Why is it so difficult for development and aid to positively influence the economic conditions that African peoples face?

1. Too much of the funding goes towards overhead—into running projects (ex-pat salaries, vehicles, conference & workshop funding, housing) rather than into the hands of African people
2. There are too many different NGOs with different and sometimes conflicting agendas. They need to be more coordinated
3. The desires and needs of the people are ignored in favor of the donors’ agendas (environmentalism is a key driving force within the world of international development)
4. Cross-cultural communication on complex issues is difficult
5. There is not adequate information on the lifestyles, lifelihoods, and economic realities off African people, and development agendas are often built on myths and stereotypes
6. A dependency relationship often develops that prevents African peoples from independently taking charge of their own projects and initiatives; poverty leads to a self-perpetuating cycle