

# **Debt Policy, Budgetary and Financial Management Systems and Public Debt Accumulation in Africa**

## **Abstract**

The phenomenon of unsustainable public debt among African countries in recent years has kindled significant interest among policymakers, researchers, and governments in prudent financial and debt management strategies. This study therefore seeks to find out how cross-country effective public debt policy and the quality of budgetary and financial management systems influence the accumulation of public debt among African countries. The generalized method of moments estimation technique was deployed. The study depended on secondary annual data spanning from 2005 to 2022 for 36 countries in Africa. The study found that improvement in the CPIA debt policy rating index will reduce public debt percentage of GDP among African countries. Also, improvement in the CPIA quality of budgetary and financial management rating index will reduce public debt percentage of GDP among African countries. The study recommends that African states comprehensively institutionalise public debt management frameworks, and adequately implement these frameworks to the latter. Governments are also urged to adopt a designated public debt management law to provide a clear framework for strategic debt management.