Managing Security Resources in Africa

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A TERNARY GRAPH IS A USEFUL TOOL FOR SIMPLIFYING BUDGETS IN THREE AREAS.
HOW DOES IT WORK?

DIVIDE ANYTHING INTO THREE AREAS. TO START, LET’S CONSIDER HOW WE SPEND OUR 24 HOUR DAYS:

- SLEEPING
- WORKING
- LEISURE
YOU CAN DIVIDE YOUR DAY HOWEVER YOU LIKE, BUT EVERY POSSIBLE BUDGET OF TIME MUST FALL IN THE TRIANGLE. YOU ONLY HAVE 24 HOURS IN THE DAY!

POINTS:
• A: 100% sleep
• B: 100% work
• C: 100% leisure
• D: EVEN SPLIT (1/3 each)
• E: 70% work, 20% sleep, 10% leisure
• F: 7 hours of sleep, 4 hours of work, 13 hours of leisure
THE TERNARY GRAPH SHOWS THAT CHANGES IN THE BUDGET HAPPEN IN ONE OF TWO WAYS:

1) BY REDUCING OTHER AREAS...

Example:

TO GET MORE LEISURE, WE MUST HAVE LESS:

SLEEP AND/OR WORK
2) INCREASING THE BUDGET

IF WE COULD JUST MAKE THE DAY 25 HOURS LONG... WE COULD HAVE MORE LEISURE WITH THE SAME AMOUNT OF SLEEP AND WORK!

THIS IS THE CRUX OF EVERY BUDGET CHALLENGE – IF YOU CANNOT GROW THE BUDGET YOU MUST TRADE OFF INSIDE THE BUDGET.
EXERCISE: USE THE TERNARY GRAPH TO DEMONSTRATE THE TRADE-OFFS BETWEEN SECURITY EXPENDITURES AND OTHER FORMS OF GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES.
FIRST, CONSIDER ALL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES IN THREE TYPES:
• SECURITY EXPENDITURE
• HEALTH AND EDUCATION EXPENDITURE
• OTHER GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE

REVIEW:
• A: 100% Health and Education
• B: 100% Security
• C: 100% Other Government Spending
• D: EVEN SPLIT (1/3 each)
• E: 70% Security, 20% Health/Education, 10% Other
• F: 40% Health and Education, 10% Security, 50% Other Government Spending
Question 1: What do you think the ternary graph looks like for your country?

Question 2: What is “the right budget” for your country?

TIME PERMITTING, USE AN ADDITIONAL WORKSHEET:

Question 3: What do other relevant comparator countries look like?
SECURITY

OTHER GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE

HEALTH AND EDUCATION

Mauritania

Algeria

Morocco

Tunisia