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BUILDING ACCRA
Stories of Development from a West African City

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Fig. 1: Atlantic Ring of Fire

Yahya Jammeh, Gambia's delusional semi-literate leader (who has been in charge for 16 years) claims to have found the cure for AIDS and claims he has mystical powers that will turn Gambia into an oil-producing nation.

Senegal – Being one of the more stable and prosperous democracies in the sub-region has not saved Senegal from the clutches of octogenarian president, Abdoulaye Wade who continues to amend the constitution to maintain a grip of power.

Mali – After military dictatorship ended in 1991, civilian rule was restored, enabling its emergence as one of the strongest democracies on the continent.

Burkina Faso - Blaise Campore came to power after murdering his predecessor in a coup in 1987.

Niger - In February 2010, a military coup deposed democratically elected president, Mamadou Tandja who had previously spearheaded a constitutional amendment that would allow him to extend his term as president.

In a parallel universe, Nigeria should be the envy most countries in the world. Blessed with bountiful natural resources, arable land, huge captive market, highly educated and industrious human capital, Nigeria's future has been stolen by a corrupt establishment hell bent not just on stealing a billion dollars here and there, but carting the entire treasury – light bulbs and all.

Since independence in 1974, Guinea-Bissau has experienced considerable political and military upheaval. Former military leader, João Veia's term as president ended with his assassination in 2009.

2010 marked the first time Guinea had free and fair elections since independence.

Sierra Leone - civil war that raged from 1991 to 2002 has resulted in tens of thousands of deaths and the displacement of more than 2 million people (about a third of the population).

Liberia - has been torn apart by military dictatorship and civil strife since Samuel Doe seized power in 1980.

Ivory Coast: once hailed as an 'economic miracle', and an island of political stability, the one-time 'prosperous' West African state has descended into chaos since a military junta seized power in a coup in 1999.

Togo has been hijacked by the Eyadema clan since 1967.

Benin has been an island of stability since it became the first successful transfer of power in Africa from a dictatorship to a democracy in 1991.

Sources: CIA factbook; Defeating Dictators (Ayittey)
AIRPORT CITY
METHODOLOGY

Qualitative – Inductive Approach

Interviews                      Photographs
METHODOLOGY

Qualitative – Inductive Approach

Interviews

Photographs

Literature

Architectural Drawing
METHODOLOGY

Qualitative – Inductive Approach

- Interviews
  - Literature
    - Dynamics
  - Photographs
    - Architectural Drawing
    - Forms
DYNAMICS

Planning

Real Estate Development

Architecture

Construction
PLANNING
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT
ARCHITECTURE
CONSTRUCTION
Thank you