connections between them rather than directing their attention at the national level. The strength of city-level institutions in addition to national institutions – their capacity to be flexible, innovative and dynamic, and effectively involve multiple stakeholders in governance – will largely determine whether urbanization makes the world more resilient or more vulnerable in the face of global risks. As these risks are interconnected, a holistic view and approach is key to mitigating them. They can affect all of us in unpredictable ways, and they are your concern as well as ours. As with all risk management, the very first step is awareness – so it is necessary to highlight and discuss the challenge of interconnected risks on a broader level to ensure adequate levels of public awareness. Close contact between business, governments, communities, city councils, and academic institutions is essential in reaching effective solutions as this will foster an environment where innovative public private partnerships can develop. At Zurich, we see the big picture of interconnected risks and we collaborate with those who care about them. Download the full report: Views expressed on this page and in the reports are not necessarily those of the Zurich Insurance Group, which accepts no responsibility for them.

The Challenge of Stability and Security in West Africa (Africa Development Forum) - Kindle edition by Alexandre Marc, Neelam Verjee, Stephen Mogaka. Download it once and read it on your Kindle device, PC, phones or tablets.

The family can be described as the basic unit, since it embraces all forms of interaction between individuals. Apart from the importance of the family to the members of the society, it serves as a semi-originator or controller of the existing institution in the social system, because without people who make up the society, there will be no existing social institution. The family provides the individual with an identity, with a social status and with economic well-being. The other institutions have only slowly emerged from the family and have for a long time been dependent on the family. The family is universally regarded as the most sacred of the institutions and it is held so in the society. Similarly, Murdock postulated that such an institution is universally and functionally necessary because it performs those primary functions fundamental to human and social life. Without the sexual and reproductive functions of the family, society cannot continue to exist, and without the economic function, it will not be sustained and the lack of education will hinder the transfer of culture. Family instability has become a thing associated with the contemporary family institution. This however, is not to say that it had never once occurred in family situation of the past but that the rate at which it occurs in our present society is quite alarming. Little, posits that the rate of divorce in town depends on economic situation. This is common in our contemporary family institution than before. The problem of family instability can be traced to the rapid growth rate of urbanization and industrialization in Nigeria. The economy is growing and it requires a lot of manpower both skilled and unskilled. This has aroused every member of the family to become one way or the other involved in the economic growth of the nation. The involvement of women in wage carrying is a threat in the family solidarity; couples hardly find time to stay together for interaction purposes. Child care which should be the responsibility of the parents is now shifted to the school and house helps. There are also some social factors that affect the instability of the family. The idea of managing more than one wife might lead to an end of the family. The habits that either the wife or the husband is involved in extra marital affairs which is perpetuated by some men and some women might lead to an end of the family. The habits that either the wife or the husband is addicted to smoking or drinking also lead to family dissolution. Lack of trust in many families amongst the couples is wrecking marriages today. Peer influences also threatens the family solidarity if care is not taken by couples. Other factors such as education, illegitimate children, religion and infertility of the wife also initiate instability in the family. Children of separated parents often bears the consequences of family instability. The tension and hostility of unsolved conflict between parents often gets back to the child. There are so many boys and girls and even adults roaming about the streets, many are delinquents, vandals and touts while some are mutually disturbed because of family instability. Though a lot of people are still contracting marriages in Umuowa but there exist a lot of single parents which is a product of family instability. The problem of family instability is compounding due to lack of support from local government authorities for both marriages and children from dissolved homes. The motivation for this study, stems from the ways and manner in which family instability has threatened the existence of the social structure as a whole. So many people see family instability as a villain at the root of our social problem, especially juvenile delinquency which eventually lead to criminal acts. The institution of marriage is virtually universal in human societies. These institutions contribute immensely in holding people together to cooperate with each other and with other relations in the maintenance of household. The family is supposed to produce children and security to maintain procreation. Ideally, marriage is meant to be permanent but we know that marriage in societies including Nigeria is becoming increasingly fragile and unstable. This research work is concerned with the mounting rate of family instability and its consequences. The causes of family instability depends on the type of family each spouse is born into, in this case negative family pressures might quicken the breakdown of the family. The ethnic barrier might also make the parents call for an end to the relationship of the family. It should be understood that these factors are common in Nigeria because of its multi-ethnic composition. Since we have different ethnic groups,

people from Eastern region found it difficult to propose marriage to people from Northern Nigeria or West. This kind of marriage when proposed could be terminated by both parents because of distance, differences in language and dressing code. Another cause of family instability is interference of extended family. Stole, said that marriage is an exclusive association of two people, and that if the men and women who marry do not disengage themselves from their parents, they will invariably fall into divorce. Low income places strain on marriage especially on the husband, failure to live up to expected role lead to family instability. A husband who cannot provide for the need of the family financial responsibility might make his wife to engage in a promiscuous act. The aim of marriage is procreation and without it, marriage is incomplete. Therefore childless marriage are bound to experience conflict and family instability. Any marriage without child lead to family instability. Click, stated that the age of marriage is an important factor when considering marriage instability. He believed that people who get married in early age are emotionally immature and not in position to assume the responsibilities of the family. This may lead them to indulge in prostitution, armed robbery e. May, said that many delinquent acts, could be traced to broken homes. He said that many types of deviant behaviour are linked to disruption of good moral upbringing of the parents. Divorce could inflict frustration on children and render them useless in life. The result of this factor leads to children becoming nuisance to the society if action is not taken to integrate them into the family. Does addiction to alcohol of both couples lead to instability of the family? Is the failure of married couples to bear children a reason for marital disharmony? Is polygamy a reason for family instability? Do extra marital affair of the couples lead to marital instability? Is it true that parental influence on the couples lead to family instability? To throw more light on the possible effects family instability has on the entire social structure. To highlight the best ways to avoid family disharmony. It is also to make probable recommendations on issues of family instability based on the outcome of the research. These objectives will be pursued with the help of field data and the literature review. It is in the light of these that the study will sought to find out facts about family instability. Part of the needs that couples seek to fulfil in marriage include the following: The needs for companionship and intimacy, the need for security, emotional security, financial security, recognition and acceptance of the society among others. Marriage is successful to the extent to which the husband and wife are mutually satisfied and both are able to fulfil their needs according to expectations. The unsuccessful marriage or unstable families are the ones in which the needs and expectations of the marriage are not met, which resultantly lead to family instability. In this study, different categories of people will be benefited which include academia, government, individuals e. For academic purposes, it will serve as literature review for students and researchers that want to further on this topic. This study will also enable government to embark on programmes and also take adequate steps that will help in eliminating family instability. Finally, it will help individuals to handle and take care of their families even when they are finding it difficult, since understanding is the best solution to problems. Cases of Childlessness might possibly lead to family instability. Cases of extra marital affairs lead to family instability. It is the same as family instability. It means when there is peace in the home. This is when either the father or the mother solely caters for the upbringing and well-being of the children. This is a home of a married couple with or without children. The nature of the occupation and the social economic status of the people in relation to the existing family structure has changed as a result of the awareness created by the influx of travellers from major cities like Owerri, Aba, Onitsha. Many people now turn to security men in the banks, gardeners, cleaners to the industries available. Trading became one of the major occupation of Umuowa to provide services for the migrants and for the increasing population of the Umuowa community. Umuowa people practice monogamous system of marriage because of the predominance of the Christian religion marriage institution previously facilitated marriage stability and it has impact in maximisation of street or village gangsters among youths, for instance before a marriage is ever contracted, enquiries are made to both family background. Civilisation disrupted traditional social pursuits by extending interest of people. The social conditions in which children and people operate to a larger extent determines their behaviour. Regular attendance to movies and reading comic books are proven to be highly associated with street or village gangs among youths. We also practice new yam festival and Okonko festival which are our main cultural trait. In a study on causes of divorce or separation in contemporary West Africa societies, Oke discovered that infertility

and battery is a ground for divorce. But to Wells , adultery does not really lead to family instability, in that, it is rarely used as a legal ground for divorce, and indicate that adultery is involved in less than 20 percent of broken homes. Further studies carried out by Wells , indicated that adultery is more often the symptom of a sick marriage or even an indication that a marriage has already gone through the process of disintegration. Shindi , in a study said paternal and maternal losses are on the increase worldwide. In the United States of America, for example, approximately 12 percent of the families are single parents. With the findings of Shindi, it does not mean that parental loss only implies the death of a parent. Coleman , in his contribution explains that the high rate of divorce is not because people make foolish choice during their marriage, but because they allow issues that do not really matter to be their binding factor, and consequently any of the party could desert the other unceremoniously. Stole , explained that marriage is an exclusive association of two people and that if the men and women who marry do not disengage themselves from their parents, and friends, they will invariably fall into divorce. He further warned of the interference of relatives which he said lead to divorce. He is of the opinion that couples must finance their marriage and try to achieve independence as much as possible. Little , discovered that the rate of divorce in towns depends on economic situation. He asserted that this act by the rich traders has resulted in widespread divorce. In his own contribution, Hart , said that the factors which must be considered in the explanation of marital breakdown are those which affect the degree of conflict between the husband and wife, those that affect the value attached to the marriage and those that affect the opportunity of the individual to run away from the marriage.

Chapter 5 : social instability - definition - English

Such alterations in the environment of the low forest countries bring them devastating socio-economic impacts, loss of productivity, and increased food insecurity as well as the displacement of populations, social instability, social unrest and conflict, among others.

For centuries, historians have argued about the start, specific crises involved, and end date for the Crisis of the Roman Republic. As a culture or "web of institutions" , Florence Dupont and Christopher Woodall wrote, "no distinction is made between different periods. Flower and Jurgen Von Ungern-Sternberg argue for an exact start date of 10 December BC, with the inauguration of Tiberius Gracchus as tribune , [7] or alternately, when he first issued his proposal for land reform in BC. This was the beginning of civil bloodshed and of the free reign of swords in the city of Rome. From then on justice was overthrown by force and the strongest was preeminent. Flower [10] In any case, the assassination of Tiberius Gracchus in BC marked "a turning point in Roman history and the beginning of the crisis of the Roman Republic. Spaeth specifically refers to "the Gracchan crisis at the beginning of the Late Roman Republic The rebellion of the slaves in Italy under Spartacus may have been the best organized, but it was not the first of its kind. There had been other rebellions of slaves that afflicted Rome, and we may assume that Spartacus was wise enough to profit by their mistakes. The Last Years of the Roman Republic. You can help by adding to it. August Tiberius Gracchus took office as a tribune of the plebs in late BC while "everything in the Roman Republic seemed to be in fine working order. At the same time, Roman society was a highly stratified class system whose divisions were bubbling below the surface. This system consisted of noble families of the senatorial rank, the knight or equestrian class, citizens grouped into two or three classes depending on the time period - self-governing allies of Rome, landowners, and plebs or tenant freemen , non-citizens who lived outside of southwestern Italy, and at the bottom, slaves. By law, only men who were citizens could vote in certain assemblies, and only those men who owned a certain amount of real property could serve in the military, which would gain them social prestige and additional benefits of citizenship. He bypassed the Roman senate and used the plebeian assembly to pass a law limiting the amount of land belonging to the state that any individual could farm. It was widely believed that the rich Senators had bribed Octavius to veto the proposal. Gracchus pushed the assembly to impeach and remove Octavius; the Senate denied funds to the commission needed for land reform; Gracchus then tried to use money out of a trust fund left by Attalus III of Pergamum; and the Senate blocked that, too. Tiberius Gracchus had transgressed the laws that protected the equilibrium of the social and political order, the laws on the tribunician sacrosanctitas and attempted tyranny, and hence was subject to the punishment they prescribed, consecration of his goods and person [to Ceres]. Spaeth, The Roman goddess Ceres, p. In addition to settling the poor in colonies on land conquered by Rome, he passed the lex frumentaria , which gave the poor the right to buy grain at subsidized prices. August A Roman denarius depicting Sulla The next major reformer of the time was Gaius Marius , who like the Gracchi, was a populist. Yet we should not lose sight of the fact that Marius was not the first to enrol the capite censi. Rome was ruled by an aristocratic oligarchy embedded in the Senate. Thus at times of extreme crisis in the past the Senate had impressed them, along with convicts and slaves, for service as legionaries. The Senate ordered Marius to put down Saturninus and his supporters, who had taken defensive positions on the Capitol. Marius proceeded to do this, but imprisoned Saturninus inside the Curia Hostilia , intending it seems to keep him alive. However, a senatorial mob lynched the tribune regardless, by climbing atop the Senate House and throwing dislodged roof tiles down onto Saturninus and his supporters below. In 88, the senate awarded Sulla the lucrative and powerful post of commander in the war against Mithridates over Marius. However, Marius managed to secure the position anyway, through political deal-making with Publius Sulpicius Rufus. Sulla initially went along, but finding support among his troops, seized power in Rome and marched to Asia Minor with his soldiers anyway. There, he fought a largely successful military campaign and was not persecuted by the senate. He instituted a populist regime, but died soon after. When Sulla heard of this, he ceased negotiations with Rome and openly rebelled in Invading the peninsula, he was joined by many aristocrats including Crassus and Pompey and defeated all major opposition

within a year. He began a dictatorship and purged the state of many populists through proscription. He reversed the reforms of the Gracchi and other populists, stripped the tribunes of the people of much of their power and returned authority over the courts to the senators.

Chapter 6 : The Challenge of Stability and Security in West Africa

The papers in this Proceedings offer insights into ways to mitigate the unwanted side-effects of rapid development, and methodologies for appropriate ways of managing the introduction of technologies which will alter social stability.

The Risks of Rapid and Unplanned Urbanization in Developing Countries The world is experiencing a historically unprecedented transition from predominantly rural to urban living. The proximity and diversity of people can spark innovation and create employment as exchanging ideas breeds new ideas. The diversity of cities can also inculcate social tolerance and provide opportunities for civic engagement. One of the main factors driving rapid urbanization in emerging economies is rural-urban migration motivated by the prospect of greater employment opportunities and the hope of a better life in cities. Indeed, when a certain critical mass of population is reached, it is economically viable to deliver many infrastructure projects, such as public transportation. However, a higher population density also creates negative externalities, especially when urbanization is rapid, poorly-planned and occurs in a context of widespread poverty. In addition, cities are points of convergence of many risks, which make them particularly vulnerable to chain reactions and amplify the interconnection between global risks. Better knowledge of how such risks interconnect in their materialization at the city level is the first step towards helping cities build resilience. Three regions – South Asia, East Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean – have identified this risk as among those for which they are the least prepared Figure 1. Indeed, the availability and quality of infrastructure are at the core of many of the challenges faced by rapidly urbanizing cities in developing countries, which are developed further in this section of the report. As cities in developing countries are expanding rapidly, it is likely that infrastructure will not be able to keep pace with their growth nor the increased expectations of their populations. Action to close the infrastructure gap is urgently needed and will strongly influence the potential of risks to have catastrophic cascading effects. Where will the money come from? Most governments are under tight budget constraints and many developing countries already spend a large proportion of their national income to meet the basic needs of their population. However, to promote successful public-private collaboration, corruption must be tackled, as it is a traditional problem in construction projects and dissuades investors. In addition, the key enablers of public-private collaboration at the city level include factors such as transparency in such matters as partner selection and contract execution and the availability of accurate data to allow risk assessments. Public-private collaboration is a way for cities to identify where cooperation can address problems that neither municipalities nor the private sector can solve alone for example in advanced telecommunications infrastructure and both will have a major role to play. Much discussion revolves around the potential for technology to increase the efficiency with which urban infrastructure can be managed. The use of big data, the Internet of Things and ubiquitous smartphones promise to revolutionize aspects of city management, from keeping traffic flowing to reducing electricity outages, tackling crime and preparing for emergencies. Developing countries have the opportunity to leapfrog by avoiding the mistakes made by more advanced countries and applying the lessons learned from the development of smart city infrastructure. Indeed, if technology developed for smart cities does not embrace universal design to ensure use by all including the disabled and the elderly, its benefits could be controversial. **Cities and Health** In most countries, the health of city dwellers has improved through better access to education and healthcare, better living conditions and targeted public-health interventions. Hitting rock bottom due to a public health disaster in , it introduced measures to drastically raise hygienic standards, making it one of the cleanest cities in India today. Almost million urban dwellers currently lack adequate sanitation. In addition to communicable diseases, rapid and unplanned urbanization is a key driver in the increased prevalence of non-communicable diseases NCDs and their key risk factors, such as unhealthy diets, physical inactivity, tobacco consumption, harmful use of alcohol and pollution. These diseases affect high-, middle- and low-income countries. Addressing non-communicable diseases will require efforts to tackle the causes of air pollution, which is estimated to have caused 7 million deaths in **Cities and Climate Change** In many developing countries, migration from rural areas to cities is at least partially driven by the increasing prevalence of extreme weather, such as land

degradation and desertification, making agriculture more difficult. For example, many people are migrating from dry land areas in north-east Brazil to favelas in Rio de Janeiro. For example, cities tend to be located near the sea or natural waterways, where they are more at risk of flooding. The effects of shortfalls are likely to be felt mostly by the poor, whose informal settlements tend to be on land at especially high risk from extreme weather. Cities not only need to adapt to climate change, they also have a major role to play in mitigating its impact. While established cities with efficient mass transit systems have relatively low carbon footprints, the early phases of urbanization tend to generate massive greenhouse gas emissions as the construction of infrastructure uses concrete and metals that are carbon-intensive to manufacture. With adequate land-use planning and in coordination with the private sector, cities can develop infrastructure in more sustainable, low-carbon ways – but this requires governance, technical, financial and institutional capacities that are often lacking in developing countries. In addition, most future growth will be generated by mid-sized cities and not by megacities, as is commonly believed. However, even when cities are successful, the process of absorbing migrants into urban economies is not necessarily smooth. While moving to a city offers individuals more opportunities to improve their living conditions, the high cost of living and competition for livelihoods can also trap people in poverty. It is the rapid and unplanned nature of urbanization, rather than urbanization itself, that is linked by many researchers to such risks as urban violence and social unrest. Widening inequalities also tend to be more starkly visible in urban than rural areas, with the most wealthy areas of cities often neighbouring quickly-expanding slums. The combination of inequality, competition over scarce resources such as land, impunity from the law and weak city governance increases the risk of violence and potential breakdowns in law and order. Some cities in developing countries are already extremely dangerous, such as for example San Pedro Sula in Honduras, with killings per , residents in The shortage of affordable housing not only contributes to social exclusion, it can also threaten to destabilize the wider economy if the housing price increase fuels property bubbles. Making housing more accessible, affordable and adequate for urban dwellers is therefore of critical importance. A wide portfolio of policies, from limiting excessive credit to optimizing land use and development activity in cities, is crucial to mitigate these risks and equitably distribute the benefits of urban growth. The Importance of City Governance Urbanization creates opportunities but also exacerbates risks, and the speed at which it is happening challenges our capacity to plan and adapt. This is particularly true in developing economies. For rapid urbanization to provide opportunities to all, carefully considered urban planning and good governance with effective regulatory frameworks are required. However, governments of rapidly-growing cities often have little time for adjustment and learning. As a consequence, inadequate planning and ineffective governance can bring significant economic, social and environmental costs, threatening the sustainability of urban development. The inability of governments to provide appropriate infrastructure and public services is at the core of many urban challenges in developing countries, which range from the incapacity to contain infectious disease to the challenges of building climate-resilient cities. At the same time, these challenges have worsened due to the rapid and chaotic development of cities. City leaders from government, civil society and the private sector are ideally positioned to plan rapid urbanization and must act to sustain metropolitan growth. What is more, as the world continues to urbanize, power will increasingly be concentrated in cities. Indeed, many observers and organizations are now focusing on cities and the connections between them rather than directing their attention at the national level. The strength of city-level institutions in addition to national institutions – their capacity to be flexible, innovative and dynamic, and effectively involve multiple stakeholders in governance – will largely determine whether urbanization makes the world more resilient or more vulnerable in the face of global risks. Life in the city – how smart is smart? Like industry, cities are increasingly investing in information technology-based systems to address the challenges of managing large enterprises and enabling service innovations. While these investments often deliver rapid improvements in efficiency and operational continuity, they also create unexpected new risks: The growing amount of software used to manage urban infrastructure increases the likelihood of coding errors that can cause catastrophic failures, especially in highly-centralized control systems. Smart city systems also rely on many underlying technology platforms that are surprisingly brittle. For example, the Global Positioning System GPS is not only relied on for navigation

services but also serves an irreplaceable time synchronization function. Likewise, thousands of smart city apps and websites rely for their core computational capability on the cloud computing infrastructure of companies such as Amazon, which have experienced several major outages in recent years. The brittleness of mobile cellular networks presents a special challenge to resilience for large cities. Unlike the Internet – which, at least in theory, possesses significant resilience through its multiple, redundant linkages – cellular networks have several choke points. Cell sites themselves can be damaged physically. The most dangerous failure mode for cellular networks is due to congestion – during crises, panic dialling frequently overwhelms the carefully-managed wireless spectrum these networks depend on. All levels of government will need to be more assertive in auditing and stress-testing vital digital infrastructures. The sudden and unexpected failure of these systems during crises has crippling knock-on effects across official and civilian response and relief efforts. Even during peacetime, the economic and social effects of bugs and brittleness can be devastating, with potential for long-lasting impacts. Assessments must go beyond cybersecurity, as the risks are not just about external threats but also about the fundamentally unstable dynamics of digital infrastructures and the complex, chaotic and unpredictable ways they can interact with civic, social and economic systems. Health in cities – robust plans are needed to face the threat of pandemics. Dense urban living facilitates the spread of infectious diseases. Particular vulnerabilities exist in countries where rapid urbanization results in informal settlements that make it difficult to control transmission and can therefore increase the risks of mosquito-transmitted epidemics, such as malaria, tuberculosis, dengue and yellow fever. Various examples highlight the impact of urbanization on pandemics. In , Mexico City shut down schools, libraries, museums and nightclubs to halt the spread of H1N1 flu. The presumed introduction of the virus to the informal settlements of Kenema and Freetown in Sierra Leone has undoubtedly augmented its spread. Looking into the future for an adequate response across geographies, the existence of such a governance mechanism would: The ability to mobilize a response from sectors as diverse as food production, telecommunications and corporate supply chains will determine how epidemics are fought in the future. Local, national and cross-border government agencies need to build bridges with all stakeholders and learn from what worked in the past to shape systems with the capacity to respond to pandemics and build the resilience to bounce back afterwards. Coordinating responses and developing global governance mechanisms are critical to contain future outbreaks, which will inevitably occur.

Chapter 7 : Global Risks - Reports - World Economic Forum

Social instability can have significant and often unpredictable consequences for businesses. Social instability in the form of strikes, demonstrations and other types of civil unrest can have far-reaching and often unpredictable consequences for business and society as a whole. The effect on firms.

Chapter 8 : Crisis of the Roman Republic - Wikipedia

Political instability in Africa may owe much of its cause to internal factors, however the interpenetration of internal and external factors especially geo-political and economic interests of the international community constantly play a significant role in undermining the very processes.

Chapter 9 : The Challenge of Decolonization in Africa

The crisis of the Roman Republic refers to an extended period of political instability and social unrest that culminated in the demise of the Roman Republic and the advent of the Roman Empire, from about BC to 44 BC.