Annotated Bibliography for the Scoping study

“Improving the perspective for regional trade and investment in West-Africa: the key to food security, economic development and stability in the region?”

Commissioned by the Food & Business Knowledge Platform / initiated by The Netherlands’ Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Edith de Roos, Ursula Oberst, Ton Dietz
African Studies Centre Leiden

Leiden, July 2016
Table of Contents

Introduction .......................................................... 3
I General, informative studies ........................................... 4
II History, governance, and policies .................................. 7
   IIA Studies about the history of West African integration .... 7
   IIB Studies about Legal and Governance aspects of West African regional integration .................. 16
   IIC Policy options, foreign (donor) support, and comparative Studies ........................................... 23
III. Economics of regional integration ................................ 28
   IIIA Studies about trade and actual analysis of trade statistics in the ECOWAS region, and about the economics and political economy of regional integration in West Africa. Including methodological studies. .................. 28
   IIIB Investment analyses and Monetary issues .................... 35
IV. Geography and sociology ........................................... 44
   IVA Migration & Remittances ........................................ 44
   IVB Geography and physical infrastructure ....................... 46
   IVC Reality of Cross-border Relations, and Borderland studies ...................................................... 49
   IVD Sociology of Cross-border Linkages and Gender Dimensions ..................................................... 58
V Cross-border Food Trade, and Food & Nutrition Security .... 63
   VA Food Trade .......................................................... 63
   VB Regional trade in Specific products ............................ 69
   VC Regional trade and food and nutrition security ................ 75
Introduction

The Library, Documentation and Information Department of the African Studies Centre has compiled this bibliography as part of the scoping study on regional trade and integration in West Africa commissioned by The Netherlands’ Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It contains a selection of 354 titles from the library's catalogue, the catalogue of Leiden University, illisAfrica, RePEc, Connecting-Africa and Google Scholar. The bibliography includes monographs, articles, reports, conference proceedings and chapters from edited works, published since 2000 (with abstracts if available).

The relevant keywords were selected from the African Studies Thesaurus. The searches included synonyms and narrower terms.

Most of the titles were retrieved in December 2015. The bibliography also contains a number of publications suggested by the five Dutch embassies in West Africa, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Centre for Development Policy Management, LEI-WUR, and TradeMark East Africa. We thank the staff of these institutions for their contributions.

This version contains abstracts where available.

All titles with specific information about the countries in the western, central and eastern trade corridor are indicated with colours.

Yellow for the western corridor (Senegal-Mali-Southwestern countries),
green for the central corridor (Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Burkina Faso, sometimes also Mali and Benin), and
blue for the eastern corridor (Benin-Niger-Nigeria).

---

1 http://opc-ascl.oclc.org:1080/DB=3/LNG=EN/
2 https://catalogue.leidenuniv.nl
3 http://www.ilissafrika.de/
4 https://ideas.repec.org/
5 http://www.connecting-africa.net/
6 http://scholar.google.nl/
7 http://thesaurus.ascleiden.nl/
8 Subject terms: economic integration (UF regional integration); international economic relations, regional economic relations, illicit trade, trade (plus NTs such as agricultural trade); development cooperation (UF development aid, development assistance) +Netherlands; foreign investments; informal sector (informal trade, informal market)
I General, informative studies

Here we present the country chapters of the most recent Africa Yearbook (published in Leiden) and of the Economist Intelligence Unit (published in London). These contain useful information about regional policies and cross-border developments. The Africa Yearbook started in 2003, and each country chapter (as well as the chapter for West Africa as a whole) has a section about ‘foreign affairs’, and ‘socio-economic developments’. Together these are thirty titles, all in English. We all present some useful webresources.


**Major Web resources**

**Countryportal:** [http://countryportal.ascleiden.nl](http://countryportal.ascleiden.nl)

Includes truck drivers guides, road governance reports, corridor reports etc.


**The Observatory of Economic Complexity:** [http://atlas.media.mit.edu/en/](http://atlas.media.mit.edu/en/)

**OECD Trade and other statistics:** [https://stats.oecd.org/](https://stats.oecd.org/)

**USAID Famine Early Warning System Network:** [http://www.fews.net/](http://www.fews.net/)

II History, governance, and policies

IIA Studies about the history of West African integration

Publications focus on the historical process of the start (in 1976) and evolvement of ECOWAS/CEDEAO, and about the development of ideas about West African regional integration as a tool for economic and regional development. It looks at the dynamics of trade liberalization, and about the differences between the UEMOA block and the larger region, bridging the French/English/Portuguese divide. It puts the trade and investment agenda in a larger framework of external relations in general, and discusses the levels of integration: West Africa, Africa and global. It does so acknowledging the dominant position of Nigeria, but also the influence of South Africa. And some publications look at the global shifts, with Africa partly looking East. There is a series of publications (produced by the French publishing company Karthala, following an initiative by UNESCO in Paris) about the nation states and the challenges of regional integration, with fifteen country cases. And some publications deal with the crisis of the state and regionalism, and with issues like identity, citizenship and conflict.

The agencies behind these 37 publications are diverse:

Global agencies: UNESCO in Paris, OECD in Paris, the UNU Institute on Compararitve Regional Integration Studies, based in Bruges, Belgium,

Agencies in Africa: UNECA in Addis Ababa, CODESRIA in Dakar, the UMEOA Commission, based in Ouagadougou, ENDA in Dakar, the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution in Monrovia, two think tanks based in Praia, Cape Verde (ISCJS and FAC), and the Development Policy Management Forum in Nairobi.

Agencies in Europe (ZEI: the Zentrum für Europäische Integrationsforschung in Bonn, FERDI: a French thinktank on development, VADEA: the Varazdin Development and Entrepreneurship Agency in Croatia, organiser of the International Conferences on Economic and Social Development),

Agencies in North America and Asia (the National Bureau of Economic Research, a thinktank in the USA, the Backgrounder Journal, based in Washington DC, the Observer Research Foundation in New Delhi).

Academic Journals: the African Development Review, the Journal of African Development, the Africa Review, and Afrika Spektrum; but also the European Review of Agricultural Economics.

Academic publishers: Ashgate in the UK, Karthala and l’Harmattan in Paris, the Mendel University Publishers in Brno, and the EUE in Saarbrücken.


Regional economic communities: exploring the process of socio-economic

Regional integration in West Africa: the evolution of ECOWAS / A. Gupta. - New Delhi: Observer Research Foundation, 2015. The integration of West African states into the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) was largely influenced by the processes of integration in Western Europe, Latin America, and elsewhere in Africa. The rationale was both political and economic: to promote the unity of states and their faster economic development. The process of economic integration is also a political process because of two main reasons: first, it requires the surrender of major national economic instruments to a supranational authority and second, it calls for governments of member states to implement subregional policies. At the same time, many West African countries wanted to ensure their political independence. It is important for developing economies like India to understand other developing economies and strengthen ties with them. This paper examines West African regional integration, initiatives and challenges. It discusses the need to develop infrastructure in the region to accelerate economic growth and explores the structure of ECOWAS as well as the steps it has taken to achieve its goals.

Regionalism as a tool for promoting economic and regional development: a case study of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) / J.K. Porter & B.Z. Osci-Hwedie. 10th International Scientific Conference on Economic and Social Development – Miami, 25th September 2015, 2015. Regionalism, whether from the perspective of developmental regionalism or new regionalism, in the current discourse of the global economy is frequently associated with development. The common thread of development is pervasive within the different schemes of regionalism; be it EU, APEC, NAFTA, MERCOSUR or ECOWAS. Concerning economic and regional development, regionalism as an ideology is increasingly linked with, expanded markets, trade, comparative advantage and specialization, economies of scale, industrialization, increased competition and productivity. As with many other regional groupings, regionalism in West African was crystallized in 1975 by ECOWAS to facilitate economic development to improve the living standards of people in the region through trade, harmonization of policies and self-reliance. The original ECOWAS treaty was revised in 1993 to include among other things the importance of good governance, rule of law, food security, peace and stability as enabling conditions for economic development. Since the transformation of OAU to AU, ECOWAS has used NEPAD's policy on regionalism as benchmarks. In promoting "rapid and balanced growth in West Africa," ECOWAS has not made much progress. This paper will examine the reasons why, even though ECOWAS has moved to the new paradigm of new regionalism with the implementation of policies such as the Economic Partnership Agreement, West African Power Pool, the ECOWAS Monetary Cooperation Program, the trade liberalization scheme, the harmonization of immigration policies by the establishment of the Resident Card and Travel Certificate, the ECOWAS Brown Card Scheme and the ECOWAS Agricultural Policy, it still has challenges realizing its goals.


Trade liberalization and intra-regional trade: a case of selected ECOWAS countries / M. Shuaibu. In: African development review: (2015), vol. 27, no. 1, p. 27-40. This paper conducts an empirical investigation of the relationship between trade liberalization and intra-ECOWAS trade in selected economies. Using system and difference generalized method of moments, findings show that trade liberalization has contributed to intra-regional trade in West Africa. The results also show that better institutional quality and infrastructure are associated with higher intra-ECOWAS trade. Furthermore, using fixed and random effect estimators the findings were validated, thus reinforcing support to the hypothesis that removal of trade restrictions particularly in the manufacturing and primary sectors, good governance and
infrastructure developments enhance trade amongst ECOWAS countries. Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]


Ce travail vise à analyser les flux commerciaux intra-UEMOA avec la mise en oeuvre du TEC-CEDEAO. A partir des données relatives au commerce bilatéral entre 13 pays importateurs et 29 pays exportateurs sur la période 1998-2012 et à l'aide d'un modèle de gravité augmenté, l'étude a montré que les échanges bilatéraux des pays membres de la CEDEAO resteront faibles avec l'adoption du tarif extérieur commun. Par contre, les échanges intra-communautaires de l'UEMOA se verreraient améliorés avec la mise en place de l'Union Douanière CEDEAO. Le commerce intra-CEDEAO pourrait être amélioré en mettant l'accent sur le renforcement des capacités d'élaboration et de conduite des politiques liées au commerce, la diversification des produits d'exportation et l'édification des infrastructures de marché.


Regional integration such as ECOWAS is believed to be an important element to stimulate trade, which could lead to economic growth and development for countries in this regional group. Despite the efforts made at creating this regional group in West Africa, the benefits from intra-regional trade have been unsatisfactory. The study examined the role of Nigeria in the integration processes in Africa and to quantify the impact of this regional group on trade and economic performance in Nigeria. Cross sectional time series data for 17 years from 1996 to 2012 were analysed using an augmented (or extended) gravity equation. Results show that being in ECOWAS has contributed very little to trade and economic performance in Nigeria. Lack of political will to implement treaty provisions, poor infrastructure, non diversification of individual countries’ economies among other have been identified as the problem causing the very low level of intra regional trade in ECOWAS. There are potential gains to be made in ECOWAS including Nigeria if significant effort are made to implement policy recommendations.


This paper applies an interpretation of how globalization and governance (G&G) interact with convergence given Cape Verde and Mozambique’s particular geographical and historical contexts. We hold that development success under globalization entails, necessarily but not exclusively, positive market perceptions regarding the orientation and predictability of policies as well as the accompanying institutional arrangements. As such, a positive G&G interaction with respect to a comparator group can usefully be defined as success notwithstanding the inexistence of a universally applicable development model. In practical terms, we first identify macro-level policy and institutional combinations underpinning successful trade diversification (an indicator of globalization) and income convergence (an indicator of governance) in the sub-regions of West and Southern Africa. We then assess to what extent these combinations apply to both countries using an empirical analysis. We find that trade openness drives convergence and export diversification in Western Africa (which is becoming more diversified) while convergence is instead driven by economic and political freedoms in Southern Africa (which is becoming more specialized). Our empirical analysis is complemented by a case-study narrative of Cape Verde and Mozambique’s long-term development, which allows us to also identify the following common drivers: moving towards a market economy; opening up to regional and global trade; increasing economic and political freedoms; pursuing macraneconomic stability and financial reputation; ensuring policy continuity (especially in the industrial and trade sectors) and focusing on human development (especially education and poverty reduction). Moreover, both countries reveal convergence compared to their sub-regional peers when looking at average GDP per capita and indicators of financial reputation and good governance. While these findings are insufficient to conclude that convergence will be sustained, the positive interaction between trade and financial globalization, on the one hand, and good governance and democracy, on the other, may help explain the observed diversity of the Portuguese-speaking African community, which includes three other countries (Angola, Guinea-Bissau and São Tomé e Príncipe).


Regional and global trade strategies for Liberia / J.d. Melo and A.Mancellari. – Clermont-
Liberia intends to deepen its participation in Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) by adopting the common external tariff (CET) of the Customs Union (CU). This implies that Liberia will have to modify its tariff structure to be much closer to the (yet unknown because of upcoming demands for exceptions to the schedule and demands for reclassification of goods) CET of the CU. This implies that Liberia will have to modify its tariff structure to be much closer to the (yet unknown because of upcoming demands for exceptions to the schedule and demands for reclassification of goods) CET of the CU. This report is in response to the Government of Liberia’s request to the International Growth Centre to estimate the likely effects of this change, particularly on households’ well-being and on government revenue.

This article uses the HRV model proposed by Hausmann, Rodrik and Velasco (2005) to conduct a growth diagnosis of Cape Verde’s economy. The real per capita GDP in Cape Verde rose from US$ 806 in 1970 to US$ 2.830 in 2011, representing an average annual rate of growth of 3.3%. The service sector is the main driver of the economy in Cape Verde. The Cape Verdean economy is heavily dependent on foreign capital and, despite considerable economic growth, the unemployment rate remains high and public debt is high. The main factors identified as a barrier to investment/growth in Cape Verde were: poor financial intermediation, poor infrastructure, high costs on flights across islands and strong deviation between market needs and the areas of human capital formation. Government policies should be aimed at overcoming these constraints.
https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/63407/9/MPRA_paper_63407.pdf.

Ce premier tome de l'ouvrage collectif 'Démocratie et développement en Afrique: perspectives des jeunes chercheurs africains' interroge les dynamiques et les transformations sociopolitiques en Afrique ainsi que la construction nationale et régionale de l'espace et des institutions politiques qui y ont cours depuis les indépendances amorcées dans les années 1960. Contributions: Dynamique linguistique en Côte d'Ivoire (Alain Laurent Abia Aboa); Participation politique et confiance aux institutions au Sénégal (Alpha Bâ); Rôle et responsabilité de la société civile dans les processus électoraux en Afrique de l'Ouest (Adama Sadio Ado); L'interventionnisme de la société civile islamique dans les politiques publiques analysé sous le prisme de l'élaboration du "code la famille" au Mali (Almamy Sylla); L'intégration régionale en Afrique: regard critique sur la prolifération des regroupements sous-régionaux (Roland Kayembe Mungedi); Gestion coopérative des ressources transfrontalières et intégration régionale en Afrique (Bakary Fournaba Traoré); Diplomatie locale et sécurité transfrontalière en Sénégal mériodionale: quelle pertinence pour la gouvernance sécuritaire régionale de la CEDEAO? (Aboubakar Tandia). [Résumé ASC Leiden].

The originating concept of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), which is to facilitate free movement of persons and goods within the West African sub-region, has remained largely elusive over time. Prioritization of national interests over larger regional interests by ECOWAS member states is the greatest obstacle to migration and socioeconomic integration in West Africa.


The last two to three decades have witnessed significant transformation in West Africa’s relations with the Arabian Gulf and Asia. While ties to countries such as Saudi Arabia are historic, economic liberalization since the 1980s has introduced new trading partners and some unexpected developments. The outcome of these recent developments can be startling: so in Ghana, for example, India and China have overtaken the United Kingdom, the former colonial power, in investments and the number of operating companies. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) ranks third in the cumulative value of foreign direct investments in Ghana since 1994. This paper is an historian’s attempt to provide context, some perspective and to probe the implications of these emerging patterns for the political economy of West Africa. It uses Ghana under the Kufuor regime (2000-2008) as a case study of
how one West African government engaged the new economic opportunities and the growing importance of Arab and Asian trading partners and investors in the climate of South-South cooperation.


https://ideas.repec.org/a/oup/erevae/v38y2011i1p31-54.html

http://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/PublicationFiles/aria4full.pdf


This book is a synthesis of research conducted by Liberians within the UNESCO research interface and presented at the Liberian National Seminar on Regional Integration held in Monrovia from 21-22 January 2008. The book discusses the challenges of reconciliation and capacity building in the context of the country's reintegration into the West African region. Contributions: Introduction and background (Joseph Guannu and Raymond Da-Boi); The role of higher education in post-war reconstruction and regional integration: the case of Liberia (Theodore V.K. Brown); Perspectives and policies in education vis-à-vis the nation State and challenges of regional integration in West Africa (D. Evelyn S. Kendakai); Peace, conflict and poverty (Togba-Nah Tipoteh); The concept of socio-cultural variables as the paradigm for regional integration in West Africa (Stephen M. Jubwe, Sr.); Integration and regional security in West Africa and the Mano River Union: issues, problems, challenges and prospects (Jospeh Guannu and Raymond Da-Boi); Trade as a factor of integration in West Africa (Brahima Diaikyty Kaba); Citizenship and regional integration: Liberia and the West African sub-region (Alhaji G.V. Kromah). [ASC Leiden abstract].

Recent global changes have placed regional integration at the centre of Africa's political and economic agenda. This Atlas is both a driver and the result of strategic thinking on regional integration in West Africa. Containing maps, statistics and analyses, it describes the West African region, its population, settlement, territories, its economy and its vulnerabilities. It analyses the developments and the ways in which West Africa is conforming to a constantly changing global environment. The Atlas also identifies the medium- and long-term trends and provides elements for strategic thinking on the future (chap. 5.2.2: regional trade).
http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264056763-en

Abaissement des travaux du séminaire tenu à Praia (Cap Vert) en octobre 2008, le présent ouvrage discute des avantages et des contraintes d'une intégration du Cap Vert à la CEDEAO (Communauté économique des États d'Afrique de l'Ouest). Par son insularité, son identité créole et sa position géographique à 400 km des côtes africaines, l'archipel se trouve dans une position d'intérêts différents entre son encrage au sein de la communauté ouest-africaine et son partenariat spécial avec l'Union européenne. Titres des textes de contributions: La problématique de l'immigration clandestine et les droits humains (Vera Duarte) - La spécificité d'un État insulaire.
et diasporique (José Maria Semedo) - Le Cap-Vert et la CEDEAO, une question identitaire (Gabriel Fernandes) - Le Cap-Vert et l'intégration en Afrique occidentale: discours de la "découverte" et mythes de fondation (António Correia e Silva) - Les politiques publiques du Cap-Vert dans le cadre de l'intégration à la CEDEAO et la stratégie globale de développement (José António M. dos Reis) - Le Cap-Vert et les nouvelles dimensions régionales (CPLP [Communauté de pays de langue portugaise], PALOP [Pays africains de langue officielle portugaise], OTAN, UE) (António Pedro Monteiro Lima) - Dimension économique de l'intégration régionale: la CEDEAO et le cas du Cap-Vert (José Luís Rocha) - La problématique de la libre circulation des personnes et des biens: le rôle du Cap-Vert dans la sécurité de la côte occidentale et de la frontière sud de l'Union européenne (Manuel Amante Rosa). [Résumé ASC Leiden].


This book is the result of a two-day conference organized by UNESCO/MOST (Management of Social Transformations) in partnership with the African Capacity Building Fund (ACBF) in Banjul (The Gambia) in December 2005. Its purpose was to probe the failures of integration on the part of The Gambia on several fronts: to examine which policies at the national level are to the advantage or detriment of integration and to take an audit of policy measures operating between the immediate neighbours of The Gambia and Senegal.

The book is composed of eight essays: Building blocks towards regional integration in West Africa: the case of Senegambia (a strategic vision) by Omar Ousman Jobe; The Sene-Gambia in historical and contemporary perspectives by Nicodemus Fru Awason; Regional trade integration in West Africa: the Gambian perspective-refocused by Bai Ebrima Jobe; Cross-border initiative: foreign affairs perspective by Mariana Njie; Transport and regional integration in West Africa by Abdoullah O. Camara; Regional integration: implications for an integrated education system in ECOWAS by Babouacar Bouy and Jawara Gaye; Non-State actors in regional integration: stepping stones or stumbling blocks? by Baba-Mustapha Marong; and Gender and its implications in regional integration: some preliminary reflections by Siga Fatima Jagne. [ASC Leiden abstract].


This book is one in the UNESCO seminar series on the Nation-State in the Face of Regional Integration in West Africa under its Management of Social Transformations Scheme. The papers in this volume were delivered at a seminar held in Lagos in February 2008. The twelve papers are: Conceptual and theoretical issues in regional integration in West Africa: the Nigerian perspective (H. Assisi Asobie); Nigeria's quest for regional integration in West Africa (Kayode Soremekun); Regional integration in a peripheral region: a cost-benefit analysis of Nigeria's role in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) (Armstrong Matiu Adejo); The role of chambers of commerce and monetary integration in West Africa (Tayo Pakiyesi and Foluso Akinola); Regional integration and national security: a Nigerian perspective (Charles Doku); National interest and Nigeria's contribution to integration in West Africa (David Aworawo); Cross-border integration in West Africa: the Nigerian experience (A. A. Isiwaju); State actors and regional integration in Western Europe and West Africa: the French and Nigerian cases (Yomi Akiniyeye); Building blocks for regional integration in West Africa: the Nigerian perspective (Aderemi Oyewumi); Trade and regional integration in West Africa: the Nigerian case (Ogaba Oche); Nigeria and the West Africa Monetary Zone (Oyinlola Olaniyi and Ben Obi); and Nigeria, regional economic communities and the challenge of regional integration in West Africa (W. Alade Fawole). [ASC Leiden abstract].


Eight of the sixteen essays in this book were earlier presented at a conference on The African Union and new strategies for development in Africa, organized by Codesria (Dakar) and the Development Policy Management Forum (Addis Ababa) in 2004. The rest of the papers were specially commissioned for this publication. They are arranged in three parts: 1) History, context, and comparative experience; 2) International processes and development challenges: NEPAD and APRM; 3) Political and security issues. Chapters: Introduction: transition, continuity, and change (Said Adejumobi, Adebayo Olukoshi); Pan-Africanism, and the future of Africa (L. Adele Jenje); Toward an effective African Union: participation, institutions, and leadership (Abdul Mohammed); The African experience of popular participation in development (Said Adejumobi); West Africa's integration: the logic of history and culture (Kwame A. Ninsin); African Union and European Union: a comparative analysis (Walter O. Oyugi); Revisiting the debate on national autonomous development (Issa G. Shivi); NEPAD, APRM, and institutional change in Africa (Emmanuel Ndadozie); The national process of the African Peer Review mechanism: challenges and opportunities (Ahmed Mohiddin); Civil society and the African Union architecture: institutional provisions and invented interfaces (Bhekinkosi Moyo); The NEPAD initiative and the challenges of agricultural development and food security in Africa (Nangis Max Memfi); Challenges of transforming Africa's multilateral security institutions: ECOWAS and the African Union (Fummi.


O Atelier 'Os Estados-nações e o desafio de integração regional da África do Oeste: o caso de Cabo Verde' teve lugar na cidade de Praia (Cabo Verde) nos dias 4 e 5 de Abril de 2007, fazendo parte de uma série de seminários já realizados em outros países da região. Índice: A problemática da emigração clandestina e os direitos humanos (Vera Duarte); A especificidade de um Estado insular e desaparizado (José Maria Semedo); Cabo Verde e a CEDEAO: uma questão identitária (Gabriel António Fernandes); Cabo Verde e a integração na África Ocidental: discursos da "descoberta"; os mitos da fundação (António Correia e Silva); As políticas públicas de integração de Cabo Verde na CEDEAO, no âmbito da estratégia global de desenvolvimento (José António M. dos Reis); Cabo Verde e as novas dimensões regionais (CPLP, PALOP, OTAN, União Europeia) (António Lima); A dimensão económica de integração regional (José Luís Rocha); A problemática da livre circulação de bens e pessoas e o papel de Cabo Verde na segurança da costa ocidental e da fronteira sul da União Europeia (Manuel Amante da Rosa). [Resumo ASC Leiden].

Les États-nations face à l'intégration régionale en Afrique de l'Ouest : le cas du Mali / B. Sanankoua. - Paris : Karthala, 2007. (Hommes et sociétés, ISSN 0290-6600, Les États- nations face à l'intégration régionale en Afrique de l'Ouest; 2)

Cet ouvrage collectif est issu du séminaire organisé par Point Sud les 14 et 15 novembre 2005 à Bamako (Mali), qui plaide pour une accélération du processus d’intégration entre la CEDEAO et l’UEMOA en Afrique de l'Ouest. Titres des contributions: L'intégration en Afrique de l'Ouest: évolution des questions institutionnelles et politiques (Ousmane Oumarou Sidibé) - La dynamique des intégrations de la période coloniale à nos jours (Bakari Kamian) - Langues transfrontalières et intégration régionale; cas du Mali (Paul Guindo) - Le processus de l'intégration économique et monétaire en Afrique de l'Ouest (Youmoussi Tourné) - Ressources naturelles, espace et intégration (Moussa Sissoko) - Femmes, organisations féminines et intégration (Sira Diop) - La gestion des frontières dans le contexte de la décentralisation et de l'intégration des Etats-Nations en Afrique de l'Ouest (Aguibou Diarra) - Mali: entre désenclavement et intégration (Lansina Sidibé). [Résumé ASC Leiden].


Cet ouvrage collectif constitue les actes du séminaire national du Niger sur les "États-nations face au défi de l’intégration régionale en Afrique de l'Ouest", qui s'est tenu à Niamey (Niger) les 18 et 19 octobre 2006. La question de l'intégration régionale sur le continent africain est considérée sous l'angle de la position géographique du Niger, pour le renforcement et l'accélération du développement économique et régional de ce pays (Waziri Mato Maman, Bonianti Abdou). Autres thèmes abordés par les contributions: le cadre de l'espace de circulation au Sahel (Malam Moussa Ahmad Tijani) - Compétences de l'État entre intégration régionale et décentralisation territoriale (Malam Kandine Adam) - diversité culturelle et paix (Daouda Diallo Boubacar) - secteur privé...

Ever since independence, messianic references to a natural Nigerian leadership in the affairs of the African continent have been ingrained in the conduct of Nigeria's foreign policy. Internationally, Nigeria's endowments of human and natural resources, deeply asymmetrical interactions with neighbouring States and the active engagement of successive regimes in the affairs of the continent have called for the country's treatment as a regional power and a pivotal State for West Africa. However, Nigeria's 'manifest destiny' remains more about influence than power. The country's unsteady projection of structural or relational power contrasts with the deep regional imprint left by trans-frontier networks that focus on Nigeria but operate independently of territorial affiliations. The related regionalization process exacerbates the fluidity and fragility of regionbuilding as much as problems of Statehood and governance within Nigeria.

Les États-nations face à l'intégration régionale en Afrique de l'Ouest: le cas du Bénin / J.O. Igue. - Paris : Karthala, 2006. (Hommes et sociétés, ISSN 0290-6600)

The crisis of the State & regionalism in West Africa: identity, citizenship and conflict / W.A. Fawole & C. Ukeje. - Dakar : Codesria, 2005
IIB Studies about Legal and Governance aspects of West African regional integration

There are conceptual studies on types of ‘regionalisms’ and on the level of progress made in terms of the stages of integration, that compare legal/institutional arrangements with actual practices indicating a significant implementation gap. There are other governance studies, that address the widening integration agenda since 1993, with the addition of good governance, rule of law, food security, peace, stability, and security, migration, and criminality. It is clear that the recent attention for the 3D agenda also results in a combination of Development, Diplomacy and Defense in West Africa. Particularly the publications with specific attention for the Mano River Union show a recent emphasis on peace enforcement along borders and the impact on cross-border trade. Some studies compare the institutional arrangements of ECOWAS and UEMOA and the differences between legal heritage based on the Anglo-Saxon system and the civic law traditions of France. Part of the implementation problems of ECOWAS institutional arrangements deal with the competing competences in adjudication of the ECOWAS Court of Justice and national courts, and the same is true for the ECOWAS Parliament in its relationship with national Parliaments. But there are also higher-order competence issues: ECOWAS’s relationship to the African Union, and its conventions.

Most studies about legal and governance aspects of West African integration can be found in academic journals and in the academic press, but in addition there are also African institutions involved and a few others.


International agencies and non-academic press: the World Bank, ODI in London, the IHK (the Industrie und Handels Kammer in Germany), and the Association of European Border Regions (based in Gronau, Germany). As well as Palabres Actuelles from France, the Great Insights Magazine, published by ECDPM in Maastricht, and the Washington Quarterly.


Since its formation in 1975, The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has attained a mixed-bag of accomplishments in the area of peace and security. Despite its modest gains in this area, the capacity of the organization has been constantly challenged by emerging and recurring security threats in the West African region. These include jihadist terrorism, drug trafficking and the unconstitutional changes of government.

Informed by a brief analysis on the theory of security regionalization, this paper assesses the progress of ECOWAS in resolving the aforementioned security challenges, and then determines how the organization could become more meaningful to regional and global security. The data acquired for the paper was gleaned through scholarly deductions and a vigorous review of ECOWAS’ security mechanisms.


Based on popular accounts of the experience of European integration, particularly the role an audacious European Court Justice (ECJ) played in driving integration in the early days through judicial-activism, judicial organs of integration communities are increasingly under pressure of expectation to take on roles that should significantly shape the direction of their respective communities. The ECOWAS Community Court of Justice (ECCJ) is one judicial organ that struggles under such a burden of expectation. While the ECCJ has been active in protecting human rights in recent times, most observers will conclude that it has not impacted integration in West Africa anywhere near as much as the ECJ has impacted on European integration. For some, by its growing involvement in human rights adjudication, the ECCJ may well have taken on a role that sends it in the wrong impact direction.

The chapter argues that properly applied, the human rights competence of the ECCJ gives the Court an important role with a potentially huge impact on ECOWAS integration that is not sufficiently understood and appreciated.


Parliaments are created globally to give vague legitimacy to good governance under democratic system of government, and the representatives must be elected by the people, so the ECOWAS parliament is entitled to have this legitimacy, where members must be elected by adult people among the citizens of ECOWAS member states. The primary objective of this paper is to discuss the roles that ECOWAS parliament plays for the achievement of regional integration, economic development and cooperation in the sub-region. The main results of this paper are: Regional integration, peace and security, good governance and democracy and human development, these are primary roles of ECOWAS Parliament for the purpose of regional integration of West African region. In conclusion, Community Parliament is the most imperative among the ECOWAS institutions due to its significant roles for being the backbone of achieving the ECOWAS objectives.


Regional integration is one of the modern geopolitical arrangements that have been adopted in many regions around the world, especially in West Africa. The Mano River Union (MRU) is one of the regional integration arrangements in West Africa that is the focus of this work. The research sought to show whether regional integration has helped or hinder economic development in and trade among the MRU states. To do so, various research methods were used to collect and analyze the necessary data. Primary data were collected through expert interviews and an administration of a questionnaire, and the secondary data were collected from books, scholarly journals, government reports, specialized Web sites, and other published materials on regional integration in the MRU. The data collected were systematically analyzed to test two hypotheses: H1: there is a significant correlation between MRU integration and trade relations, with a particular focus on Sierra Leone; H2: there is a significant correlation between MRU integration and economic development, with a particular reference to Sierra Leone. After a thorough analysis of the data collected using triangulative methodology—i.e. a mixture of both qualitative and quantitative approaches, the findings yielded led to the acceptance of both hypotheses. The analysis was augmented by detailed discussions, implications and policy recommendations.

**Trade, structural reform, and institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa / D. Assane & E.P. Chiang. In: Contemporary economic policy; (2014), vol. 32, no. 1, p. 20-29.**
Sub-Saharan African countries have traditionally lagged the rest of the developing world in terms of overall trade relative to gross domestic product. But, there is growing interest among these countries to initiate trade policies and improve quality of institutions as a way to promote trade and boost foreign direct investment. This article extends the gravity model of trade to include proxies for trade reform policy and institutional quality in the 15 countries of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) for data spanning 1984–2006. Alternative methods of estimation based on ordinary least squares, Heckman two-step procedure, and Poisson pseudo-maximum likelihood produce predictions that are consistent with the standard gravity model. They further highlight the evidence of restrictive trade policies and weak institutions that contribute to the failure of ECOWAS countries to boost bilateral trade.


Removing barriers to trade between Ghana and Nigeria: strengthening regional integration by implementing ECOWAS commitments / M. Hobbe and F.Aidoo. – Washington, D.C. : The World Bank, 2013. (Africa Trade Policy Notes No. 30). Study looking at the regional integration process in West Africa, focusing on Ghana and Nigeria - assesses the challenges that exporters within the region face when trying to benefit from the scheme of EOWAS Free Trade Area; highlights the specific difficulties the companies in Ghana face when exporting to Nigeria under the scheme; offers policy recommendations to address the challenges identified; includes bibliographical references.


Le principe de subsidiarité: ses origines et son applicabilité dans les répartitions des compétences entre différentes structures étatiques / N. Belemgoto Bekoutou. In: Cahiers africains d'administration publique: (2012), no. 79, p. 59-77. Le principe de subsidiarité (PS) est expliqué et son application dans le cadre de l'Union Africaine (UA), de la CEMAC (Communauté économique et monétaire de l'Afrique centrale), et de la CEDEAO (Communauté économique des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest) est examinée. Le PS a une origine ecclésiastique remontant au XIIème siècle. Il a pour premier fondement, selon l'Église Catholique, la dignité de la personne humaine, douée de raison et de volonté, moralement responsable de ses actes, libre de servir, mais toutefois subordonnée au bien commun de la société. L'applicabilité du PS dans un contexte plus moderne suppose l'existence de deux ou plusieurs catégories d'entités politico-administratives distinctes comme les communes, les départements, les régions (État unitaire décentralisé), des États fédérés (l'État Fédéral), ou de États- membres d'une organisation communautaire, telle que l'Union Européenne (UE) ou l'UA. L'applicabilité se fait à travers deux mouvements contradictoires: l'un ascendant (fédéralisation) et l'autre descendant (décentralisation). Concernant l'application du PS dans les organisations africaines, telles que l'UA, la CEMAC ou la CEDEAO, le PS souffre de sa mise en uvre à cause des pesanteurs sociopolitiques et culturelles, d'une part et, du manque de volonté politique et des moyens financiers d'autre part. [Résumé ASC Leiden]


African regional trade integration has grown exponentially in the last decade. This book is the first comprehensive analysis of the legal framework within which it is being pursued. It will fill a huge knowledge gap and serve as an invaluable teaching and research tool for policy makers in the public and private sectors, teachers, researchers and students of African trade and beyond. The author argues that African Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs) are best understood as flexible legal regimes particularly given their commitment to variable geometry and multiple memberships. He analyzes the progress made toward trade liberalization in each region, how the RTAs are financed, their trade remedy and judicial regimes and how well they measure up to Article XXIV of GATT. The book also covers monetary unions as well as intra-African regional integration, and examines Free Trade Agreements with non-African regions including the Economic Partnership Agreements with the European Union.

One of the constitutional challenges of regional integration is how to manage the limitation of national judicial sovereignty of member States to ensure that community law is recognized as superior to national law and is accordingly applied and interpreted by national courts at the instance of community citizens. This challenge arises from the national ordering of legal systems and the fact that States are the primary parties to agreements in which they limit their sovereignty in favour of the success of the community. This article examines the enforceability of the law of the Economic Community of West African States in the national courts of the West African States which comprise ECOWAS, with the aim of determining how this affects the integration goals of ECOWAS. It discusses the OHADA system as an example of the application of a community law in West African courts. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

http://www.cairn.info/revue-internationale-de-droit-economique-2011-3-page-333.htm

1. Introduction. This report outlines a Bank Group's (the Bank) strategy for supporting regional integration efforts in West Africa over the period 2011-2015.
2. Regional Context. The region's economic performance reflects improvements in macroeconomic management. The recent hike in commodity prices (notably oil and minerals) has also benefited resource-rich West African countries and is fostering higher growth in the region as a whole. In 2010, the region's 6.2 percent real GDP growth was the highest among all African RECs. On the social front, the region is unlikely to meet the Millennium Development Goals. This is especially true for the region's fragile states and landlocked countries. A contributing factor to the poor social conditions in West Africa is the high level of unemployment, especially among the youth considering the fact that they constitute the majority of the population (about two-third).
3. Despite many challenges and regional realities, the progress toward integration that has already been achieved (Customs Union, free movement of persons, ECOWAS passport, transformation of the ECOWAS Secretariat into a strengthened ECOWAS Commission)-combined with the political momentum of the ECOWAS Vision and the region's rich natural base-has created the conditions for integration to gain progress.
4. Bank Group Strategy for the Region. The Bank's strategy for supporting regional integration in West Africa rests on two pillars, namely (i) linking regional markets and, (ii) building capacity for effective implementation of the regional integration agenda. This strategy is aligned with the ECOWAS Vision 2020, the Regional Strategic Plan, and the outcome of consultations with regional stakeholders:
5. Pillar I will support investments in (i) regional transport infrastructure (missing links in the Trans-Coastal and Trans-Sahelian highways; rehabilitation of priority road corridors; river navigation); (ii) transport and trade facilitation measures; and (iii) regional energy production and markets integration. The Bank will also step up its strategic dialogue on resource mobilization for the railways transport.
6. Pillar II will strengthen the capacity of ECOWAS/WAEMU, selected regional institutions, and national entities where necessary, to deliver more effectively the integration agenda. Bank's efforts will focus on: (i) capacity building for effective policy and regional projects implementation; (ii) capacity building for financial sector integration and, (iii) support to regional research and training centers relevant to the integration agenda.
7. The Bank will also carry out a number of studies aimed at strengthening the knowledge base on regional integration in West Africa.
8. The proposed strategy will also lead to strengthened prospects for the productive sectors of West African economies and job creation, which are necessary conditions for further progress on the integration agenda, and for successful integration into the world economy.
9. The Bank's Regional Departments for West Africa A and B, together with the Regional Integration and Trade Department, will jointly be the Bank's focal points for monitoring implementation of the RISP, with the active support of the field offices. The on-going decentralization process will strengthen the Bank's capacity to monitor implementation of the RISP.

10. Recommendation. The Boards are requested to approve the strategy proposed in this RISP for West Africa, for the period 2011-2015.


Paradoxalement, certaines institutions d’Afrique de l'Ouest dont le but avoué est de promouvoir le droit sous-régional ne sont pas tout à fait à leur vocation, alors même que leur activité a tendance à croître. De fait, à la fin de l’année 2009, la Cour de la CEDEAO n’avait encore jamais rendu une décision se rattachant à l'intégration économique stricto sensu. Pour sa part, la Cour de l’UEMOA, entre 1996 et 2008, n’a jamais eu l'occasion d'arbitrer effectivement un différend relatif à l’application de normes intéressant directement l'intégration économique et monétaire des États. C’est sur les raisons complexes de cette carence qu’il s’agit de se pencher en admettant l’ambivalence de la posture du juge. On note une forte influence sur les organisations d'intégration africaines du modèle européen de justice - on peut même parler de "mimétisme" - dans la reproduction de la terminologie des traités européens et dans la similitude des méthodes d'interprétation. D'où il apparaît que le juge de l'intégration "subit" cette faiblesse du droit jurisprudentiel de l'intégration autant qu’il la "produit"; il l'observe en même temps qu’il y concourt; il en est à la fois sujet et acteur. Notes, réf., rés. en français et en anglais (p. 327). (Paru aussi dans: Nouvelles annales africaines, no. 1 (2010), p. 5-72, sous le titre: Les débuts des Cours de justice de la CEDEAO et de l’UEMOA: propos sur la faiblesse du droit jurisprudentiel de l'intégration en Afrique de l'Ouest. [Résumé extrait de la revue]


The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo) is a regional group established by a Treaty in 1975 to promote economic integration in all fields of economic activity. All the Anglophone countries in ECOWAS operating the Anglo-Saxon legal system are effectively surrounded by Francophone OHADA countries operating the civil law system and the OHADA Treaty and laws. All but two (Cameroon and Chad) of the OHADA countries surrounding the ECOWAS Anglophone countries are members of ECOWAS. The geographical conglomeration of the Francophone and Anglophone ECOWAS States creates a natural avenue for the introduction of the OHADA Treaty and laws in the Anglophone countries with the ultimate goal of adopting the Treaty and laws. The issue is whether or not the adoption will be wholesale, and with or without modifications. Whichever option is proposed will lead to harmonization of the civil law and common law systems of business laws. This paper offers practical suggestions for the introduction and adoption of the OHADA Treaty and OHADA Treaty-based harmonized business laws in the Anglophone ECOWAS States. The interface between the key legal institutions established under the OHADA and ECOWAS treaties is an important area in the process of harmonization and the defining of strategies for the adoption of the respective treaties. The contract for the West Africa Gas Pipeline Project which encompasses Anglophone States such as Ghana and Nigeria and Francophone States such as Togo and Benin is highlighted. Notes, ref., sum. in French. [ASC Leiden abstract]


Les mutations de l'intégration des États en Afrique de l'Ouest: une approche institutionnelle /

http://dx.doi.org/10.1162/wash.2006.29.4.81
IIC Policy options, foreign (donor) support, and comparative studies

This section contains specific publications about donor support to regional integration processes in West Africa, or particular countries, and literature that focuses on the empirical comparison of ECOWAS with other trade blocks – African (SADC, COMESA, EAC) – for example by looking at the rules and regulations, and at the impact of measures on trade volumes and directions. Some studies deal with opportunities for donor engagement, and there is specific attention for Europe-Africa linkages, e.g. the EU-West African Regional Indicative Programme, the European Partnership Agreement, and the new Accelerating Trade in West Africa initiative. Also the African Development Bank, and the World Bank published diagnostic studies, and strategic documents.

Institutional publishers and academic publishers are both active in this field, but almost none from Africa itself.

International agencies: the African Development Bank, the World Bank, the European Union, the OECD, the Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC/OECD), Saana Consulting in London, ODI in London, the Centre for Economic Policy Research in London, the International Centre for Trade and Investment in Geneva (publishing Trade Negotiations Insights), Verein für Sozialpolitik in Germany (organizing the German Development Economics Conferences), and ECDPM in Maastricht.


Political and Economic Constraints to the ECOWAS Regional Economic Integration Process and Opportunities for Donor Engagement. Engel, J. and M.A. Jouanjean. 2015. EPA PEAKS. London: ODI. [http://r4d.dfid.gov.uk/pdf/outputs/EPS/Political_and_Economic_Constraints_to_the_ECOWAS.pdf]


Der Autor untersucht in seiner politikwissenschaftlichen Studie über die regionale Integration und Kooperation im sub-saharischen Afrika fundiert drei der wichtigsten Regionalorganisationen Afrikas - die Ostafrikanische Gemeinschaft (EAC), die Südafrikanische Entwicklungsgemeinschaft (SADC) und die Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft westafrikanischer Staaten (ECOWAS). Er stellt fest, dass auch in Afrika nicht mehr nur die klassische Zusammenarbeit zwischen Regierungen von Bedeutung ist, sondern dass zudem transationale und supranationale Dynamiken Kooperation und Integration beeinflussen bzw. teilweise auch diktieren. Neben der

Le Gouvernement du Bénin a requis une mise à jour de l'étude diagnostique sur l'intégration du commerce (ÉDIC) 1 de 2005 et a demandé à la Banque mondiale d'être le chef de file de cet exercice. Les objectifs de la mise à jour sont : (a) évaluer les progrès de l'intégration du commerce dans la stratégie nationale de développement du Gouvernement et de la mise en œuvre des recommandations de la Matrice d'action ; (b) compléter et approfondir l'analyse dans certains domaines ; et (c) réviser et mettre à jour la Matrice d'action pour tenir compte de l'évolution du contexte depuis 2006. L'objectif de l'analyse est d'aider le Gouvernement du Bénin dans la définition d'une stratégie de compétitivité globale pour une croissance inclusive et tirée par des exportations créatrices d'emplois, conformément aux priorités définies dans le Plan Stratégique de Développement du Commerce (PSDC) de 2013, et de favoriser le commerce selon l'orientation de la politique générale définie par les documents clés de la politique du Bénin, y compris la mise à jour du document de Stratégie de Croissance pour la Réduction de la Pauvreté (SCRP). La mise à jour de l'édic propose un diagnostic, un cadre analytique et un plan d'action donnant à l'expansion du commerce un rôle clé dans la réduction de la pauvreté et de la vulnérabilité. Suivant les Principes de Paris, l'approche de l'ÉDIC est fortement alignée avec le Plan Stratégique de Développement du Commerce du MICPME (Ministère de l'industrie, du Commerce, des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises) et s'appuie également sur le diagnostic de l'évaluation de la pauvreté du Gouvernement du Bénin (INSAE 2014), ainsi que sur la mise à jour de 2011 de la SCRP. Elle met l'accent sur les liens entre la pauvreté, l'emploi et le commerce, avec deux objectifs principaux : (i) réduire la pauvreté grâce à une croissance tirée par le commerce ; et (ii) réduire la vulnérabilité. L'approche de l'ÉDIC actualisée s'articule également autour du rôle du MICPME, point focal du processus du CIR au Bénin. Parce que la matrice d'action de l'ÉDIC couvre des domaines qui vont au-delà des strictes compétences du ministère du Commerce, le MICPME est considéré comme ayant un double rôle dans le processus : (i) par l'action sur un noyau de mesures relevant directement de ses compétences ; et (ii) par l'appui et la proposition (A&P) d'un ensemble plus large de mesures relevant de la compétence d'autres ministères de tutelle ou appartenant à des choix stratégiques de haut niveau. Trois messages clés se dégagent de la mise à jour de l'édic : i. L'économie du Bénin est largement tributaire de rentes issues de la politique commerciale du Nigeria. Ces rentes sont vulnérables. Ces flux informels s’élèvent au total, selon notre estimation, à 4,9 milliards de dollars. Une grande partie de l'économie béninoise est repose sur la réexportation de produits importés au Nigéria utilisant des voies parallèles ; de même, 85 % de l'approvisionnement en essence du Bénin est importé informellement par des commerçants qui profitent des subventions sur les carburants au Nigeria. Certains experts estiment la contribution du secteur du commerce informel à 20 % du PIB (Golub, 2012). De l’avis général, ces rentes profitent de multiples façons à l'économie nationale : aux recettes fiscales du Gouvernement par le biais de l'imposition du transit informel, aux commerçants informels et aux consommateurs d'essence nigériane subventionnée. Cependant, elles sont vulnérables aux changements de la politique commerciale du Nigeria (voir à ce sujet Bénin, 2013a) I Étude diagnostique de l'intégration pour le commerce (ÉDIC) a été achevée en décembre 2005 et son projet de rapport validé lors d'un atelier national en 2006.


One of the intriguing aspects of African regional trade agreements (RTAs) is the extent of multi-membership, where many African countries are members of more than one RTA. Using a gravity model for 25 countries and the years 1980-2006, the authors measure the extent of multi-membership and compare its impact in two major African regional blocs, Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) and Southern Africa Development Community (SADC). The authors find that the impact of multi-membership critically depends on the characteristics of the multi-membership of regional integration initiatives. They find a positive impact if an additional membership complements the integration process of the original regional integration initiative: overlapping memberships had a much stronger and significant positive effect on bilateral trade within ECOWAS compare with an insignificant impact within the SADC. App., bibliogr., notes, sum [Journal abstract].

This thesis employs a dynamic form of the gravity model and data from 1988-2005 to estimate the effects of RTAs in SSA on intra-African trade. The thesis proposes a better approach to examining member-nonmember trade relations of RTAs. This thesis is unique because it uses System GMM estimator to overcome econometric issues associated with estimating dynamic models. The results suggest that COMESA and SADC has led to a significant increase in intra and extra-RTA trade. ECOWAS has increased intra-ECOWAS trade but decreased extra-ECOWAS trade. ECCAS has had a negative impact on both intra-ECCAS and extra-ECCAS trade flows. The proposed approach of examining member-nonmember relationships provides better estimates. A comparative analysis is made to shed light on how high or low the trade creation effect of RTAs in SSA are. The results of this thesis support the view that the impact of RTAs in SSA is higher than perceived.


The birth of a middle class across the continent gives room for expanding regional trade in ECOWAS. However, as a first step, commitments under the Ecowas Trade Liberalization Strategy (ETLS) should be carried out. Implementation of the ETLS is a prerequisite for raising the low levels of intra-regional trade that are attributable to the barriers to trade, formal and informal. That regional strategy should not provide a distraction from the need to acquire competitiveness on world markets. In addition to comparing Nigeria’s trade performance on a comparative basis and documenting the high costs of these barriers to trade, the report makes two recommendations.


Is discussion of the 'United States of Africa' premature?: analysis of ECOWAS and
SADC integration efforts / M. Forere. In: Journal of African law: (2012), vol. 56, no. 1, p. 29-54. For integration to succeed, the intending bloc of nations must begin with integration efforts that are based on gradual, continuous and concrete achievements, to create de facto solidarity among community members. This is the theoretical premise on which this article is based. This perspective is also drawn from the normative framework of both the Constitutive Act of the African Union (AU) and the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community. According to its objectives, the AU aims to form a union government, to be preceded by successful economic integration through regional economic communities (RECs). While there are several RECs in Africa, this article examines those in West and Southern Africa, being among the more developed. The article discusses whether the RECs have achieved their objectives to the extent that would warrant discussion of, and efforts towards, the imminent formation of the 'United States of Africa'. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract].


Multi-membership and effectiveness of regional trade agreements in Western and Southern Africa: a comparative study of ECOWAS and SADC / S.K. Afesorgbor and P.A.G.v.Bergeijk. - Göttingen : Verein für Socialpolitik, Research Committee Development Economics, 2011. (Proceedings of the German Development Economics Conference, Berlin 2011). Using a gravity model for 35 countries and the years 1995-2006 we estimate the impact of regional trade agreements in Africa (in particular ECOWAS and SADC) and compare this to the a benchmark of North South trade integration (Europe's preferential trade agreement). We find that - ECOWAS and SADC membership significantly increases bilateral trade flows (and by more than for example preferential trade agreements with the EU do), - SADC membership has a stronger impact compared to ECOWAS and - that the impact of multi-membership critically depends on the characteristics of the overlapping RTA We find a positive impact if an additional membership complements the integration process of the original RTA: overlapping memberships had a significant positive effect on bilateral trade within the ECOWAS bloc but it is insignificant for SADC.

http://econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/48295/1/1_afesorgbor.pdf

Operationalising the West African EPA Development Programme Moving beyond the paper work / M. Dalleau and J. v. Seter s. - Maastricht : ECDPM, 2011. (ECDPM Discussion Paper). Since 2003, West Africa and the European Union (EU) have been negotiating an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), as is the case in many other African and Pacific regions. The EU has stated on numerous occasions that beyond market access, EPAs are to present an opportunity to strengthen regional integration and put 'trade at the service of development'. It is in this context that the EPA Development Programme (EPADP), better known under its French acronym PAPED, was developed by the region. It constitutes a framework to identify evolving development support needs in order for the region to reap the benefits of the EPA and to mitigate the negative impact of the agreement. If the EPA were to be signed, the EPADP could be operationalised to deliver its potential. It is recognized by both parties that beyond resource mobilisation, the EPADP could be instrumental in improving aid effectiveness by contributing to a more coherent and coordinated approach to addressing the trade-related needs of the region. Against this background, this study aims to provide insights in the operationalisation of the EPADP and its potential to contribute to more effective aid, particularly at the regional level.


The EU commitment to deliver aid for trade in West Africa and support the EPA Development Programme (PAPED) / ECDPM. - Maastricht : ECDPM, 2010. (ECDPM Discussion Paper). Along with other members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group of countries, West Africa has been negotiating WTO-compatible Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) as a region with the European Union (EU) since 2003. The commitment to development-oriented EPAs has been reiterated on numerous occasions across the range of EU institutions, and spelled out in the context of West Africa in the EU Council Conclusions of 10 May 2010. The West Africa EPA Development Programme, better known under its French acronym PAPED, was developed in the context of the EPA negotiations. This paper presents background on the European Union's commitment to West Africa's PAPED: the ways in which the EU already supports the goals
and objectives of the PAPED, and how it can continue and strengthen its support in future.


**Étude sur les besoins en information des opérateurs (importateurs/exportateurs) et des moyens de dissémination. Senegal.** - s.l. : [Food Security Group, Michigan State University], 2008.


**Le Sénégal est lié à la Communauté européenne depuis la signature du traité de Rome en 1957, dont la partie IV proclamait "la solidarité de l'Europe et des pays d'outre-mer pour assurer le développement de leur prospérité". Malgré la signature de diverses conventions - la convention de Yaoundé (1963), la convention de Lomé (1975), la convention de Cotonou (2000) - le Sénégal figure maintenant sur la liste des pays les moins avancés, et l'Afrique dans son ensemble est restée le continent du sous-développement. Cette situation relève de la coresponsabilité des Européens et des Africains. Force est de reconnaître qu'aujourd'hui, l'Afrique ne fait pas partie des priorités de l'Europe. L'Union européenne introduit de plus en plus de conditionnalité dans ses relations avec les ACP. La philosophie généreuse de Lomé est tempérée par la nécessité de tenir compte des exigences du FMI ou de l'OMC. En fait, il s'agit d'un alignement de l'Europe sur la politique du FMI. Les résultats sont aussi inquiétants dans les domaines du commerce et de la coopération financière. Les Africains doivent comprendre que, tant que leur part dans le commerce international ne dépassera pas son niveau actuel (1 pour cent), ils seront toujours marginalisés. Ils sont les premiers responsables du développement de leur continent. L'Afrique noire qui, pour des raisons historiques, se situe dans la zone d'influence de l'Europe, n'a jamais élabore une stratégie de rupture de ses liens de dépendance. Cependant, les chefs d'États africains ont proposé un nouveau partenariat pour le développement de l'Afrique; il s'agit de construire ce qu'il est convenu d'appeler l'Union africaine. Mais tous les efforts seront vains s'il n'y a pas la paix. [Résumé ASC Leiden].


III. Economics of regional integration

IIIA Studies about trade and actual analysis of trade statistics in the ECOWAS region, and about the economics and political economy of regional integration in West Africa. Including methodological studies.

Studies assess the effects of the ECOWAS Trade Liberalization Scheme (ETLS) on intra-regional trade, including the impact of tariff and non-tariff barriers on trade. There are studies about the common external tariff that was finally agreed upon in 2015. Various studies focus on the impact of measures and policies such as monetary cooperation, the customs union, or common economic policies. There is some attention for political economy issues, but not much. Some studies deal with the measurement problems, the ‘empirics’ of trade statistics, in a situation of the dominance of informal trade arrangements. Also transit or re-export trade gets some attention. Among the impediments to marketing the lack of market and price information is highlighted by some authors. Specific attention is given to the impact of trade liberalization or trade enhancement on energy intensity, on technology transfers, and on income (or poverty) and employment. Some authors deal with global and/versus regional trade.

Again, the lack of African agencies publishing about the economics of regional integration in West Africa is remarkable, with the exception of the African Development Bank. And again most publications come from academic sources.


Academic publishers: the University of Bonn, the University of Munich, The NAI in Uppsala, the Cornell University’s Department of Applied Economics and Management, the Michigan State University, the Milwaukee Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, and the Quebec Département d'Economique de la Faculte d'Administration à l'Universite de Sherbrooke.


Regional cooperation and regional integration are often complex processes with seemingly intractable obstacles and drivers. An analytical tool consisting of five political economy lenses helps detect the actors and clarify the factors driving or blocking regional processes. Two examples ± one on country level drive behind regional
cooperation in the EAC and one in the transport illustrate the tool’s usefulness and relevance. Political economy diagnostics can help inform dialogue with and among a range of state and nonstate actors at national and regional levels on the feasibility of envisaged reforms.

An empirical analysis of integration and intra-regional trade in ECOWAS / E.A. Dada & A.I. Adeleke. In: Journal of African development: (2015), vol. 17, no. 1, p. 95-116. This research examines integration and intra-regional trade in ECOWAS. It focuses on the benefit of common policies within ECOWAS and the impact it has on intraregional trade among member countries. The study utilizes a gravity model that is modified to reflect economic features of ECOWAS. Finds of the research show that economic size and common language are the major drivers of intra-regional trade in ECOWAS. Specifically, it indicates that real GDP, population size, openness and language positively influence intraregional trade while distance was found to be negatively related to intra-ECOWAS trade. Deepening economic and cultural integration is recommended to maximise the enormous gains accruable from increased intra-regional trade. http://www.jadafea.com/voi17-1/

Does trade tariff liberalisation matter for intra-ECOWAS trade? / M. Shuaibu. In: International journal of business and economic sciences applied research: (2015), vol. 8, no. 1, p. 83-112. Purpose – The purpose of this paper is to examine the relationship between trade liberalisation and intra-regional trade in some selected ECOWAS member countries, with particular focus on the role of applied and most favoured nation import tariffs. Design/methodology/approach – Data utilized were sourced from the World Bank’s World Development and Governance Indicators, Mayer and Zignago (2006) distance index as well as the World Trade Organisation's World Integrated Trade System (WITS). The sample period consists of 8 countries covering the years 1998 to 2011. Predicated on a gravity framework, system and difference generalised method of moments dynamic panel data estimators were relied upon. Findings – The empirical results showed that trade liberalisation has contributed to intra-regional trade in the West African sub-region. The potency of trade liberalisation was relatively more pronounced through the use of most favoured nation import tariff compared to applied import tariff rates. Our results also showed that improved institutional quality and infrastructure are associated with higher intra-ECOWAS trade. Furthermore, using alternative measures of institutional quality and infrastructure as well as fixed and random effect estimators validated our findings. Research limitations/implications – Data limitations led to the inclusion of only 8 out of the 15 ECOWAS member countries in the sample. The research was also limited to tariff barriers as measure of trade liberalisation. The same methodology can be applied as data becomes available while a consideration of non-tariff barriers could provide more insights on the dynamics of intra-ECOWAS trade. Originality/value – The findings reinforce the notion that removal of trade restrictions particularly in the manufacturing sector, good governance and infrastructural developments enhance trade amongst ECOWAS countries. http://jibesar.teejnt.gr/docs/volume8_issue1/intra_ecowas_trade.pdf

Effects of changing trade structure and technical characteristics of the manufacturing sector on energy intensity in Ghana / P.K. Adom & P.A. Kwakwa. In: Renewable and sustainable energy reviews: (2014), vol. 35, no. C, p. 475-483. This study examined the effects of changing trade structure and changing technical characteristics of the manufacturing sector alongside the effects of foreign direct investment and urbanization on energy intensity in Ghana. In order to produce a result that is not biased towards non-rejection, the Zivot–Andrews unit root test with structural break was used. The study applied the Phillip–Hansen, Park, and Stock–Watson cointegration models, which are more robust to serial correlation and exogeneity problems. Preliminary findings showed evidence of cointegration. The study concludes that the changing technical characteristics of the manufacturing sector after the reform and changing production mix in favor of less energy intensive improved energy efficiency. However, energy consumption via exports which outweighed the energy saving via imports of capital goods after the reform in 1983 worsened energy efficiency. Growing urbanization significantly increases energy intensity. In all, technological diffusion via trade exerts significant influence on energy intensity than technological diffusion via foreign direct investment. These results are robust to the Cholesky variance decomposition analysis. https://ideas.repec.org/a/eee/rensus/v35y2014icp475-483.html.


Comment mesurer le commerce régional en Afrique: le cas de la CEDEAO / L.

This study examined the impact of using corporate tax to compensate for lost tariff revenue from trade liberalization on poverty in Ghana. Trade has been considerably liberalized in Ghana, which necessitated fiscal reforms to make up for the shortfall in government revenue. As part of the fiscal reforms, the corporate tax rate was reduced for all sectors and the basis for assessment changed from profits to income. Recursive dynamic computable general equilibrium modeling The results showed that the reduction in the incidence, depth and severity of poverty at the national and household levels is greater when corporate tax rate is increased than when it is reduced.

In spite of the vast deposit of resources and human endowments in ECOWAS region, gains from trade have really been marginal in the region. ECOWAS members have poor performance in export of dynamic products; they remained commodity dependent in its exports, leading to transfer of economic gains across border. Over 90% of the region’s export is primary products with very little value-added which accentuated from commodity price and demand inelasticity resulting in terms of trade losses and volatile foreign earnings. Based on these facts, the study tried to investigate the impact of export diversification and composition on GDP growth and GDP per capita respectively. This was achieved using econometric analyses involving co-integration technique and a panel least square technique for the period of 1975-2009 and 1990-2007 respectively in 15 ECOWAS states. The study was deemed significant, as export diversification and manufacturing value-added index induced a positive and significant impact on per capita income growth. The study found high skewness of ECOWAS to commodity export in the period observed but a vertical diversification of product base would emanates more spill-over and surplus gains from the regions endowments. The conclusive finding centred on that fact that it is not how much that is exported that matters but very important is what is exported as regions with less specialization and more diversified exports generally experienced higher economic growth rates and contributed much more to overall exports. Notable recommendation for ECOWAS policy makers is the need to develop domestic processing capability and see export as originating from domestic sufficiency. https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/51617/1/MPRA_paper_51617.pdf.


Developing a better understanding of the features, processes and dynamics of West African regionalism is important for both domestic and external stakeholders in West African development, whether the main focus is on the integration process itself or on progress in particular countries. In particular, attention needs to be paid to the interests, incentives and choices which shape the behaviour of major political and economic actors in regard to regional processes and issues - in short, the political economy of West African regionalism. This, however, is a large subject, including topics of greater and lesser importance or relevance. This scoping exercise was commissioned to help identify priorities among various dimensions of West African regionalism that might be the focus of useful political-economy work that can add value to what practitioners already know and are doing. This could in turn contribute to more effective and realistic strategies to support regional integration. This report provides the final recommendations of the scoping exercise.


The objective of this study was to investigate the long-run equilibrium relationships among the international
factors and domestic investment, as well as, to assess the short-term impact of inward foreign direct investment (FDI), trade, domestic investment and economic growth on international technology transfer to Nigeria from 1970 to 2010. A multivariate cointegration technique developed by Johansen and Juselius (1990) was employed to investigate the long-run equilibrium relationships. The results of the analysis affirmed the existence of cointegrating vectors in the systems of this country, during the study period (Lee and Tan, 2006). The short-term impact of inward FDI, trade and domestic investment on international technology transfer to Nigeria was also tested via Granger causality test, based on vector error-correction model. The results of the test revealed a short-run causal effect either running unidirectionally or bidirectionally among the variables for the country. Finally, all the variables in the Nigerian systems were adjusting to equilibrium in the long run, with the exception of domestic investment (DI), which failed to do the adjustment in the long run. Policy implications were highlighted at the end of this report.

In the past 50 years, a striking stylized fact has been the downward-or flat-trend of intra-African trade as a share of Africa's total trade, while official development assistance (ODA) has experienced a noticeable expansion. During the same period, economic growth performances have not been consistent and robust enough to put a dent in the poverty level across the African continent in general and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in particular. Using a two-stage least square (TSLS) estimation technique, this paper finds out that intra-ECOWAS trade stimulates per capita income growth substantially more than foreign aid, which rather constitutes an impediment to that growth in most specifications. Additionally, comparable results are obtained when the scope of the study is expanded to include trade of ECOWAS members with the rest of the world. As a result, it becomes appropriate to suggest policy recommendations encouraging increased cooperation among member states in an attempt to (i) expand and build new cross-states infrastructures, aimed at boosting communications and telecommunications networks, (ii) accelerate the trade facilitation process by addressing administrative red tapes that balloon both transaction costs and delays in the flows of goods across borders, seaports, and airports, and (iii) develop and diversify the industrial base in member states. http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2012/297658


We consider the case of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) which is one of the largest free trade areas in Africa. We examine whether the ECOWAS member countries have favourable economic characteristics to undertake a deeper economic integration, moving towards an economic union status. Under favourable condition, policymakers in the ECOWAS region can be persuaded to implement deeper economic integration. An increase in trade, resulting from deeper economic integration in the ECOWAS region, can compensate for fall in trade between ECOWAS, and rest of the world. Because of the global economic crisis, trade flow in the ECOWAS region has fallen besides adversely affecting regional macroeconomic variables: trade balance, current account balance, fiscal balance, investment and domestic credit. The poor state of macroeconomic variables has a direct impact in reducing mean income of the region, and indirectly might affect income distribution. Increase in trade in the ECOWAS is expected to generate resources to increase aggregate demand, and to meet regional development expenditures.
http://gbr.sagepub.com/content/13/2/311.abstract

This paper estimates the trade effects of WAMZ between 2005 and 2010 using the gravity model. In addition, it also estimates the determinants of bilateral trade flows in WAMZ countries. The paper finds that WAMZ has been trade diverting although country specific analysis reveals that individual countries in the RTA do not necessarily exhibit similar trends as Nigeria and Gambia are export creating while Ghana and Guinea are export diverting. It also finds that economic size, geographical factors and political stability are significant determinants of WAMZ's bilateral trade. Therefore, regional policies in WAMZ should be more directed towards promoting initiatives that will enhance extra and intra-WAMZ trade by the appropriate authorities.

This chapter examines the economic linkages between sub-Saharan Africa's two largest economies, Nigeria and South Africa, and the rest of the region, and explores how developments in these countries can affect other countries in the region. Nigeria is an important export market only for a few neighboring countries, but financial linkages with countries further afield are growing with the regional expansion of Nigerian banks. Porous borders mean that trade with its neighbors is heavily influenced by tax and subsidy policies in Nigeria; and closely linked food markets ensure that inflation in neighboring countries is significantly affected by inflation developments in Nigeria. South Africa's linkages to the rest of sub-Saharan Africa are much larger and steadily intensifying, but are currently of macroeconomic significance mainly within the Southern African Development Community (SADC). https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/reo/2012/afri/eng/sreo1012.pdf.


Cumbersome transit and customs procedures hinder trade and economic development. Ghana has modified several features of its transit system as part of efforts to improve road-based trade in West Africa. Since 2006 the country's transit reforms have cut the time to process and transport goods crossing the country from five to three days, significantly lowering transport costs. Applying lessons from Ghana could catalyze broader transit reforms in West Africa and other developing regions. http://hdl.handle.net/10986/10500.


This paper discusses how ECOWAS members could adopt export diversification strategies in fostering export-led economic growth. Since ECOWAS members are heavily dependent on commodity export and are therefore vulnerable to external shocks, export diversification is one of the strategies for trade expansion, stability in export earnings and increased per capita income. However, studies have revealed that export diversification has continued to pose a major challenge for ECOWAS members. Though export diversification is typically a slow process which needs to be sustained by an appropriate and coherent strategy, ECOWAS members have a lot to gain by implementing the strategy. The paper concludes that the traditional strategy of export promotion which focuses on the international marketing of final goods is no longer appropriate, but the adoption of different routes to diversification which could include resource-based manufacturing and processing of primary products.


This paper surveys the current macroeconomic situation in Guinea Bissau in light of proposals to increase the integration of the country with international markets. Major issues are continuing instability in the government, poor infrastructure particularly the port) and a very high degree of dependence on one export – cashew. http://purl.umn.edu/55926.

Impact of informal re-exports between Benin and Nigeria: a CGE analysis / P. Mathieu and S.Luc. - Quebec: Departement d'Economique de la Faculte d'administration à l'Universite de Sherbrooke, 2009. (Cahiers de recherche ; 09-14).

Ever since the end of the Biafra war, re-exportation has become an important economic activity for Benin’s economy. One of the reasons for the existence of this type of commerce resides in the disparity in economic policies between Benin and Nigeria. We model this sector and its interrelations with the remainder of the economy as well as on public finances. A CGE model was developed with data from Benin’s social accounting matrix for 1999. In the model, we distinguished between formal and informal households (households that work in the informal sector) and a distinction was incorporated into the model in regards of the re-exportation industry by dividing the latter into its 8 most important re-export sectors. We simulated a 10% depreciation of the CFA F and a 20% decrease in import tariffs. Our findings demonstrate a great sensitivity of government’s revenues to the activity of this informal sector. For one simulation, public savings dropped by almost 25%, but in both cases, the government’s income
was strongly affected. http://gredi.recherche.usherbrooke.ca/wpapers/GREDI-0914.pdf.

Étude sur identification des besoins d'information des opérateurs économiques pour le développement des échanges en Afrique de l'ouest : rapport de synthèse = Study of the market information needs to increase the volume of trade in West Africa: synthesis report. – [East Lansing, M.I.], : [Food Security Group, Michigan State University], 2008.

Reports (in French) on stakeholders' market information needs to engage in regional trade. Mat.
http://purl.umn.edu/57264.

Many recent papers have pointed to ambiguous trade effects of developing regional trade agreements (RTAs), calling for a reassessment of their economic merits. The author focuses on seven such agreements currently in force in Sub-Saharan Africa (ECOWAS and SADC), Asia (AFTA and SAPTA) and Latin America (CACM, CAN, and MERCOSUR), estimating their impacts on their members' trade flows. Instead of the usual dummy variables for RTAs, he proposes a variable taking into account the number of years of membership. He then combines a gravity model with kernel estimation techniques to capture the non-monotonic trade effects while imposing minimal structure on the model. The results indicate that except for SAPTA, these RTAs have had a positive impact on their members' intra-trade over the estimation period (1960-99). AFTA seems to be the most successful among them, with an estimated positive impact on its members' imports from the rest of the world (hence no trade diversion), but its impact on their exports to the rest of the world is rather limited. During its first 10 years of existence, ECOWAS appears to have had a positive impact on its members' imports from the rest of the world (hence no trade diversion), but this positive impact vanished over time. SAPTA's negative impact on its members' intra-trade is probably an implicit effect of the India-Pakistan tensions over the estimation period. http://www-wds.worldbank.org/servlet/WDSContentServer?WDSP/IB/2007/04/23/000016406_20070423162325/Rendered/PDF/wps4220.pdf.

Intégration et échanges commerciaux intra sous-régionaux: le cas de l'UEMOA / A.E. Agbodji.

This paper has the objective of highlighting the marketing impediments facing the natural products market in the retail and wholesale portions of the chain in Ghana. Specifically, (i) profile the technical, financial, organizational, etc., constraints the traders face (domestically and externally), (ii) profile the natural product range and their functions (iii) suggest policy interventions. Preliminary results from the Ghana business survey show that seven out of ten of the businesses are retailer operated, whose two-thirds supply is dependent on the small-scale farmers. There results also show that virtually all the traders have not received any technical, financial or trade assistance from any organization. At most only 1 out of ten businesses have ventured into external trade. The preliminary results show tremendous potential, however a lot need to be done to tap on this potential. The analysis will be based on a survey that was carried out in Ghana to correct information on; product ranges; the supply chain (from production to the retail stores and potential for exports. The analysis will contribute toward inform policy of which marketing to be addressed and inform domestic and foreign consumers of the presence of such products.
http://purl.umn.edu/21293.


This paper uses the gravity model to investigate the market implications of unilateral and preferential economic reforms in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The results show that the traditional explanatory variables of the gravity model are the significant determinants of trade flows in the ECOWAS region, and that belonging to this grouping fosters trade. Hence policy advice should focus on strengthening these factors, which are likely to enhance the possibility of greater intra-regional trade. This can contribute to drawing foreign direct investment to the region, enhancing policy credibility, and bringing greater economic and political stability.

During the 11th General Conference on Insecurity and Development: regional issues and policies for an interdependent world', held in September 2005 in Bonn by the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI), the Nordic Africa Institute organized a panel on 'Regional cooperation in sub-Saharan Africa: between collective self-reliance and global trade regimes'. The contributions to this panel are included in the present collective volume. Ian Taylor shows how Africa's elites have moved from the dependency-tinged ideas of the 1970s vis-à-vis Africa's economic relations with the external world, to today's Nepad. Henning Melber presents a critical assessment of the current EU negotiations for Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs). Michael Brüntrup suggests a rethinking of protection for agricultural markets in sub-Saharan Africa with special reference to West Africa and the case of Senegal. [ASC Leiden abstract]

Neoliberal economic reforms were widely expected to rein in Africa's unofficial transborder trade through liberalization and closer integration into the global economy. Instead of disappearing in the face of structural adjustment and globalization, however, West African transborder trading systems have been restructured and globalized. This paper analyses how the West African experience of economic restructuring has led to an expansion and deepening of unofficial trade, as well as the globalization of its activities. A clear understanding of this process has been blunted by the ideological manipulation of perspectives on informal economic activity by proponents of the neoliberal reforms. By means of a deconstruction of populist analyses and more recent narratives of criminalization, this paper traces the contemporary evolution of transborder trade. The conclusion reached is that, while transborder trading structures represent important institutional resources for economic development, they are structurally incapable of integrating West Africa into the global economy in the absence of an appropriate regulatory framework. Bibliogr., sum. [Journal abstract]

In an international setting characterized by a proliferation of regional trade agreements, seven countries of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) have created a customs union. The reform raises concerns in some countries, like Senegal, where government is dependent on tariff revenues. The author builds an intertemporal general equilibrium model to analyze the dynamic effects of the reform. Simulation results highlight the desirability for Senegal to pursue regional economic integration along with an outward-looking strategy. The reform is welfare-improving and expansionary with some sectoral diversity. In the long run, government and foreign debts increase. Copyright 2002 by Blackwell Publishing Ltd http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1467-9396.00326/pdf
IIIB Investment analyses and Monetary issues

Studies deal with the analysis of foreign investment (including ‘impact investing’) in West Africa, and sometimes link it to domestic investments (crowding in, crowding out; impact on credit constraints; impact on productivity; knowledge and technology transfers; spillover effects). There are specific studies on economic and monetary cooperation (e.g. UEMOA and WAMZ), the role of central banks, the impact of monetary integration on intraregional trade and (how to attract) different kinds of financial inflows (investments, development assistance, remittances) and their impact. Some studies deal with administrative constraints (‘red tape’) of FDI, and on the impact of tax regimes, and fiscal coordination. A few studies start to compare global companies with smaller multinationals, partly with an African background. Finally some studies compare formal financial arrangements, with informal finance and microcredit.

The background of these studies is quite diverse, with many international academic journals participating in the debate.

African agencies: Isodec, Tamale (Ghana), and AERC (African Economic Research Council) Nairobi.


This paper analyzes the effects of capital inflows on domestic investment in the Economic and Monetary Union of West Africa (WAEMU). The WAEMU countries are Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal, and Togo. Several studies have examined the conditions of attracting foreign capitals and their contributions to economic growth in sub-Saharan economies of WAEMU. However, very few studies have examined the effects of capital on domestic investment in national economies. In this respect, there are three types of foreign capital to be taken into account namely Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), Official development Assistance (ODA) and Migrants Remittances (MR). FDI, ODA and MR are major sources of external capital flows in developing countries. The current empirical study is based on the theoretical model of Agosin and Mayer (2000) to test the hypothesis of crowding-out and crowding-in of domestic
investments by different types of foreign capitals considered. The econometric estimates are based on the GMM method of Arellano and Bond (1991) applied to a panel of WAEMU countries over the period 1996-2011. The results of the study show that FDI crowds-out domestic firms in both the short and long term. Similarly, ODA have a lasting crowding-out effects on local investment. As for migrants' remittances, the econometric results show that they do not have a significant effect on domestic investment in the countries of the union. These findings imply that the host countries of the WAEMU should invest more on developing their absorptive capability to attract technology transfer oriented FDI, channel the ODA to develop vital infrastructure for rapid economic development and create conducive environment for the MR to divert towards productive investments to create more crowding-in effects in lieu of the crowding-out effects. Practically, the results of this study show that multinational have a lasting crowding-out businesses in the WAEMU region. This is mainly due to the low technological absorption capacity of local firms and the lack of complementarity between local enterprises and multinational companies. Several future research on capital flows will better appreciate the impact of foreign investment on the economies of developing countries especially those in Africa.

http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_developing_areas/v049/49_3.fahinde.html


This paper investigates the long-run impact of foreign direct investment and trade openness on economic growth in Ghana (1970-2011) within the framework of the endogenous growth literature. Adopting the autoregressive distributed lag bounds testing approach to cointegration the results suggest that the interaction of foreign direct investment and exports has been crucial in fostering growth, thus validating the famous Bhagwati hypothesis. From a policy oriented point of view, the study recommends the channeling of foreign direct investment to export-oriented sectors and the promotion of export-led growth strategies in long-term development plans.


This paper establishes an empirical relationship between foreign direct investment (FDI) and economic growth in Nigeria under the framework of cointegration analysis over the period 1970-2010. The econometric evidence from the Engle Granger cointegration tests suggests that there is no long-run relationship between FDI and economic growth in Nigeria. However, there is a short-run dynamic relationship between FDI and economic growth. And finally the study concluded that, for the achievement of a long-run relationship between FDI and economic growth in Nigeria, there is a need to improve the business environment, with the provision of necessary infrastructure and political stability in the country.


The paper represents part of larger research agenda aimed at investigating the impact of FDI on economic growth. The study which is a sectoral analysis examined the impact of agriculture, manufacturing, mining and telecommunication sectors on economic growth for the period 1980-2011. The econometric method includes co-integration test, over-parameterized and error correction model. Results reveal that in the long run agriculture and manufacturing have negative impact on growth while mining and telecom sectors exhibit positive influence on economic growth. In the short run, results show that FDI in agricultural sector has either negative or no impact on economic growth while impact of manufacturing on growth is completely negative. On the other hand, the impact of mining and telecom sectors on growth is positive in the short run. The study recommended among other things that effort should be intensified by all levels of government, public and private sectors to revise the ugly trend where foreign investors are not keen in investing in the agricultural sector and that enabling laws guiding priority area for foreign investors where agriculture is considered topmost should be put in place.


Unlike most West African countries, Ghana has recently attracted significant flows of foreign direct investment (FDI). This article examines why Ghana attracts more FDI than its West African counterparts and how Ghana has improved its FDI attractiveness. To do so, the article uses statistical analysis to investigate the dynamics of FDI policy-related factors in Ghana and compares Ghana's performance with West African countries' average performance. The results show that over time and compared with West Africa's average situation, Ghana has
improved its level of openness to international markets, human capital, infrastructure, political stability, and quality of institutions. These results may explain Ghana’s recent improved performance in attracting FDI, and they suggest that improving the aforementioned factors may attract more FDI to Ghana and its neighbors. 
http://hdl.handle.net/10.1080/15228916.2014.881214.

The influence of foreign direct investment (FDI) on the productivity of the industrial sector in Ghana / A.-A. Iddrisu, B. Adam & B.O. Halidu.
Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and its impact on the growth of host economies has been widely researched but yet to produce a conclusive empirical result. A number of researchers have therefore moved the analysis to sectoral level in terms of the heterogeneity in the way FDI affects the various sectors of the host countries’ economies. The industrial sector is one of the sectors that have received considerable attention in the sectoral paradigm. In the case of Ghana however, the studies on the impact of FDI on the industrial sector are limited and the only study available is restricted to the exporting manufacturing firms in Ghana. We therefore studied the impact of FDI on the performance of the entire industrial sector in Ghana. More importantly, our study of the industrial sector in Ghana which includes the mining & quarrying as well as the oil & gas sub-sectors makes our study more meaningful since FDI to Africa has been argued in the literature to be driven by extractive minerals. Our time series data cover the period 1980 - 2013 and we used the Johansen cointegration test for the estimation of our model. We found FDI, trade openness and gross fixed capital formation to have significant long run positive effects on the performance of the industrial sector in Ghana. We also found that exchange rate exerts significant negative effect on industrial sector performance in the long run. We recommend that policy makers should make foreign ownership of enterprises in Ghana in the industrial sector more appealing to potential and existing investors. The government should work at strengthening the Cedi against the major trading partners as the continuous depreciation of the currency hurts businesses in the planning of payments and receipts denominated in foreign currency. Companies should invest in high quality plants and machines to enhance productivity. Trade relations with other countries should also be improved and fortified as trade openness contributes to the growth of the industrial sector.

http://hrmars.com/hrmars_papers/Article_01_The_Influence_of_Foreign_Direct_Investment.pdf

There has been intense competition among developed and developing countries to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) in recent years. This competition for FDI is due to the fact that foreign capital creates employment and economic growth, augments the productive capital of a country, promotes transfer of technology and skills to the host country, and hence helps alleviate poverty, among other benefits. The competition, among other things, has taken the form of reduction in the corporate tax rate. Over the past two decades there has been a downward trend in corporate tax rate and an upward trend in FDI inflow in Ghana. Empirical evidence point to the fact FDI inflow to Ghana is not influenced by lower corporate tax rates. What is more, no study has explored quantitatively the effect of corporate tax on the inflow of FDI to the various sectors of the economy of Ghana. This study, therefore, examined the effect of corporate tax reduction on sector-specific FDI inflow in Ghana. Specifically, the study investigated the effect of corporate tax on FDI inflow into the mining sector, manufacturing sector, and service sector of the economy. Using the Johansen cointegration technique, the study found that corporate tax influences FDI inflow in the all the sectors. The study recommends that government should maintain a low corporate tax rate to attract more FDI.

https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/58454/1/MPRA_paper_58454.pdf

The study investigates the effect of the instability of export earnings on gross fixed capital formation (total investment) in Ghana over the period, 1981 to 2011, marked by continuous political stability. The analysis employs the autoregressive distributed lag (ARDL) method of cointegration to evaluate a set of factors which affect investment as measured by the investment to gross domestic product (GDP) ratio. The results of the analysis confirm the expected negative relationship between export earnings instability and investment. Other factors that significantly influence investment in Ghana are real GDP growth, merchandise trade balance and gross savings ratio. Based on the analysis, we recommend policy measures aimed at increasing the savings ratio and export diversification given the re-emergence of reduced real values of Ghanaian export commodities in the world market after the high values of these commodities during the first decade of the 21st Century.
http://ecomod.net/system/files/EXPORT%20EARNING%20INSTABILITY%20PAPER%20VERSION%203%20Final.docx
This paper conducts a time series analysis of annual data set from 1980-2010, to study the potential determinants of FDI inflows to Ghana. The paper used modern econometric methodology which includes unit root testing, and co-integration analysis. Both the long-run and short run determinants of FDI were analysed using the Vector Error Correction Model (VECM). The VECM also enabled the researchers predict the speedy with which the short- run and long- run disequilibrium is corrected. The robustness of the estimated coefficients was investigated and found to be robust. The research reveals that infrastructural development and political stability have long-run positive and significant impact on the level of FDI inflows in Ghana. The study further established FDI targeting Ghana to be predominantly resource seeking for now. The short-run estimate for natural resources is positive and significant. However, Ghana cannot continue to rely on its natural resources to attract FDI as the long-run relationship is negative. Factors associated with market and efficiency seeking FDI such as market size, and value of the cedi were either found to be insignificant or unstable coefficients on inflows. Political instability is found to significantly deter inflows implying that strengthening of democratic institutions can bring in economic dividends by serving as a driver of FDI. The state of infrastructure is found to be below the required level necessary and sufficient to serve as a driver of inflows hence the negative short term effect. The policy implication of this finding is that for Ghana to fully realize its potential as far as foreign direct investment inflows is concerned it needs to embark on massive investments in infrastructure.

Multinational corporations (MNCs) and other foreign firms can be conduits for technology and knowledge (T&K) transfer to host countries in the developing world. Most of the existing research focuses on T&K transfers through FDI and are drawn from Asia not Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), although SSA is increasingly receiving foreign investment. There is a paucity of research that gives insights into project-level T&K transfer issues in SSA countries. Using the Ghanaian construction industry as an empirical focus, this article explores T&K transfer potential. The findings reveal significant weaknesses in T&K transfer across industry subsectors and between foreign and local firms. This arises from the potentially complementary but dissimilar resource and knowledge bases. The weaknesses are compounded by the absence of coherent government T&K development policies. http://www.sciedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1090951613000977


Using newly collected survey data on direct supplier-multinational linkages in Chile, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Mozambique, Swaziland, and Vietnam, this paper first evaluates whether foreign investors differ from domestic producers in terms of their potential to generate positive spillovers for local suppliers. It finds that foreign firms outperform domestic producers on several indicators, but have fewer linkages with the local economy and offer less supplier assistance, resulting in offsetting effects on the spillover potential. The paper also studies the relationship between foreign investor characteristics and linkages with the local economy as well as assistance extended to local suppliers. It finds that foreign investor characteristics matter for both. The paper also examines the role of suppliers' absorptive capacities in determining the intensity of their linkages with multinationals. The results indicate that several supplier characteristics matter, but these effects also depend on the length of the supplier relationship. Finally, the paper assesses whether assistance or requirements from a multinational influence spillovers on suppliers. The results confirm the existence of positive effects of assistance (including technical audits, joint product development, and technology licensing) on foreign direct investment spillovers, while the analysis finds no evidence of demand effects.

Can small and medium multinational enterprises offer an alternative to multinational
corporations in African countries?: evidence from Nigeria / E. Wamboye & A. Adekola. In: International journal of economic policy in emerging economies: (2013), vol. 6, no. 3, p. 279-295. Promotion of private investment is a necessity for capital formation in African countries. Foreign private investment in particular, is considered to be a source of the scarce capital resources, valuable technological know-how and corporate norms and practices. However, given the political unpredictability, lack of sufficient infrastructures, inadequate human capital and local technological capacities in these countries, attracting foreign investors outside of the natural resources sector, especially multinational corporations, has been a troubling concern to the policy makers in the region. Using Nigeria as our case study, we attempt to answer the following two questions: Are the small and medium multinational enterprises (SMMEs) an alternative to the traditional larger multinational corporations (MNCs) that have eluded African countries? What are the motivations and investment characteristics of the SMMEs? We evaluate these issues using primary data. http://www.inderscience.com/offer.php?id=56937.

Nigeria’s neocolonial character, foreign direct investments and industrialization in Nigeria / A.C. Maurice & B.O. Ugumanim. In: Journal of business and management: (2013), vol. 1, no. 4, p. 184-194. This paper examines the impact of the neocolonial character of Nigeria on the flows of foreign direct investment and its implications for Nigerian industrialization since 1960. The extents to which foreign direct investments (FDIs) are attracted or otherwise to any nation are largely determined by the administrative, socioeconomic, and political environments. The study adopted a purely descriptive analytical survey of relevant literature. The study confirmed that; first, the Nigerian political economy is largely a discontinuous, disarticulate, structural, rentier one which is dependent on the global capitalist system for her persistence and reproduction; second, public policy output orientations were fundamentally the expression of the interest of western capitalist class as effectively represented by their comprador local or indigenous counterparts; and third, the nature of foreign investment are such that promote the interest of the western capitalist economy, fourth, the neocolonial policy orientation of the Nigerian state tended to produce and reproduce a dependent political economy. Consequently, we recommend that: For a sustainable and favourable investment climate to insure, the following facts must be noted: (a) the economic and political sub-structures of the economy must be reformed in order to a more positive interdependent political economic system for Nigeria; (b) there must be congruency in the investment goals of foreign investors and the government or indigenous enterprises; (c) The ground rules and other rules of engagement must be made transparent, clear and unambiguous; etc.https://ideas.repec.org/a/soj/coe jbvn/v1y2013i4p184-194.html.


Efficacité des institutions de microfinance en UEMOA: une approche outreach – intermédiation financière / S. Kablan. - Créteil: Université de Paris, 2012. Notre étude se propose de mesurer l’efficacité des institutions de microfinance (IMFs) en UEMOA, en utilisant la méthode DEA (Data Envelopment Analysis). C’est la première étude qui considère à la fois la fonction d’intermédiaire et d’ouverture des IMFs. Nous trouvons une efficacité moyenne très faible de 50% en rendement d’échelle constant et de 63% en rendement d’échelle croissant. La baisse de l’efficacité sur la décennie 2000-2010, pour l’ensemble de la zone, s’explique par les difficultés rencontrées par le secteur de la microfinance qui ont conduit à la fermeture de nombreuses institutions, ou à une détérioration des indicateurs d’ouverture dans les pays tels que la Côte d’Ivoire, le Sénégal et le Bénin. La bonne gestion financière et de portefeuille, les subventions ont un impact positif sur l’efficacité tandis que la taille et la formation ont un impact négatif. https://halshs.archives-ouvertes.fr/halshs-00710206.

Multinational presence and the export participation of local firms in Ghana / F. Hasan. In: Applied economics letters: (2012), vol. 19, no. 15, p. 1515-1519. This article examines whether the presence of multinationals affects the export participation of local firms in the same industry using data on manufacturing firms in Ghana. We find robust evidence consistent with the idea of spillovers from multinationals to Ghanaian exporters. We also observe that larger firms and firms that exported in the past are more likely to export. Our results remain unchanged after we control for potential spillovers from other exporters. These results have useful implications for both Ghana’s trade and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policies. https://ideas.repec.org/a/tai/apeclt/v19y2012i15p1515-1519.html

This paper attempts to investigate the impact of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) on economic growth in Nigeria. The research developed a structural macroeconomic model consisting of four blocks made up of supply, private demand, government and external sectors. The model deploys 18 simultaneous equations and 100 variables to capture the required proxies. The research adopted a three-stage least squares (3SLS) technique and macroeconomic model of simultaneous equations to capture the disaggregated impact of FDI on the different sectors of the economy and the inter-linkages amongst the sectors in order to give better insight into the variations inherent therein. The finding shows that FDI has a significant impact on output of the economy but that the growth effects of FDI differ across sectors. The paper recommends sector-specific policies, enhanced trade openness, import substitution development strategy incentives to existing investors, and potential overseas investors so as to enhance the development of the country.


A gravity model is used to evaluate the effects of currency union on intra-regional trade of ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) member states. The panel data used includes bilateral observations for fourteen years spanning 1994 through 2006 for 16 countries. Controlling for determinants and deterrents of trade, I find the presence of a currency union three times as likely to increase intra-regional trade between ECOWAS member countries. In addition, I find that the effect on trade creation has been steadily falling since 1994. http://scholarship.claremont.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1251&context=cmc_theses

Sectoral analysis of foreign direct investment and economic growth in Nigeria / F.S. Ayadi. In: International journal of trade and global markets: (2010), vol. 3, no. 4, p. 327-340. Economic rationale for granting special incentives for attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is based on the belief that FDI bridges the 'idea gaps' between rich and the poor. Empirical literature however finds controversial, the effects of FDI on productivity growth. This paper contributes to the existing studies by applying the rho's rank correlation and causality test in exploring the possible links between FDI and economic growth in Nigeria. We determined the contributory factors to FDI and empirically tested the endogeneity theory of FDI. The study concluded that the link between FDI and economic growth in Nigeria is very weak. By disaggregating FDI data by sectors however, FDI was found to have contributed to economic growth in Nigeria. The study therefore recommends infrastructural development, human capacity building and strategic policies toward attracting FDI flow. http://www.inderscience.com/offer.php?id=35753

De la finance formelle et informelle à la microfinance / B.S. Diakite. - Paris: [Menaibuc etc.], 2009. (Collection microfinance et développement).


This study investigates the determinants of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the Ghanaian manufacturing sector, using the Regional Project on Enterprise Development (RPED) dataset. The study adopts a binary logistic regression model in which the dependent variable, FDI, is expressed as a function of firm-level characteristics and location variables. The results of this study showed that firm size, capital requirement, skill intensity, labour cost, technological capability and unionisation of a firm's workers positively affect FDI inflows. The results, however, revealed that firm age negatively affect FDI. We also found that the location and sub-sector of the firm influence FDI inflows. The main findings of this study are that, larger firms are more likely to attract FDI in the manufacturing sector. Also, firms with high capital base, skilled labour force, improved technological capability and unionised labour are often in the position to attract more FDI into the manufacturing sector.

http://www.inderscience.com/offer.php?id=28983


The characteristics and determinants of FDI in Ghana / F. Barthel, M.Busse, and R.Osei.
Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) can be a valuable tool for development. However, not all forms of FDI are equally beneficial for the host country. The paper analyses the characteristics and determinants of FDI in a typical developing country: Ghana. Moreover, key policy areas are indicated, in order to enable Ghana both to attract more FDI and to increase the benefits from these capital inflows. The analysis combines qualitative and quantitative methods and is partly based on data retrieved from the World Bank's 2007 Enterprise Survey, and partly on our own survey of 54 multinational enterprises operating in Ghana. http://hdl.handle.net/10419/48252.

Conventional theories in political economy argue that monetary cooperation is more likely in regions with trade interdependence. In practice, however, regional trade cooperation usually does not lead to monetary cooperation. I argue that this disparity results from different political economy logics in the two issue areas. In contrast to trade cooperation, the domestic actor that sacrifices the most in a regional monetary agreement is the government itself, which loses a significant tool for domestic economic adjustment as well as an important political symbol. Thus, monetary cooperation is only likely if there are direct benefits to the government to compensate for its lost monetary control. Benefits to the aggregate economy or to particular economic sectors are usually insufficient compensation. Experience with earlier monetary institutions, however, can in some cases reduce the costs to governments enough to make cooperation feasible. I explore these arguments with two sets of case studies: Central America and West Africa. Central America has had the highest level of trade cooperation in the developing world, but never successfully implemented monetary cooperation. West Africa, by contrast, developed a strong regional currency despite its very low intra-regional trade. West Africa did have, however, experience with regional monetary institutions that lowered the costs of new cooperation for newly independent African governments.

This paper analyzes the macroeconomic implications of trade openness and foreign direct investment (FDI) on industrial performance in Ghana. The paper argues that in Ghana industrial performance is affected adversely by trade openness through a number of mechanisms including monetary policy, fiscal policy, and FDI. The methodological approach consists of analyzing a set of macroeconomic models using quarterly data for the period 1983(1)-2006(4) under general-to-specific parsimonious conditions. Unrestricted Cointegrating and Vector Error-Correction Models were estimated to examine the static and dynamic long-run effects as well as the short-run dynamics of the system and the speed of adjustment to the long-run equilibrium. The findings indicate that industrial performance is largely impeded by trade openness, high lending rate of commercial banks and, to a lesser extent, corporate tax. The main positive determinants of industrial performance are raw material availability, previous level of economic performance, industrial wage, and a moderate rate of inflation. It is, therefore, recommended that effective policies should be directed at stabilizing the macroeconomy to reduce the operational risks of banks which would reflect in lower lending rates, making the agricultural sector more vibrant for increased supply of raw materials to the industrial sector, and paying attractive industrial wages to workers. It is also recommended that policymakers should formulate and implement prudent policies that would appropriately harness domestic capital to finance industrial activities rather than over-relying on FDI (that does not have significant long-run impact on industrial performance in Ghana. https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/37116/1/MPRA_paper_37116.pdf

The fairly decent growth performance that made Ghana the model of economic reform in sub-Saharan Africa has been somewhat dented by the increasing rate of unemployment and underemployment. Policies narrowly focused on achieving macroeconomic stability and accelerated growth without adequate employment consideration. Growth appears to have emanated from mining. Sectors with high labour absorption rate such as manufacturing, tourism, agriculture and exports have not attracted the necessary investment to enhance growth and employment performance. The Ghanaian economy therefore requires a thorough review of the current national development policies to generate growth that would promote job creation and improve incomes for the realisation of its poverty reduction goals. For employment-friendly growth to be realised, various initiatives are suggested. http://www.ilo.org/public/libdoc/ilo/2007/107B09_55 Engl.pdf.

Bounds testing approach: an examination of foreign direct investment, trade, and growth relationships / J.M. Frimpong and E.F. Oteng-Abayie. - Munchen: University Library of Munich,
This paper examines the long-run impact of foreign direct investment and trade on economic growth in Ghana. Methodology: Using an augmented aggregate production function (APF) growth model, we apply the bounds testing (ARDL) approach to cointegration which is more appropriate for estimation in small sample studies. The data span for the study is from 1970 to 2002. Findings: The results indicated the impact of FDI on growth to be negative which is consistent with other past studies. Trade however was found to have significant impact on growth. https://ideas.repec.org/p/prm/nprapa/352.html.

Currency convertibility and monetary integration activities of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) are directed at addressing the problems of multiple currencies and exchange rate changes that are perceived as stumbling blocks to regional integration. A real exchange rate (RER) variability model shows that ECOWAS is closer to a monetary union now than before. As expected, the implementation of structural adjustment programmes (SAPs) by various governments in the subregion has brought about a reasonable level of convergence. However, wide differences still exist between RER shocks facing CFA zone and non-CFA zone West African countries. Further convergence in economic policy and alternatives to dependence on revenues from taxes on international transactions are required for a stable region-wide monetary union in West Africa. http://www.aercafrica.org/documents/RP_147.pdf.

The aim of this paper is (i) to assess the impact of regional agreements on members' trade in Sub-Saharan Africa (intra-regional trade as well as trade with the rest of the world), controlling for the other traditional determinants and (ii) to compare the respective effect of the preferential trade agreements and the currency unions. Considering the period 1962–96, we first assess the average impact of each regional agreement on their implementation period and second we show how these impacts have evolved. An ‘augmented’ gravity model is designed, relying on a transport cost function, in which specific dummies allow trade creation and trade diversion effects to be separated. The model is estimated in panel with bilateral specific effects, to isolate the non-observable characteristics of each pair of countries and according to the Hausman–Taylor (1981) method, which takes into account a possible endogeneity of some explanatory variables. During their implementation, the African regional trade agreements have generated a significant increase in trade between members, although initially often through trade diversion. In the two agreements of the CFA franc zone, the currency unions have largely reinforced the positive effect of the corresponding preferential trade agreements on intra-regional trade, while dampening their trade diversion effect.

**Public forum on the role of International Financial Institutions (IFI) in Ghana's development process / R. Golden & Y. Zakaria. - Tamale : ISODEC, 2003.**

The author tries to explain why monetary cooperation and integration have been difficulty to achieve among member states of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). He shows how different interest groups--both members and nonmembers--have over time influenced policies and positions on various ECOWAS member states. Unfortunately, most negotiations for cooperation among ECOWAS member states have a much better monetary cooperation and integration program, mainly because of France's active support and participation in negotiations, mediation, and consensus building. Unfortunately, Nigeria—which has been the main force behind bilingual regional integration in West Africa--has a different agenda from France. Its promotion of a bilingual economic grouping in West Africa was in part an attempt to reduce France's influence in West Africa, so France is unlikely to allow economic and monetary cooperation and integration along Nigerian lines. The fact that Nigeria is still a weak state does not help. The choice for francophone West African countries is therefore between closer ties with France--which has provided development aid, ensured currency convertibility, and guaranteed monetary stability in those francophone countries--and closer ties with Nigeria (which has done none of the above for itself, much less for its neighbors). The increasing convergence of
macroeconomic indices among ECOWAS member countries—which is essential for monetary cooperation and integration—has come about largely because of events outside of ECOWAS or because of externally (International Monetary Fund) imposed structural adjustment programs. France’s support is essential for the development of a meaningful ECOWAS. [URL]

*Does direct foreign investment affect domestic firms’ credit constraints?* / Ann

Firms in developing countries cite credit constraints as one of their primary obstacles to investment. Direct foreign investment, by bringing in scarce capital, may ease domestic firms’ credit constraints. Alternatively, if foreign firms borrow heavily from domestic banks, they may exacerbate domestic firms’ credit constraints by crowding them out of domestic capital markets. One plausible mechanism by which this may happen is indirect. Foreign firms may be more experienced and have better financial ratios and thus, be a safer bet for lending institutions. Using firm-level data from the *Ivory Coast* for the period 1974-1987 we test the following hypotheses: (1) domestic firms are more credit constrained than foreign firms and (2) borrowing by foreign firms exacerbates the credit constraints of domestic firms. Results suggest that domestic firms are significantly more credit constrained that foreign firms and that borrowing by foreign firms aggravates domestic firms’ credit constraints. By splitting the sample into state-owned (SOE) and privately owned domestic enterprises we are able to show that SOEs are less financially constrained than other domestic enterprises, consistent with the notion of a ‘soft budget constraint’. Borrowing by foreign firms affects only privately owned enterprises. Finally, we explore possible explanations for the crowding out effect. [URL]

*Administrative barriers to foreign investment: reducing red tape in Africa* / J.J. Emery,M.T.
[URL]
IV. Geography and sociology

IVA Migration & Remittances

There is attention for the 1979 ECOWAS Free Movement Protocol Dakar (which writers call an ‘empty promise’). The literature further discusses law & order issues, and the developmental/economic impact of mobility, cross-border movement and remittances of the diaspora. There is some gender-specific attention for the geographical mobility of men versus women, and the development of transnational spaces of labour mobility within West Africa, partly as a response to policies, but a lot of it spontaneous.

This is a small section in the international literature on regional integration in West Africa, and almost all publishers are academic ones, and only one based in Africa itself.

Academic publisher in Africa: Covenant University, Nigeria

Academic Journal: Insight on Africa (SAGE)


The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Protocol relating to the Free Movement of Persons, Residence and Establishment was approved by the ECOWAS heads of state and the government in Dakar on 29 May 1979. It was conceived as one of the bedrocks of regional integration efforts in West Africa in the firm belief that free movement of persons, goods, services and capital not only constitutes the fundamental basis for enhancing and consolidating the dividends of economic integration under the auspices of the ECOWAS but is also capable of influencing positively the harmonious development of social, economic and cultural activities within the sub-region. It is in the light of the above that this article examines the main elements of the ECOWAS Free Movement Protocols. It evaluates the degree to which the protocols have been implemented and identifies if they have served as a driver or an obstacle to regional integration in West Africa. http://ioa.sagepub.com/content/7/2/154.abstract


Ce volume comprend des textes qui ont été rédigés à partir des communications présentées à un atelier de travail tenu à Bamako, Mali, en 2011. L'objectif de cet ouvrage est ainsi d'attirer l'attention sur le fait que la mobilité et les mouvements dans l'espace Sahara-Sahel (ESS) présentent un potentiel inhérent de changement et de développement. Titres: Mobilité, développement et intégration régionale (E. Boesen et L. Marfaing): Back to the future: intra-regional migration and development in West Africa (H. Koff); La contribution des migrants de Sadel (Matam/Sénégal) au développement de leur village d'origine (P.D. Fal); Après la France: les investissements économiques des migrants de retour (B.E. Dicko); Influences des migrations sur les transformations socio-économiques et politiques au Sénégal (A. Tandian); Niamey, noeud des circulations migratoires entre le nord et le sud du Sahara (H. Mounkaila); Travailleurs migrants dans les villes du Sahara-Sahel comme Nouakchott et Bamako: la mobilité pour la ressource (L. Marfaing); Les marchés transfrontaliers et la régionalisation en Afrique : les cas de Diaobe (Sénégal) et de São Domíngos (Guinée-Bissau) (J.-L. Sankt); Migrations féminines: dimensions économiques et socio-culturelles de la mobilité des femmes wodaabe du Niger (E. Boesen); Space and mobility: lessons from the Sahel to the globalized world (D. Rétaillé et O. Walther); Le Professeur Boubacar Barry sur les mobiliés et les politiques dans l'espace CEDEAO. [Résumé ASC Leiden].

44
The migration of Africans within West Africa is far from being a recent phenomenon. People moved within and across the ethnic lines before the colonial era, but in recent times the number of African emigrants has risen significantly, especially in the 21st Century. African diasporas within the African continent, especially in the sub-region of West Africa are often overlooked actors in the area of development and integration. Therefore, this study examined the roles of diasporas in Ghana and Nigeria in the areas of development and sub-regional integration in West Africa and how they are enhanced or diminished by the ECOWAS treaty, as a formal institution of development and integration in West Africa. Also, the contributions of African diasporas outside of West-African countries is an issue that has not been well articulated in the foreign policies of Nigeria and Ghana for the purpose of actualising the integration agenda of the ECOWAS. This study adopted a mixed research design, a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods. Up to 357 Nigerians living in Ghana and 211 Ghanaians living in Nigeria participated in the study. The ratio of males to females among Nigerian diasporas was 8 to 1 while the Ghanaiian diasporas had a ratio of about 7 to 1. The mean ages of Nigerian diasporas was 24.6 years and Ghanaiian diasporas was 45.6 years. Three research questions were raised and answered. The findings revealed that both Nigerian and Ghanaian diasporas contributed to the social, economic, political and cultural development of Ghana and Nigeria respectively. The present state of diaspora linkages between Nigeria and Ghana was found to be supportive of the sub-regional integration agenda of ECOWAS. The findings of hypotheses revealed that Nigerian and Ghanian diasporas are contributing to the development of their countries of origin and destination. The formal institutional arrangements such as ECOWAS Protocol was found to be operational and aiding the developmental activities of Ghanian and Nigerian diasporas. The linkages between Ghanian and Nigerian diasporas and their countries of destination and origin were found to enhance Nigeria and Ghana bilateral relations. It was concluded that the ECOWAS community leaders aimed at a borderless West Africa when they signed the ECOWAS treaty, but the officials entrusted with implementing the policy seem to be self-centered and not community-oriented. This study recommends among others that in order to facilitate diaspora engagement in the development process of Nigeria and Ghana, the Nigerian and Ghanian governments should strengthen their links with the existing diaspora networks and organisations, such as religious organisations and communities, associations, and venues of engagement created and maintained by the Nigerian and Ghanian diasporas. [http://eprints.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/1457/1/Fayomi%20Oluyemi%20Oyenike.pdf](http://eprints.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/1457/1/Fayomi%20Oluyemi%20Oyenike.pdf).


Regional integration beyond the traditional trade benefits: labor mobility contribution: the case of Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire / A. Konseiga. - Frankfurt am Main: Lang, 2005. (Development economics and policy; 46).
The West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) seeks at changing the weak intra-regional trade and the strong disparities between countries. How to achieve such an objective, given the heterogeneous profiles of the member countries such as Côte d'Ivoire (Regional pole) and Burkina Faso (one of the poorest)? This is an important issue at stake. Intra-African migration flows is one of the best arguments for regional integration in the face of negligible goods and investment flows. The presence of migrants makes Burkina Faso a «share-holder» in Côte d'Ivoire's economic success. Based on the economic theories of migration, the publication presents a very comprehensive and detailed empirical analysis of changes in factors mobility inside WAEMU, with particular emphasis on the two representative countries. Migrations concern rural populations and to deal with the microeconomic issues, the study used survey data collected in the BurkinaFaso Sahel. Secondary data on skills migration and brain drain are constructed to study the macroeconomic convergence.

IVB Geography and physical infrastructure

Studies look at the spatial patterns of trade relations and analyze the impact of infrastructural development: transport, telecommunications, and energy infrastructure. There are studies about the impact of population growth and urbanization on trade routes, and about the shifts in markets, indicating a gap between actual physical infrastructural arrangements and the many ambitious plans that have been formulated during the last few years. Studies dealing with the ‘spatiality’ of economic development highlight the importance of understanding the actual poles and axes of regional networks, but it is important to go beyond the designated ‘corridors’, as a lot of movement of goods and people does not follow these corridors.

Also this section only has a few titles, but these cover all the important fields of physical infrastructure development. Important contributions come from international agencies, but also academic sources have contributed.

International agencies: World Bank, JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency).


West African spatial patterns of economic activities: combining the 'spatial factor' and 'mobile space' approaches / O.J. Walther, A.M. Howard & D. Retaille.
Over the last 30 years, two different bodies of literature developed by both US historians and francophone geographers have moved toward similar conclusions regarding West African economic spatial patterns. Despite their different backgrounds, both the 'spatial factor' approach promoted by historians and the 'mobile space' approach developed by geographers view exchange centres as nodes of transnational trade networks and places in production territories, and perceive spatial dynamics as highly dependent on shifts of trade flows and production activities. The objective of this article is to bring these two approaches together. The authors analyse the linguistic, disciplinary and geographic barriers that have separated them, and explain why and how these obstacles are being overcome. They then turn to what the two approaches have in common, notably their emphasis on actors in space, particularly traders, and where their differences lie. Finally, they show how a combined approach can make a significant contribution to the scholarly study of space in West Africa. The authors argue that continuing dialogue among fields can contribute to a reassessment of development policies.
Bibliogr., notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract]

International trade has been a staple of the world economy for centuries. In today’s world, as the pressure of globalization takes hold, and as the role of the state recedes while the role of regions increase, the need to maximize the benefits of international trade and investment inflows becomes even more accentuated. Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) in particular, has perennially been on the periphery of global trade and investments, contributing no more than 3-4%, notwithstanding SSA having proportionately much higher population and natural resource base. To improve SSA ability to be competitive in international trade as well as to multiply intra-african trade, the continent.s leaders have long resorted to forming regional economic communities (RECs). But more than five decades of regional economic integration in SSA has produced mostly failed RECs. Yet regional integration is being touted as SSA surest bet for relevance in the global economy. Therein lies the paradox! How can an undertaking that have produced mostly failures be the self-same route out of global
economic irrelevance? In this study, it is shown that the model for regional integration adopted by many SSA REC, the linear model, also considered the Eurocentric model of regional integration, buttressed by an intergovernmental legal framework, does not suit the peculiar circumstances of the region and is the cause for the near total failure of regional integration on the continent. This research, using the ECOWAS specialized institutions as case studies—the West African Power Pool (WAPP) and the ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERERA)—argues for a paradigm shift in the conceptualisation of regionalism on the continent. It argues for a shift to developmental regionalism, buttressed by strong supranational legal framework. The study shows that the West African regional bloc, ECOWAS, now recognises the nexus between the development of trade-related infrastructure and intra-african trade on the one hand, as well as the nexus between the development regionalism and the expansion of SSA trade with the rest of the world, on the other hand. Accordingly, the study concludes that ECOWAS institutionalization of a regional electricity market via the establishment of regional institutions of WAPP and ERERA is the new model for regional integration in SSA.


This study employs the gravity model of trade to examine the impact of improving the quality of a regional road infrastructure in the ECOWAS sub-region, from its current level to the level of roads in South Africa, on intra- regional trade. The study augments the traditional gravity model to include variables for language, common border and road quality. The positive difference in per capita GDP of trading partners is also included to test the Linder hypothesis. The parameters in the model are estimated using the random-effect model and the result shows that such improvement will lead to a US$356.06 million (4.97 per cent) increase in intra-regional trade relative to the 2012 level, ceteris paribus. Moreover, the ancillary benefits of improvement in road quality in terms of increased movement of factors of production will foster further intra-regional trade in the medium and long terms. To enhance the benefits of the improvement in the road quality, ECOWAS governments needs to put in place other soft infrastructures to fast-track the achievement of the objectives of the ECOWAS trade liberalization scheme. However, increasing the quality of roads demands huge financial investment, thus a cost-benefit trade- off must be carefully considered. Notes, ref., sum. [Journal abstract].


**Data Collection Survey on Traffic for International Port and International Corridor in Western Africa.** JICA. 2012.


Infrastructure improvements boosted growth in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) by one percentage point per capita per year during 1995-2005, primarily thanks to growth in information and communication technology. Deficient power infrastructure held growth back by 0.1 percent. Raising the region's infrastructure to the level of Mauritius could boost growth by 5 percentage points. Overall, infrastructure in the 15 ECOWAS countries ranks consistently behind southern Africa across many indicators. However, there is parity in access to household services -- water, sanitation, and power. ECOWAS has a well-developed regional road network, though sea corridors and ports need attention. Surface transport is expensive and slow, owing to cartelization, restrictive regulations, and delays. There is no regional rail network. Air transport has improved despite the lack of a strong hub-and-spoke structure. Safety remains a concern. Electrical power, the most expensive and least reliable in Africa, reaches 50 percent of the population but meets just 30 percent of demand. Regional power trading would bring substantial benefits if Guinea could become a hydropower exporter. Prices for critical ICT services are relatively high. Recent pan-regional initiatives have improved roaming. New projects are underway to provide access and improved services to unconnected countries. Completing and maintaining ECOWAS's infrastructure will require sustained spending of $1.5 billion annually for a decade, with one-third going to power. Although the necessary spending is only 1 percent of regional GDP, some countries’ share is between 5 and 25 percent of national GDP. Clearly, external assistance will be needed.[http://www.
In recent years, there has been an increasing recognition that significant welfare gains could be realized through deep forms of regional integration which entail harmonization of legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks. Reforms that reduce cross-border transaction costs and improve the performance of "backbone" infrastructure services are arguably even more important for the creation of an open, unified regional economic space than trade policy reforms narrowly defined. This paper assesses the potential gains from regionalized telecommunications policy in West Africa. To this end, the paper: (i) discusses how regional cooperation can overcome national limits in technical expertise, enhance the capacity of nations credibly to commit to stable regulatory policy, and ultimately facilitate infrastructure investment in the region (ii) identifies trade-distorting regulations that inhibit opportunities for regional trade and economic development, and so are good candidates for regional trade negotiations to reduce indirect trade barriers and (iii) describes substantive elements of a harmonized regional regulatory policy that can deliver immediate performance benefits.

This paper details the current situation in Guinea Bissau regarding infrastructure needs and suggests policies for the future. In particular it is noted that the degradation of the country’s only port in Bissau is a serious concern given the likelihood that the port will in a few years cease to be accessible to ocean-going freighters if rehabilitation is not made an immediate priority. While primary roads are in fairly good shape, secondary roads are abysmal and maintenance needs are routinely ignored on all roads. It is shown that completion of bridges connecting Bissau directly to Senegal will have the effect of making Senegalese ports the preferred outlet for many of Guinea Bissau’s exports. http://purl.umn.edu/55927

IVC Reality of Cross-border Relations, and Borderland studies

This part of the literature mainly deals with border zone dynamics and linkages. Studies give attention to borderzone dynamics, ‘development at the border’, and social-spatial cross-border connections, or ‘cross-border micro-regionalism’. Some of these studies make a plea for joint land use planning in border areas, and cross-border natural resource management. There are discussions about the costs of travel and (long-distance) trade, with increasing attention for the role of corruption, illicit trade, criminal networks and the link with violence and insecurity. Most studies go beyond economics, and also deal with political contexts, and next to traders also study the role of political ‘patrons’. There are studies about so-called quasi-formal forms of trading, and many about informal, unrecorded trade and smuggling. Some studies deal with the ways entrepreneurs deal with illegality. Some studies link the growing informality in trade relations with the disengagement of the state following structural adjustment measures.

Many different agencies have contributed to the publications in this section, some from within Africa.


Le cycle 2015-16 de réflexion stratégique du CSAO analyse les principales opportunités et enjeux de la coopération transfrontalière. Une cartographie des espaces transfrontaliers ouest-africains à haut potentiel est en cours. Elle s’appuie entre autres sur dix indicateurs dont la proximité entre les bassins de population, l’accès aux centres urbains et aux marchés frontaliers, les bassins de production, les espaces linguistiques, l’existence de structures transfrontalières de coopération, etc. En parallèle, à l’échelle locale, trois études de cas sont réalisées sur les zones de l’Autorité du Liptako-Gourma, l’Organisation pour la mise en valeur du fleuve Sénégal et la Commission du bassin du Lac Tchad. Les résultats intermédiaires seront discutés lors de sessions restreintes et dans le cadre du Forum 2015 du CSAO. Ils seront largement diffusés sous forme de documents de politique et de synthèses. Le rapport final sera publié fin 2016 dans la série des Cahiers de l’Afrique de l'Ouest de l'OCDE.
http://www.oecd.org/fr/csao/dossiers/cooperation-transfrontaliere.htm


Mapping the socio-economic potential of border regions can provide great insights as to where cross-border co-operation could be intensified in West Africa / O.J. Walther & S. Vollmer. In: GREAT insights magazine: (2015), vol. 4, no. 6.


By applying regression discontinuity designs to a set of household surveys from the 1980–90s, we examine whether Côte d'Ivoire's aggregate wealth was translated at the borders of neighboring countries. At the border of Ghana and at the end of the 1980s, large discontinuities are detected for consumption, child stunting, and access to electricity and safe water. Border discontinuities in consumption can be explained by differences in cash crop policies (cocoa and coffee). When these policies converged in the 1990s, the only differences that persisted were those in rural facilities. In the North, cash crop (cotton) income again made a difference for consumption and nutrition (the case of Mali). On the one hand, large differences in welfare can hold at the borders dividing African countries despite their assumed porosity. On the other hand, border discontinuities seem to reflect the impact of reversible public policies rather than intangible institutional traits.

http://wber.oxfordjournals.org/content/29/1/41.full.pdf+html.


Grain is an important marketable commodity that is hampered by risk of interrelated dimensions, particularly in borderlands of West Africa. Assessing the extent of risk in borderlands can be valuable for policy-makers and likely to contribute to increased regional trade through effective management. Risk management along the grain supply chain was investigated. The methodology was qualitative using desk review of literature and field survey and interviews. While the survey revealed evidence of substantial volume of grain exchange, most of the traders indicated transportation, high taxes and low production of grain as the most important risk factors limiting trade. Production was found to be limited by low access to agricultural insurance, fertilizer, irrigation and credit. Although farmers had access to production information, market information was inadequate. While public grain reserve exists to manage price risk the capacity was insignificant compared to the magnitude of grain trade in the region. The guaranteed minimum grain price was not collectively determined but by government and their contractors.


This paper uses unique high-frequency data on prices of two agricultural goods to examine the additional costs incurred in cross-border trade between Niger and Nigeria, as well as trade between ethnically distinct markets within Niger. We find a sharp and significant conditional price change of about 20 to 25% between markets immediately across the national border. This price change is significantly lower when markets on either side of the border share a common ethnicity. Within Niger, trade between ethnically distinct regions exhibits an ethnic border effect that is comparable, in its magnitude, to the national border effect between Niger and Nigeria. Our results suggest that having a common ethnicity may reduce the transaction costs associated with agricultural trade, especially the costs associated with communicating and providing credit.
http://ftr.sagepub.com/content/49/1/95.abstract


Since the middle of the years 1980, the borders of State became places of commercial excitement, animated at the same time by the far-off flows and the small cross-border traffics. Following the example of these cross- border spaces, the one of Indéné-Djuablin located in the East of Ivory Coast, that shelters several urban and rural markets puts rhythm into the commercial activities. These commercial places which mark out the frontier line between Ivory Coast and Ghana are invaded by several actors who play very important part in the development of the frontier site. The following study has for main aim to measure the investments achieved in the crossborder space allowing the improvement of the level and the framework of the life of the populations. So observations and interviews were carried out in twelve (12) frontier localities as well on the side of Ivory Coast as on the Ghanaian side. In spite of the commercial turmoil under the protection of the border, the socio-educational, collective equipment and other investments in the real estate noted are mainly the work of the public authorities with a tiny participation of
some commercial actors. The infrastructural problems, of insecurity and facilities are as many hindrances to the dynamism to the border commercial places. It would therefore be advisable to the main actors to invest in the country-border helping thus the public authorities to improve their condition and the living environment. http://eujournal.org/index.php/esj/article/view/2079/199.


African countries are faced with severe economic crises that involve the recrudescence of joblessness and poverty. Many development programmes have been set up for dealing with these issues without real success. These plans don't take in account informal trade, main provider of jobs and income in African cities growing in an indescribable way. Through the case of Bondoukou city in Côte d'Ivoire, this study evaluates the role played by informal trade in city development. Does this activity influence economic development locally? What are the strength, weakness, threats and opportunities afforded by informal trade for upgrading people life in a locality?


Although levels of intra-regional trade in SSA are very low, informal cross-border trade (ICBT) is thriving almost everywhere in Africa. Informal trade can involve two types of illegality, in the goods themselves (e.g. narcotics) or in the manner of trading (evasion of customs duties and regulations). Both types of illegal trade occur in Africa. West Africa serves as an important locus for international trade by organized crime in narcotics, notably cocaine. However, although most informal trade is illegal in the narrow sense that it is unreported and fails to comply with statutory tax rates and other regulations, the products involved are generally not in themselves illegal to trade or use. This chapter focuses on unreported trade of legal goods, which has varying degrees of illegality in terms of its intentions and compliance with tax and regulatory statutes. The chapter surveys the literature on ICBT in Africa, beginning from the economic theory of smuggling, considering several quantitative and qualitative techniques to address welfare effects and policy implications. The discussion covers the social organization of cross-border trade, emphasizing the integration of ICBT with the informal sector, which plays a dominant role in most African economies. It addresses the causes of widespread ICBT, including: artificial and porous borders inherited from the colonial era; weak border enforcement; uncoordinated trade and other policies among neighbouring countries, leading to large price differences that provide the immediate impetus to smuggling; and ethnic and religious kinship groups straddling borders. Case studies in West and East Africa illustrate the issues.


Informal and regional timber trades are commonly understood and primarily viewed as domestic trade. The development of these informal and regional trades is not only fueled by factors such as the dynamics of economic growth and local livelihoods, and the globalisation and increasing interdependence of economies, but also the weakening of the states, and institutions in the less developed countries. There are increasing indications and analyses, showing the growth and the extent of the informal trades beyond national borders, either for chainsaw milled (primary) or processed timbers. Regional informal timber trades in Asia (Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam and South China) and in Africa (Cameroon, Nigeria, Niger, Chad, Sudan and Eritrea) are becoming abundant reflecting similar developments as in agricultural products.


Where informal procedures are quasi-regular: cross-border trade between West and Central
This note outlines the critical barriers that constrain trade between Nigeria and Cameroon, describes the practical norms that have emerged as a response to those constraints, and recommends key reforms for the governments to undertake. It is often difficult to get an accurate picture of the magnitude of informal cross-border trade in most developing countries. Many factors contribute to this difficulty, but chief among them are weak state institutions, widespread practices by traders to underreport trade in order to avoid high taxes, and porous borders that are hard to monitor and permit trade to cross borders unrecorded. In the case of Cameroon and Nigeria, officially recorded non-oil bilateral trade flows represent only a minor fraction of both countries overall trade. In 2010 and 2011, recorded official trade data show that non-oil trade flows from Nigeria to Cameroon were between 1 USD and 10 million USD, while Cameroon exported an estimated 10 to 30 million USD to Nigeria. Removing barriers to trade between the two economic blocs in West and Central Africa is of strategic importance for closer economic integration among countries in West and Central Africa, and to generate an Africa-wide free trade area by 2017, an objective endorsed by African governments.

The objective of this methodological paper is to identify a number of products or sectors whose trade is relevant for border regions in West Africa. Focusing on Niger, Benin and Nigeria, we start with contextualising the importance of border markets by quantifying the changes in the relative values and volumes of imports and exports passing through border posts. In a second step, we determine which are the products most commonly found among the imports and exports of the border posts. The study shows that seven products are recognized as being heavily imported, subject to significant trade from large traders, and considered as re-export products: building materials, cereals and flour, textile, used clothing, used vehicles, cigarettes and oil.

Trans-border crimes and arms smuggling in the West African sub-region has in recent times been identified as a fundamental problem that requires concerted efforts by individuals, groups, organizations and governments to solve. Thus, we have national governments, regional organizations, the United Nations Organization and other non-governmental organizations making active efforts to stem smuggling of arms. This trend of event is quite understandable. The last decade has witnessed tremendous increase in the proliferation of arms across the West African sub-region. The arms were believed to be used to actualize certain socio-political objectives which in many cases become violent. The violence involved necessitated the smuggling of arms to actualize those objectives. While smuggling of arms had led to the availability of arms being possessed illegally, it has facilitated outright destruction of peace and security in Africa especially the West African sub-region. The availability of these small arms had made it easy for some countries to go to full scale war and in countries where there is no war, it is a common place that life is lived as if it is always in a state of war. Every person whether while staying in his home or moving about does so with the feeling that the next person to him is armed with a small weapon and about to kill him. Suddenly, the international community in the last two decades came to the realization of the havoc the smuggling/proliferation of small arms had done to mankind. It has suddenly been discovered that the biggest agent of destruction of human life is small weapon which are very cheap and easy to acquire and moved about. Human destruction is facilitated by small arms through violent ethnic/political/religious conflicts, kidnapping, armed robbery, assassination and cultism in the tertiary institutions. Consequently, an international Campaign was initiated through the United Nations Organization (UNO) by concerned countries to end the smuggling in arms. This research study attempts to examine the perception of trans-border communities to arms smuggling with specific focus on Nigeria-Benin Republic border, and how they can assist in tackling smuggling in arms across the borders.
http://www.aessweb.com/download.php?id=1143

This paper uses a Real Business Cycle (RBC) model to analyse and simulate the effect of a negative oil-price shock on the informal sector in Nigeria. Secondly, the paper shows that RBC theory can account for the size of the informal sector as produced by the Multiple Indicator Multiple Cause (MIMIC) model. The MIMIC model has been criticised for generating estimates of the informal sector without an underlying theory. This paper shows that the model's estimates of the informal sector can be supported by theory.

Sustainability under siege: transport costs and corruption on West Africa's trade
We use recent data on transport costs in West Africa, including the added burden of bribes and enforced delays, to show how such costs represent a deterrent to investment in — and therefore the sustainability of — agricultural assets. We focus on data for two important tree crops in West Africa, cashew and shea. We also have data for the transport of onions between Niger and the urban market in Accra, Ghana. Our data allow us to predict plausible increases in farm-gate prices from a reduction in transport costs and bribes. A 10% reduction in the total transport costs (actual costs plus corruption costs) of onions from Niger could result in a 12-13% price increase to onion farmers. Similar elasticities are 2% for cashew in Ghana and 7% for shea in Mali. These feasible price increases would encourage farmers to improve onion production, and to protect and improve production from cashew and shea trees, thereby enhancing the sustainability of agro-forestry in West Africa. We call these price increases the “sustainability dividend”. http://hdl.handle.net/10.1111/narf.2011.35.issue-1.


The informal sector still constitutes an important part of developing country economies. In Africa, it is estimated to represent 43 percent of official gross domestic product (GDP), thus being almost equivalent to the formal sector. While this phenomenon may provide short-term solutions to poor households, in the longer term, it can seriously challenge the economic development of African countries. This study explores one particular aspect of the informal economy, namely informal cross-border trade in selected Sub-Saharan African countries, and identifies which trade facilitation measures (such as those currently negotiated at the World Trade Organisation) have the potential to encourage traders to switch from informal to formal trade. The paper considers measures that help reduce direct and indirect trade transaction costs arising from mandatory import- and export-related procedures; mechanisms that simplify trade-related regulations and requirements for selected low value transactions; and policies that help enhance compliance levels with existing international trade regulations. In addition, the study explores a number of complementary measures (such as the provision of effective business support services to informal traders and enhanced dialogue between traders and border agencies) which can further encourage firms to formalise their cross-border transactions. The paper does however not suggest that trade facilitation reform alone will help reduce informal cross-border trade nor that governments will be able to fully eliminate its incidence in the region. http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/trade/informal-cross-border-trade-and-trade-facilitation-reform-in-sub-saharan-africa_225770164564

In the Sahel, the borders still offer suitably fertile ground for informal commerce to bloom. In that context, this article postulates that contemporary cross-border economic activity illustrates one of the foundations of what some geographers called mobile space, i.e. that circulation is the most appropriate method of managing the uncertainty of Sahelian life. The case of the border markets of Gaya (Niger), Malanville (Benin) and Kamba (Nigeria) provides a concrete example. On this “triple point”, the study of trade networks suggests that border commerce makes some use of the colonial partition, to the extent that the establishment of boundaries represents not so much a divide as a condition of contemporary economic dynamism. http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/08865655.2009.9695716.

Impact of informal re-exports between Benin and Nigeria: a CGE analysis / P. Mathieu and S.Luc. - Quebec : Departement d’Economique de la Faculte d’administration à l’Universite de Sherbrooke, 2009. (Cahiers de recherche ; 09/14)
Ever since the end of the Biafra war, re-exportation has become an important economic activity for Benin’s economy. One of the reasons for the existence of this type of commerce resides in the disparity in economic policies between Benin and Nigeria. We model this sector and its interrelations with the remainder of the economy as well as on public finances. A CGE model was developed with data from Benin’s social accounting matrix for 1999. In the model, we distinguished between formal and informal households (households that work in the informal sector) and a distinction was incorporated into the model in regards of the re-exportation industry by dividing the latter into its 8 most important re-export sectors. We simulated a 10% depreciation of the CFA F and a 20% decrease in import tariffs. Our findings demonstrate a great sensitivity of government’s revenues to the activity of this informal sector. For one simulation, public savings dropped by almost 25%, but in both cases, the government’s income was strongly affected. http://gresi.recherche.usherbrooke.ca/wpapers/GREDI-0914.pdf.


Although there exist a variety of studies on regionalism in Africa, the majority of such research focuses on macro-regions and inter-State formal frameworks. The present study seeks to complement this research by examining the making and unmaking of cross-border micro-regions in Africa. The book is separated into two parts, one that looks at how the informal informs the formal and vice versa, and one that concentrates on the informal in toto. The former part, focusing on southern Africa, contains chapters on the Maputo Development Corridor (Fredrik Söderbaum and Ian Taylor), the Walvisbay-Swakopmund desert micro-region (David Simon and Muriel Same’ Ekobo), the Zambezi Valley Spatial Development Initiative (Milissa-o Nuvunga), and the Zambia-Malawi – Mozambique Growth Triangle, ZMM-GT (Nikki Slocum-Bradley). The second part contains chapters on informal micro-regionalism in West Africa, notably in the Parrot’s Beak area located on the border between Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia (J. Andrew Grant), North Africa, in particular the transnational border area between Morocco and Europe (Terhi Lehtinen), the Horn of Africa, with emphasis on trade corridors from the Ethiopian highlands to the sea (Christopher Clapham), and the Great Lakes Region and Uganda’s involvement in the ”micro-regions of conflict” (Morton Bwa’s and Kathleen M. Jennings). A concluding chapter by Daniel Bach discusses cross-borderregionalism as a gateway. [ASC Leiden abstract]


This study examines supra-nationalism in Africa and focuses specifically on the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and its implications for tourism in West Africa. The article also presents findings from a study conducted at the common border of Ghana and Togo to assess cross-border travelers’ perceptions of the border crossing experience and how it might be affected by the tenets of ECOWAS. The findings suggest that most people had a relatively pleasant experience crossing the border, but not everyone attributed the relative ease of crossing to the rules and regulations established by ECOWAS for border crossing. Likewise, less than half the respondents of Ghanaian and Togolese surveyed were aware of ECOWAS and its role in improving or easing the cross-border travel experience.


SNV Ghana (Tamale) and SNV Burkina Faso (Ouagadougou) jointly provided advisory support to the ECOWAS/FAO Onchocerciasis Freed Zone Project to pilot cross-border, negotiated and consensus based planning for the development of the Onchocerciasis Freed Zone in the White Volta basin across the border between Burkina Faso and Ghana. This briefing highlights the experiences in linking communities and institutions, and lessons learnt. [http://www.search4dev.nl/record/305438]


The eradication of river blindness, or Onchocerciasis, has opened up substantial areas of land along rivers for more intensive use, facilitating economic development. Many of these so-called Onchocerciasis Freed Zones (OFZ) lie across international borders and interventions in one country could thus affect neighbouring countries. For that reason a coordinated international development approach has been called for. The Socio Economic Development Programme for the Transborder Onchocerciasis Freed Zone of Burkina Faso and Ghana was initiated by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to explore the modalities to institutionalise such a cross-border planning and development approach. The first phase of this programme (the ‘OFZ Project’) was implemented from 2003 to 2007 by FAO in the Upper East Region in Ghana and the adjacent Nahouri and Boulgou provinces in Burkina Faso. One of the activities was to test the suitability of the Participatory and Negotiated Territorial Development (PNTD) approach for cross-border natural resource based planning and development in the OFZ. PNTD has been developed by FAO and offers a structured approach to consensus building and joint planning on natural resource management. This made the approach potentially useful, considering the complex institutional environment made up of communities, traditional authorities, and government agencies in two countries with partly overlapping mandates on natural resource management. SNV provided advisory support to the OFZ Project to pilot the PNTD approach through its teams in Tamale (Ghana) and Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso). The PNTD process was tested in a single pilot area spanning the border. Most of the people in the pilot area belong to the Gruni (Frafra) ethnic group. They thus share a common language, culture and ancestry, but are divided on the basis of nationality. A team consisting
of staff members of local government and non-government organisations was established and trained to facilitate joint planning, to provide technical expertise, and to liaise with relevant institutions. An active learning approach was followed in which short workshops alternated with field level application.
http://www.search4dev.nl/record/305589


SNV Ghana (Tamale) and SNV Burkina Faso (Ouagadougou) jointly provided advisory support to the ECOWAS/FAO Onchocerciasis Freed Zone Project to pilot cross-border, negotiated and consensus based planning for the development of the Onchocerciasis Freed Zone in the White Volta basin across the border of Burkina Faso and Ghana. This briefing highlights the experiences in linking communities and institutions, and lessons learnt.
http://www.search4dev.nl/record/305609.

The Socio Economic Development Programme for the Transborder Onchocerciasis Freed Zone of Burkina Faso and Ghana was initiated by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to explore the modalities to institutionalize such a cross-border planning and development approach. The first phase of this programme (the 'OFZ Project') was implemented from 2003 to 2007 by FAO in the Upper East Region in Ghana and the adjacent Nahouri and Boulgou provinces in Burkina Faso. One of the activities was to test the suitability of the Participatory and Negotiated Territorial Development (PNTD) approach for cross-border natural resource based planning and development in the OFZ. PNTD has been developed by FAO and offers a structured approach to consensus building and joint planning on natural resource management. This made the approach potentially useful, considering the complex institutional environment made up of communities, traditional authorities, and government agencies in two countries with partly overlapping mandates on natural resource management. SNV provided advisory support to the OFZ Project to pilot the PNTD approach through its teams in Tamale (Ghana) and Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso). The PNTD process was tested in a single pilot area spanning the border. Most of the people in the pilot area belong to the Gruni (Frafra) ethnic group. They thus share a common language, culture and ancestry, but are divided on the basis of nationality.
http://www.search4dev.nl/record/305629.

(Hommes et sociétés, ISSN 0290-6600).
L'intégration économique, politique et sociale de l'Afrique de l'Ouest est reconnue comme un enjeu majeur de développement. Elle se trouve désormais au cur des agendas politiques de la sous-région. Mais le processus d'intégration régionale achoppe sur la déconnexion entre les progrès institutionnels réalisés et la réalité vécue par les populations. Or, il existe de puissantes dynamiques d'intégration "par le bas" qui, de fait, articulent par-delà les frontières les territoires, les hommes et les activités. Spontanément mises en uvre par des réseaux de solidarité communautaire ou religieuse, ces dynamiques sont le fait de mouvements migratoires, productifs et commerciaux. Elles sont particulièrement manifestes au sein d'espaces partagés entre plusieurs constructions nationales qui constituent de véritables "zones naturelles d'intégration" ou "pays-frontières". Cet ouvrage collectif pose en particulier la question de savoir quel est le potentiel de ces espaces; dans quelle mesure une meilleure prise en compte de ces dynamiques "par le bas" pourrait accélérer le processus d'intégration régionale; le commerce transfrontalier (légal ou illégal) peut-il se transformer en un vecteur d'intégration? Des études de cas ont été réalisées dans des espaces transfrontaliers tels que le triangle tracé par les villes de Bikassor (Mali), Korhogo (Côte d'Ivoire) et Bobo-Dioulasso (Burkina Faso) en 2002; en Sénégalie méridionale (Gambie, Guinée-Bissau et Sénégal) en 2003; et Maradi-Katsina-Kano sur l'axe transfrontalier Nigeria-Niger en 2004. Auteurs: Mohamadou Abdoul, Florent Arragain, Karim Dahou, Tarik Dahou, Cheikh Guye, Eric Hazard, Candice Raymond, Marie Trémolières. [Résumé ASC Leiden].


This paper is both an empirical and historical study of the interface of international trade, law and order, and economic integration from a subaltern perspective. Drawing largely from Nigerian experiences, it interrogates the protocol governing trade across West Africa's international boundaries and confronts this with the attitude of paramilitary Gendarmes in Togo and Benin Republics to Nigerians. It also evaluates the assumptions, structures and processes that developed on the heels of the dynamic interactions created by the establishment of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in 1975, a feature that had become prevalent in the region.


Since March 2000, Liberia has been the target of a formidable sanctions coalition of individual West African States, individual European Union States and the UN. This coalition has sought to regulate Liberia's illicit trade in natural resources which funds its own war, that of Sierra Leone, and other acts of destabilization in West Africa. This article explores the multiple efforts that have been initiated by regional actors in West Africa, mainly ECOWAS (of which Liberia is a member), to regulate the illicit trade in natural resources in the context of armed conflicts. It then examines the behaviour of 'spoilers' who are able to circumvent the sanctions regime and governments' domestic regulation. The paper argues that the characteristics and multiple dynamics of the armed conflicts in West Africa have created specific opportunities for economic activities in a thriving parallel economy through the 'illicit' trade in natural resources. Bibilogr., notes, sum. [Journal abstract, edited].


Much of inter-regional trade in Africa is unordered and consists of smuggling. The Gambia is almost wholly enclosed within Senegal, yet official trade statistics show almost no trade between the two countries, failing to capture large-scale smuggling. Smuggling reflects pre-colonial traditional trading relationships, the artificial nature of borders created in the colonial era, and the disparities in trade policies between the two countries following independence, inducing large cross-border price differentials for goods. This paper documents the magnitude of trade protection in the two countries, the resulting price differences, and estimates the volume of smuggling. http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305-750X(08)00223-4.


IVD Sociology of Cross-border Linkages and Gender Dimensions

The literature pays geographically specific attention to traders (including ‘outsider’ brokers and traders), (shifts in) their trade networks, and the impact of their (ethnic/linguistic) background, with some attention for age-old traders networks (e.g. the Mourides and the Yoruba). There is a lot of literature on women traders and their relative importance. This attention for gender and trade in West Africa goes back a long time. Social network studies of cross-border traders show the empirical connections, but also issues like, what is called, adverse incorporation, and ‘laissez-faire integration’, and its impact on poverty and well-being, including attention for the high risks women traders face in terms of violence and theft, as well as their needs to have ‘patrons’.

Most of the literature in this section comes from academic journals, and from UN sources.

African agencies: CODESRIA, UNECA

International sources: UN Women, UNIFEM, UNU CRIS in Bruges Belgium, UKAID, LISER in Luxemburg, and Women in Development/WIDTECH, Washington DC.


Academic Publishers: Karthala Paris, Rüdiger Köppe Verlag Köln, University of Southern Denmark Department of Border Studies.

Social networks and small business performance in West African border regions / M. Kuépiéa, M. Tenikuea & O.J. Walther. In: African development studies; (2016), forthcoming. This paper studies the links between economic performance and social networks in West Africa. Using data collected on 358 small-scale traders in five border markets, we show that social networks can be simultaneously a resource which positively contributes to labour market outcomes and a social burden that has a negative economic impact. Testing the effect of social networks between small traders and three categories of actors, we find that the most well-connected actors are also the most successful in terms of monthly profit. The effects of social networks are, however, dependent on the type of persons with whom traders are connected. We show that support received from state representatives and politicians is converted into economic performance, while the impact of law enforcement officers on the monthly profits of traders is not significant. We also find that interacting with traditional religious leaders has a negative effect on economic performance. Our work has two implications: Firstly, collecting data on social networks remains challenging due to endogeneity. Secondly, network-enhancing policies should aim at improving both the internal connectivity of economic actors at the local level and their external connectivity with the rest of the world.
http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/13600818.2015.1082540


Raising voices for women cross border traders in West Africa / L. Fadumiyo. - s.l.
UKAID, 2015.

Nigerian women, through history, actively participate in the social, economic and political development of their societies. This is particularly true of women in southern Nigeria, especially Yoruba women. Women traders working in the informal sector are often subject to harassment and extortion at the border. These constraints undermine their economic activities. Women are more readily denied access to key trader networks than men. Time-consuming trade procedures and documentary requirements impinge more heavily on women, given the time they need for their household duties. And women working to produce exportable goods and services are typically less able than men to get the inputs and materials that would raise their productivity and allow them to compete better in overseas markets. A major setback for women in crossborder trade is violence. This ranges from rape and other forms of sexual abuse, theft, robbery to seizure of goods. This paper therefore, examined the incidence of violence against young women in informal cross-border trading in South-Wet Nigeria and its implications for economic development and poverty reduction, relying purely on secondary sources of data and relevant sociological theories. Findings in this project will bring to the fore, the constraints to the success of economic activities of young women and the effects on wealth creation and poverty reduction in South-West Nigeria.
http://eprints.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/5420/1/Dr.%20%28Mrs%29%20George.pdf

Using social network analysis, this paper studies the structure of trade networks that developed across West African borders. The first part aims to understand the centralization of cross-border trade networks. In a business environment where transaction costs are extremely high, we find that decentralized networks are well adapted to the various uncertainties induced by long-distance trade. We also study the trade-offs faced by traders between embeddedness and brokerage and find that long-distance trade relies both on the trust and cooperation shared among local traders, and on the distant ties developed with foreign partners from a different origin, religion or culture. In the second part, we study the spatial structure of trade networks and the influence of national borders on the development of social ties. The paper shows that the spatial form of trade networks is constrained by the historical origin of the traders engaged in cross-border activities. In those markets where trade is recent and where most of the traders are not native of the region, national borders are likely to exert a greater influence than in those regions where trade has pre-colonial roots.
http://repec.sam.sdu.dk/sdn/wpaper/1-Walther-2014-BBB-WP.pdf

This paper studies the link between economic performance and social networks in West Africa. Using first-hand data collected on 358 small-scale traders in five border markets between Niger, Nigeria and Benin, we are particularly interested in testing whether the most well-connected actors of trade networks are also the most successful in terms of monthly sales and profit. The paper shows that the overall economic performance of traders is affected by the socio-professional position of the actors with whom they are connected. While social ties with local religious leaders have no effect on their business, support received from civil servants, politicians, and security authorities translates into economic performance. The paper also shows significant differences between countries, regions and marketplaces. Social connections developed with state representatives have a much greater effect on economic performances in Niger and Benin than in Nigeria, where average profit is much higher. Experience is more closely correlated with profit in the region where traders have developed re-export trade activities than where petty trade is the dominant form of business.
http://www.ceps.lu/publi_viewer.cfm?tmp=2517

no. 1-2, p. 132-152.

The aim of this paper is to examine the dynamics of women in cross-border trade along ECOWAS sub region. West African region is noted significantly for high volume of trade that goes on within its borders on daily basis, and it involves formal and informal trade. However, informal trade is an integral, but unrecognized component of ECOWAS economic activities. Over, sixty percent of women are into informal trading across ECOWAS sub region, yet, there is gap in literature on the dynamics of these regional women traders across sub-ECOWAS region. Using qualitative method of data collection, a significant number of women traders in informal cross-border in sub ECOWAS region were interviewed on their motivations, trade operations, challenges, and coping strategies. The findings reveal that there are several insecurities posed by informalities of women trading practices. These insecurities are associated with activities of law- enforcement agents and touts coupled with the facts that women traders are not knowledgeable about the procedures that guide international trade. Despite several challenges posed by informal cross-border trade, women traders had devised coping strategies to negotiate these challenges as majority of women are using the income to support themselves, their spouses, training their children and above all enabled them to live above poverty level, which is one of millennium goals. The paper recommend that informal economic activities of women in cross-border trade needs to recognized for holistic formula to be formulated and, women need vigorous education on the law that guide the rules and procedures of regional trade.


This paper uses unique high-frequency data on prices of two agricultural goods to examine the additional costs incurred in cross-border trade between Niger and Nigeria, as well as trade between ethnically distinct markets within Niger. We find a sharp and significant conditional price change of about 20 to 25% between markets immediately across the national border. This price change is significantly lower when markets on either side of the border share a common ethnicity. Within Niger, trade between ethnically distinct regions exhibits an ethnic border effect that is comparable, in its magnitude, to the national border effect between Niger and Nigeria. Our results suggest that having a common ethnicity may reduce the transaction costs associated with agricultural trade, especially the costs associated with communicating and providing credit.


This paper highlights the relevance of adverse incorporation as a neglected theoretical approach to debates on microfinance through a case study of cross-border traders in Senegal. Although women’s organizations do not exclude even the poorest women, traders in remote areas were unable to access credit due to particularly harsh standards of joint liability and adverse relations with donors, lenders, and elite women. Meanwhile, the peer monitoring function of group microcredit schemes is challenged by the fact that traders are strikingly uncritical of defaulting borrowers. Findings highlight the detrimental consequences of donors’ misconceptions regarding women’s organizations and economic activities.


The weekly market of Diaoë, one of the largest international market-towns in West Africa, is a place of convergence for sellers and buyers from Senegal, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Sierra Leone and Mali. At the same time that they trade, negotiate and exchange agricultural products and manufactured commodities, people renegotiate the terms of regional integration in creative, albeit informal ways. In the absence of formal channels of regulation of local centres of exchange, places like Diaoë point to a form of de facto integration
that operates within and outside the institutional and legal frameworks of existing treaties and conventions. This article examines the ways cross-border flows and mobility challenge institutional modes of integration through simultaneously dis-integrative and complementary processes. The example of Diaobé allows exploring the socio-cultural dynamics, unstructured trading patterns, as well as the ways in which private operators effectively regulate the terms of market and integration; the issue of the eroding influence of state authority on its periphery is thus acutely raised.


To date, most of the literature on economic networks in West Africa has considered networks in a metaphorical way. The aim of this paper is to go one step further by showing how network analysis may be applied to the study of regional trade in West Africa. After a brief review of the literature, this exploratory paper investigates two main issues related to regional trade. We start by discussing how recent developments in regional trade in West Africa, brought on by urbanization, liberalization, and globalization, have contributed to challenging the social structure of traders. We then discuss the changes that have affected the spatiality of regional trade by looking at the influence of spatial location and geographic scale on traders’ abilities to trade. In both cases, we argue that the value of social network analysis in exploring how traders have progressively adapted to social and spatial changes in economic activities has been greatly underestimated. Through the combination of social and spatial ties, we ultimately show that the structural position of economic actors can be used to reassess the centrality of places. By doing so, the relational approach developed in this paper invites scholarship to reconsider the geographic organization of West African societies.

http://www.ceps.lu/public_viewer.cfm?tmp=2664


This paper examines the economic and spatial logics of traders and farmers located between *Niger, Benin and Nigeria*, with a view to identifying possible complementarities and their implications for regional integration in West Africa. It shows that the development of cross-border regions is highly dependent on the combination of two divergent spatial logics, i.e. the circulation developed by traders and the production developed by agricultural investors. Even though cross-border traders and farmers pursue divergent strategies, the paper suggests that the activities of both are centred on urban border markets. Consequently, investment in border market facilities could promote both trading and productive activities simultaneously in a number of countries. In this regard, the paper underscores the potential benefit of focusing development on functional economic areas rather than on nation- states, addressing concerns that border trade may undermine productive development.


Background : Cross border - trade has been seen to have gender dimension. Women are seen to be engaged in informal cross-border trade along the borders. Most times women are facing a lot of challenges in trying to transport their goods from customs officials and other security agents. Despite these difficulties, they still engage in this informal trade along this border. This paper examines the coping strategies of women involved in informal cross-border trade. Methods : This study is based on Focus Group Discussion (FGDs) conducted with 50 informal traders, in-depth-interviews conducted with security agents and drivers along Lagos-Seme

Unleashing the potential of women informal cross border traders to transform intra- African trade / UN Women. - s.l. : UN Women, 2010.


In the Sahel, the borders still offer suitably fertile ground for informal commerce to bloom. In that context, this article postulates that contemporary cross-border economic activity illustrates one of the foundations of what some geographers called mobile space, i.e. that circulation is the most appropriate method of managing the uncertainty of Sahelian life. The case of the border markets of Gaya (Niger), Malanville (Benin) and Kamba (Nigeria) provides a concrete example. On this “triple point”, the study of trade networks suggests that border commerce makes some use of the colonial partition, to the extent that the establishment of boundaries represents not so much a divide as a condition of contemporary economic dynamism. http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/08865655.2009.9695716


V Cross-border Food Trade, and Food & Nutrition Security

VA Food Trade

Studies focus on different dimensions of the insecurity/volatility of food trade, and the link between agricultural growth, investments and market developments across borders. Some studies take the perspective of agro-value addition and cross-border trade. Others discuss the trade in seeds and fertilizers. There is attention for ECOWAP and for CAADP programmes and their implementation. But several studies zoom in on barriers to trade flows of agricultural produce across borders in the region.

There are relatively many African sources, as well as international agencies dealing with this topic, and some academic journals and publishers.


Academic Publishers: University of Bonn/ZEF, Michigan State University, Suffolk University Boston.


Connecting food staples and input markets in West Africa: a regional trade agenda for ECOWAS countries / J.C. Maur & B. Shepherd. – Washington, D.C.: The World Bank, 2015. The report Africa Can Help Feed Africa (World Bank 2012) showed that increasing food staples supply can be met by better connecting African markets to each other. That report called for a stronger focus on removing trade barriers and building on the forces of regional integration. This report builds on the lessons of Africa Can Help Feed Africa by looking into the specific circumstances met in West Africa, home to one-third of the continent's population and to some of its most vulnerable countries. Staple foods are the main source of calories in Africa and in West Africa. In that region, rice, followed by maize and cassava, provides the main source of calories in coastal countries, with millet and sorghum being an important source of food in Sahelian countries.
The challenge of food supply is particularly acute in West Africa with some of the world's fastest growing populations, including urban populations. West Africa's 2011 population of 342 million is expected to increase to 516 million by 2030 and to 815 million by 2050; in this time frame, the region's urban population will grow from 44 percent to 63 percent of the total population. As this report will show, strong reasons exist to bring a more strategic focus on promoting regional trade. The first compelling reason is that there is already a sizeable amount of trade in the region, revealing existing important complementarities between countries in the ECOWAS space. Because a large share of this trade is informal, this reality is not always well taken into account. A second reason is that developing these complementarities by facilitating trade and creating the regional soft and hard infrastructure to incite cross-border flows would further enable (a) the exploitation of comparative advantages and economies of scale in the region; (b) access to and diffusion of better production technologies; (c) competitive access to inputs, research, and extension services; and (d) improved security in the face of shocks that lead to food crises. Finally, a third reason is that existing national policies that affect trade are, by large, inefficient and incoherent at the regional level; therefore a better use of policy making and institutions is needed to achieve food policy objectives.

Agriculture is the mainstay of the economies in most of ECOWAS countries. Ironically, however, persistent food shortage arising from constraints on agriculture is exposing many of them to threats of extreme hunger and starvation. Trade in food products has been identified as a very critical factor in safeguarding food security for the world’s poor. This study therefore examined the extent and drivers of intra-regional trade in food products in ECOWAS and the two monetary zones (WAEMU and WAMZ) in the sub-region. Poisson Quasi Maximum Likelihood of Santos-Silva and Tenreyro was used to estimate the gravity model. While exporter income discourages intra-regional trade in food products, importer income promotes it. Landed area irrigated and the land available for cultivation promotes intra-regional trade in food products in ECOWAS. It is only in WAMZ that colonial ties and border enhance intra-regional trade in food products.

This paper deals with the role of regional trade in fostering the resilience of domestic food markets. Using country production and trade data from FAOSTAT database, a series of simple indicators are calculated that shed light on the potential for domestic markets stabilization through trade among African countries within Regional Economic Communities, including the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and the Southern African Development Community (SADC). A regional, economy-wide multimarket model is then used to simulate changes in current productivity levels and trade costs. The findings reveal that it is possible to significantly boost the pace of regional trade expansion and thus its contribution to creating more resilient domestic food markets through modest reduction in the overall cost of trading, a similarly modest increase in crop yields, or the removal of barriers to trans-border trade.


To improve farmer access to quality seeds and fertilizers, West African governments have been working through economic community of West African states (ECOWAS) and other regional organizations to develop harmonized rules for input trade for many years. After extensive consultations, regional regulations based on advanced international standards have mostly been agreed upon and are already helping to guide quality improvements in some countries. Despite these encouraging signs, most countries do not currently have the physical capacity or institutional structures needed to implement the agreed trade rules which will take considerable time and investment to develop. The analysis, therefore, points to a need for pragmatic solutions that are easy for individual countries or groups of countries to implement in the near term while longer-term progress towards full harmonization continues. [http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2015/01/23804243/towards-integrated-market- seeds-fertilizers-west-africa](http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2015/01/23804243/towards-integrated-market-seeds-fertilizers-west-africa).

The impact of foreign direct investment (FDI) on the performance of the
The impact of foreign direct investment (FDI) on the economic growth of host economies has attracted significant debate in the literature with empirical evidence being inconclusive. Sectoral analysis was therefore introduced in the literature to understand the heterogeneous response of the performance of the various economic sectors to changes in the inflows of FDI as opposed to the impact of the latter on the whole economy. On the sectoral paradigm, very little attention has been given to the agricultural sector which holds the key to food security in the world and poverty reduction in developing economies such as Ghana where the sector employs majority of the active working population. In this respect, our study looked at the impact of FDI on the performance of the agricultural sector in Ghana with data over the period 1980-2013 using Johansen cointegration test. We found that FDI negatively impacts the agricultural sector productivity in the long run but with positive relationship in the short run. We also found that the depreciation of the cedi negatively impacts the growth of the agricultural sector in the long run. Trade openness on the other hand had positive and significant long run impact on the agricultural sector. We recommend that the government harnesses trade relations, stabilizes the local currency and ensures that FDI inflows to agriculture and the entire economy are not harmful to the economy by way of capital and excessive profit repatriations.


The purpose of this paper is to investigate the effects of foreign direct investment (FDI) into agriculture on domestic investment in agriculture. Design/methodology/approach -Time series data from 1976 to 2007 was fitted to a derived model. Findings – Foreign direct investment into agriculture crowd-in domestic investment into agriculture. Research limitations/implications - A targeted approach that will attract foreign direct investment into agriculture is required as to complement existing efforts at boosting domestic agricultural investment. Originality/value -Numerous papers investigated the relationship between foreign direct investment and domestic investment at the aggregate national and regional levels. However, the evidence for this relationship has been conflicting. That for agriculture is rare. For Ghana, a developing agrarian economy that has promoted foreign direct investment for some decades now, it is imperative to establish the relationship between foreign direct investments and domestic investment. Also, the estimation was based on a theoretically derived model. http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/AFR-09-2013-0035

The results of intra-ECOWAS import and export of all agricultural products stood at 4.56 billion and 8.58 billion US dollars, which accounted for 6.38% and 15.46% of the total commodities, respectively. The trade intensity index results in terms of import indicated 41.9% values less than one while 57.1% had values greater than one for the period 2001 to 2011. In the case of export trade intensity index, the results was said to be fair with 49.5% had trade intensity index values less than one while about 49% paired countries had trade intensity index greater than one. Gravity equation regressions results indicated GDPs, distance, infrastructure, contiguity, landlocked and usage of common official language as significant explanatory variables in the import trade in the region. The results suggested that the trade pattern in the region follows the economic size or resource endowment and obeys Linder's theory. The study therefore recommends that emphasis be made in eliminating non-tariff barriers and re-formulation of trade policy that will harness more of resource endowment in the region.


This study examined the interaction between economic integration and trade facilitation in ECOWAS and how the regional bloc has performed in promoting agricultural export. Statistical and econometric analyses were utilized to examine the effect of economic integration on trade facilitation as well as the role of trade facilitation and economic integration in promoting agricultural exports in ECOWAS. The findings suggest that on the average, the level of trade facilitation in ECOWAS is below world average. It was also found that ECOWAS members with more bureaucratic processes experience greater costs of exporting/importing. Evidence from the study also reveals a sustained growth in agricultural production and a close relationship between agricultural production and agricultural exports in the region. Results from econometric analyses indicate that economic integration significantly helps in facilitating trade within the ECOWAS sub-region. Economic integration and trade facilitation were also found to be significant in influencing agricultural exports in the ECOWAS sub-region, while agricultural production had direct and significant impact on agricultural exports. Notably, there is a need to create incentives for greater level of implementation of the ECOWAS agricultural policy (ECOWAP) and the ECOWAS Trade liberalization Scheme (ETLS) protocols by individual member states to enhance economic integration in the sub-region. http://www.afdb.org/en/aec-2013/papers/paper/economic-integration-trade-facilitation-and-agricultural-exports-performance-in-ecowas-member-states-1073/

The objective of this paper is to test the presence of barriers to agricultural trade in West and Central Africa. Despite the political and institutional development that promoted free trade within the customs and monetary unions in this region, the surveys conducted by independent regional observatories show that many obstacles to trade remain. These obstacles are difficult to measure. They are the consequence of the poor enforcement of the legislation, the lack of infrastructure and the level of risk among others. The approach followed in this paper aims at estimating the additional costs associated with border crossing using tests of market integration. The analysis is conducted on an original database including the price of five agricultural products in 142 markets located in 15 countries. We find three important results. Border crossing remains costly even within countries belonging to the WAEMU. However, the border effect is lower when the two countries share the same currency, which is the case of WAEMU countries. Results also show a decrease in the cost of the border and in the marketing costs related to the distance, between 1990 and 2011. http://www.cairn.info/load_pdf.php?ID_ARTICLE=EDD_271_0005

Do borders affect international trade within West Africa? This research aims at identifying the nature of the hurdles to trade using a unique dataset of food commodity prices on 173 markets located in 14 countries and covering the period January 2007 to January 2013. Our results highlight the role played both by distance and borders in explaining price deviations between markets. Overall, distance seems to lead to larger price differentials between markets than borders. However, the border effect varies between countries. We find that countries not members of WAEMU or ECOWAS have larger borders. Belonging to an economic union and sharing the same currency appear as major determinants of market integration. Our results argue in favor of deepening regional integration within West African countries. Besides, our research underlines the importance of providing adequate hard infrastructure in order to reduce the role played by distance.

It is widely believed that the countries of Africa trade relatively little with the outside world, and among themselves, despite an extensive network of regional trade agreements. We examine this proposition by focusing on agricultural trade. Specifically, we ask whether non-tariff barriers (NTBs) are stunting agricultural trade within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), a grouping of fifteen countries in West Africa that has removed tariffs on agricultural trade among its members. Our survey of truckers in Tambacounda (Senegal) in August 2009 found evidence of extensive bribery by police and border officials, effectively representing a barrier to trading. We estimate a unit-elastic structural gravity model of agricultural trade, using data from 135 countries for 2000, 2003 and 2006, and employing Tobit and other types of structural specification. A robust result emerges: agricultural trade among the countries of ECOWAS is higher than one would expect. This does not mean that there are no NTBs within ECOWAS, but it does imply that any such barriers are less harmful to agricultural trade in ECOWAS than in the world as a whole. Similar effects are found for the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the South African Development Community (SADC). This suggests that African countries are not adverse to agricultural trade, and local traders have been effective at exploiting trade opportunities.


Analyse et formulation de propositions de mesures et dispositifs concrets pour faciliter l'accès aux marchés locaux et sous-régionaux pour les produits agricoles béninois; rapport final / Ambassade des Pays-Bas, DIRO-Center. - Cotonou: Ambassade des Pays-Bas, 2012.


It is widely believed that the countries of Africa trade relatively little with the outside world, and among themselves, despite an extensive network of regional trade agreements. We examine this proposition by focusing on agricultural trade. Specifically, we ask whether non-tariff barriers (NTBs) are stunting agricultural trade within ECOWAS, a grouping of 15 countries in West Africa that has removed tariffs on agricultural trade among its members. Our survey of truckers in Tambacounda (Senegal) in August 2009 found evidence of extensive bribery by police and border officials, effectively representing a barrier to trading.

http://fsg.afre.msu.edu/srai/dynamique_des_echanges_revue.pdf

There is no consensus about how globalisation – trade and foreign investments – affects poverty reduction. Using household survey data, this study contributes to the empirical literature on globalisation and poverty by analysing the household-level implications of increased foreign investments and trade in the horticulture sector in Senegal. In many aspects this represents what many would consider a ‘worst-case scenario’. Stringent rich country standards are imposed on exports and the supply chain is controlled by a single multinational company with extreme levels of supply base consolidation and vertical integration and complete exclusion of smallholder suppliers. We analyse and quantify income and poverty effects under these ‘worst-case conditions’ and find significant positive welfare impacts through employment creation and labour market participation.


Through empirical analysis and case studies, this document explores the relationships amongst foreign direct investment (FDI), trade and trade-related policies in OECD and four African countries (Ghana, Mozambique, Tunisia and Uganda). In OECD countries, tariffs and market price support may have an effect on how FDI is distributed geographically. FDI may be used to avoid or jump tariffs. Also, investors in a home country may invest in a host country to exploit the preferential tariffs that the host has with a third country. Participation in a regional trading agreement or customs union, e.g. NAFTA or the EU, may create investment opportunities. Market price support to agriculture may encourage outward investment and discourage inward investment. In aggregate, FDI and trade appear to complement one another. The four case studies in Africa highlight the interactions amongst regulations, foreign investment and trade. For example, FDI is useful in helping the firm develop the resources to meet the standards of OECD markets. Investment promotion agencies and export processing zones appear to prepare countries to attract FDI. Preferential trading agreements like the Everything but Arms with EU and the African Growth Opportunity Act with the US may have an impact on trade and investment. Beyond trade policies, other policies and factors contribute substantially to the location and distribution of FDI. As seen amongst OECD countries, factors like the GDP of a country (i.e. market size) and cost of production and transport can have an effect on FDI. Another factor that influences FDI is the degree of market competitiveness. For the four African countries, the country risk and the level of infrastructure can influence the volume of FDI attracted.

VB Regional trade in specific food products

This section deals with regional trade in specific food products, with most studies dealing with livestock, followed by rice and horticultural produce (mainly tomatoes), and fruits (mangoes, pineapple). There are also studies about the regional trade in millets, yam and cassava. Most studies assume a positive impact of growing regional trade. One study deals with the risks: the risk of spreading of livestock diseases. Most attention goes to the regional trade of specific agricultural products in the central trade corridor of West Africa, connecting Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana and Togo with Burkina Faso and Mali. There is much less attention for the Western and the Eastern corridors.

Literature partly comes from Africa itself, and among the international agencies also from commercial research agencies.

African agencies: CILSS in Ouagadougou, International Institute for Tropical Agriculture in Ibadan, International Livestock Research Institute in Nairobi, the African Association of Agricultural Economics (based in Nairobi), LARES Cotonou.

International agencies: FAO Rome, CFC/Common Fund for Commodities, Amsterdam, USAID Trade Hub West Africa, the International Association of Agricultural Economists, the Agricultural Economics Society, the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, CERDI (Centre d'études et de recherches sur le développement international in Clermont-Ferrand), Buck Consultants (Nijmegen and The Hague, The Netherlands), Abt Associates (Bethesda, USA).


Rice is the first strategic product in West Africa since 2008 crisis. To create a customs union, ECOWAS has adopted in October 2013 the final structure of its Common External Tariff (CET). This CET established a fifth band of 35% but taxes milled rice at 10% and will come into force on January, 2015. As the adoption of this CET will have significant effects on the rice sector, it is necessary to assess its potential ex-ante impact on this sector within the region. The results obtained using a GCE model show that this CET will have various effects on the regional rice economies. Urban poverty was more pronounced than rural poverty and intra-regional trade experienced a remarkable increase. The negatives effects of the CET are more pronounced in Nigeria and Guinea. Therefore, the current version of the CET will have rather mixed effects if support measures are not implemented. http://purl.umn.edu/211632


Regional integration in West Africa: costs, tradeoffs and integration between Ghanaian and Burkinabe fresh tomato markets / J. Amikuzuno, E. Setsoafia & A.Y. Seini. In: UDS international journal of development: (2015), vol. 1, no. 1, p. 42-58. Trade flow difficulties across international borders in Sub-Saharan Africa represent a fundamental disincentive to cross-border arbitrage, price transmission and market integration. Despite the above observations, little research has so far undertaken a disaggregated view of the benefits of cross-border trade between neighbouring countries in Africa by comprehensively studying the price dynamics, transaction cost, rents to arbitrageurs and the spatial integration of the markets involved. The major objective of this paper is therefore to cast light on these issues by examining the drivers of the cross-border trade between Ghanaian consumer and Burkinabe producer markets of fresh tomato and what these imply for the integration of markets across the border. Our findings reveal a high level of tradability, rents to arbitrageurs and above 10% transmission of prices between the two markets across the border between Ghana and Burkina-Faso. The findings have theoretical and practical relevance for cross-border trade in West Africa. http://www.udsspace.uds.edu.gh/bitstream/123456789/4701/1/REGIONAL%20INTEGRATION%20IN%20WESTAFRICA%20%20COSTS%20TRADEOFFS%20AND%20INTEGRATION%20between%20GHANA%20AND%20BURKINABE%20FRESH%20TOMATO%20MARKETS.pdf.

Cattle markets integration and price discovery: the case of Mali / J.C. Bizimana, J. Angerer, D. Bessler & F. Keita. In: Journal of development studies: (2015), vol. 51, no. 3, p. 319-334. This article analyses the level of integration in 10 cattle markets in Mali. The results indicate a limited interdependence among markets where, in majority of cases, more than 70 per cent of price variation is due to own-price shocks. However, the Ségou market exhibited a high level of interaction with other markets, behaving mostly as a price information receiver. Some markets behaved as sources of price information, however, without taking a clear price leadership role. This low level of market integration may be attributed to limited access to livestock markets and timely price information.


Examines opportunities for increasing intra-regional trade in cereals between Bamako and Abidjan corridor to meet the boom in poultry production in West Africa. [Link](https://www.watradehub.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/FY15_Cereal-Trade-along-Bamako-and-Abidjan-Corridor.pdf)


**Do regional characteristics and sub-regional Integration matter in intra-ECOWAS trade on livestock products?** / J. Reuben & C.J. Arene. In: Journal of agriculture and sustainability: (2013), vol. 4, no. 2, p. 154-176. The purpose of this paper is to empirically analyze the trade potentials in the West African region. It starts with review of livestock products import and export within and outside the region and the bilateral strength of livestock trade regionalism was also tested using trade intensity index. Also the effects of WAEMU sub-regional integration and ECOWAS regional characteristics on intra-ECOWAS trade were assessed using the gravity model. This was achieved by employing panel data for the period of 11years (2001-2011). The results suggest high import than export of livestock products within and between regions. The level of trade regionalization was relatively high in WAEMU sub-region than ECOWAS region. The traditional gravity variables were consistent with the gravity theory. Also the alternative hypothesis that trade blocs, economic and geographical variables did significantly influence trade in the sub-region was accepted at 1% probability level. The study therefore, recommends that more efforts be made to remove non-tariff barriers in order to promote intra-ECOWAS trade on livestock products since trade diversion was noticed.

**Spatial integration of vegetable markets in West Africa: case of tomato (Lycopersicum esculentum) between Benin and Burkina Faso** / R. Adeoti, E.M.Koffi-Tessio, O.Coulibaly, V.M.Manyong, and L.Óloukoï. - Nairobi : African Association of Agricultural Economists (AAAE), 2013. (2013 AAAE Fourth International Conference, September 22-25, 2013, Hammamet, Tunisia). The instability of world prices of traditional cash crops led to the promotion of nontraditional crops. Among the latter, vegetable farming is positioned as strategic cropping for meeting urban and periurban food consumption in most West African countries. Seasonality differences between coastal and sahelian countries, coupled with, the logic of vegetable producers, and the requirements of crops and the prices variability resulted in the development of production and marketing strategies favorable to market integration in West African countries. This study aims at providing preliminary information on tomato market integration between Benin and Burkina Faso. Data from fields surveys and on monthly prices, extracted from ONASA and DGSA databases are used to analyze the regional market integration. Cointegration models based on Johansen approach and Autoregressive Distributed Lag approach of Pesaran are used for analysis. The hypothesis on the existence of a potential weak integration of tomato markets was confirmed and corroborated in this study. Established chains of integration were identified between the Cotonou market and the main tomato-producing areas of Burkina Faso and Benin production areas with the markets of Boukiemdi, Kénédougou, Oubritenga Sanguié respectively. The integration chain of Cotonou was found to be more established than the Bohicon and the Malanville chains and constitute a reference market for tomato wholesalers. However, there is need to conduct further in-depth analysis on integration to tap existing opportunities for enhanced vegetable producer’s income and poverty reduction. [Link](http://purl.umn.edu/160286).

By stochastically simulating data collected by interviewing cattle traders in Northern Togo, this study identifies potential risks for regional disease spread in West Africa through cross-border cattle trade. The findings highlight that surveillance for emerging infectious diseases as well as control activities targeting endemic diseases in West Africa are likely to be ineffective if only conducted at a national level. A regional approach to disease surveillance, prevention and control is essential.


**Creating and maintaining global connections: agro-business and the precarious making of fresh-cut markets** / S. Ouma. In: Journal of development studies: (2012), vol. 48, no. 3, p. 322-334. This article reconstructs the evolution of a multinational fruit processing company from Ghana. Starting from the perspective that firms more generally aim at achieving stability in intra- and extra-organisational relations, the article explores the practical means (organisational forms, resources, technologies, strategies and routines) through which the case study company achieved relational stability in global markets, but also shows how this was eroded in changing market environments. Extending out from this case study, the article also addresses the questions why some agro-business firms in Africa have developed more sophisticated high-value market connections while others have not and whether foreign direct investments can serve as catalysts for agro-industrialisation. [http://hdl.handle.net/10.1080/00220388.2011.635201](http://hdl.handle.net/10.1080/00220388.2011.635201)

**Estimation of margins and efficiency in the Ghanaian yam marketing chain** / R. Aidoo, F. Nimoh, J.E. Andivi Bakang, K. Ohene-Yankysia, S. Cudjoe Fialor, J.O. Mensah & R.C. Abaidoo. In: Asian journal of agriculture and rural development: (2012), vol. 2, no. 2, p. 226-234. The main objective of the paper was to examine the costs, returns and efficiency levels obtained by key players in the Ghanaian yam marketing chain. A total of 320 players/actors (farmers, wholesalers, retailers and cross-border traders) in the Ghanaian yam industry were selected from four districts (Techiman, Atebubu, Ejura-Sekyedumasi and Nkwanta) through a multi-stage sampling approach for the study. In addition to descriptive statistics, gross margin, net margin and marketing efficiency analyses were performed using the field data. There was a long chain of greater than three channels through which yams moved from the producer to the final consumer. Yam marketing was found to be a profitable venture for all the key players in the yam marketing chain. Net marketing margin of about GH¢15.52 (US$9.13) was obtained when the farmer himself sold 100 tubers of yams in the market rather than at the farm gate. The net marketing margin obtained by wholesalers was estimated at GH¢27.39 per 100 tubers of yam sold, which was equivalent to about 61% of the gross margin obtained. Net marketing margin for retailers was estimated at GH¢15.37, representing 61% of the gross margin obtained. A net marketing margin of GH¢33.91 was obtained for every 100 tubers of yam transported across Ghana's borders by cross-border traders. Generally, the study found out that net marketing margin was highest for cross-border yam traders, followed by wholesalers. Yam marketing activities among retailers, wholesalers and cross-border traders were found to be highly efficient with efficiency ratios in excess of 100%. However, yam marketing among producer-sellers was found to be inefficient with efficiency ratio of about 86%. The study recommended policies and strategies to be adopted by central and local government authorities to address key constraints such as poor road network, limited financial resources, poor storage facilities and high cost of transportation that serve as impediments to the efficiency of the yam marketing system in Ghana. [http://purl.umn.edu/197964](http://purl.umn.edu/197964)

**Border effects on spatial price transmission between fresh tomato markets in Ghana and Burkina-Faso: any case for promoting trans-border trade in West Africa?** / J. Amikuzuno. - Oxon: Agricultural Economics Society, 2011. (85th Annual Conference, April 18-20, 2011, Warwick University, Coventry, UK). (IOMA Forum 2011: 9). Cross-border trade in food commodities within sub-regional economic blocks in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) is believed to be faster, cheaper, more convenient and welfare-enhancing than trade between SSA countries and the USA or EU. The difficulty of commodity arbitrage across borders in SSA is however a fundamental impediment to price transmission, market integration and the realisation of the welfare-enhancing role of cross-border trade. This study examines the impact of border and distance on price transmission between tomato in Ghana and Burkina-Faso. The analysis applies a linear and a regime-switching vector error


The paper contends that the current boom in cocoa exports from Ghana is primarily in response to reversal in price incentives to smuggle Ghana cocoa to La Cote d’Ivoire and not due to productivity gains in the Ghana cocoa supply chain. Using recent data; ADF, Perron and KPSS tests of stationarity; Engle and Granger and Johansen co-integration tests; Granger causality tests; single and vector error correction models; as well as partial adjustment models, we estimate the Ghana cocoa supply response to determine the most pertinent factors that explain the cocoa boom. Different from previous research, the VECM and ECM models are modified to be more reflective of current conditions in the Ghana cocoa sector by including prices of relevant substitutes in cocoa production. Furthermore we carefully account for the time series properties of the data and address endogeneity problems that plague the estimation. For example, in testing for the order of integration of different series, we account for the possible existence of structural breaks. We find that the “price incentive to smuggle” argument adequately explains the current boom in Ghana cocoa supply response. This finding is important because it questions claims in the literature that substantial productivity gains in the cocoa sector in response to good policy is the main reason behind the Ghana cocoa export boom. http://purl.umn.edu/6359


Agricultural value chain development in West Africa: methodological framework and case study of mango in Benin / C.v. Melle, O.Coulibaly, and K.Hell. - Nairobi : African Association of
Globalization and competitiveness of agricultural commodities could have significant potential benefits for food security and poverty reduction in West Africa. Participation in global trade and economy is potentially important but not enough to ensure benefits at all levels of the chains and equitable distribution of income for each participant. Efficiency is key in the commodity value chain, but effective support functions and services, infrastructure, legal and policy environment are important. This paper presents the framework of value chain concept and analysis, as a guide to enhance competitiveness of commodities at national, regional or global level. The paper applies the value chain framework to a case study on mango in Benin, West Africa. The international market for mango is characterized by stringent quality requirements regarding fruit flies. This needs to be addressed as a key value chain challenge for competitiveness of the commodity in Benin and West Africa. http://purl.umn.edu/51994.

Detailed weekly sales transactions data for the period January 2000-June 2001 from three frontier markets in the central corridor of West Africa were analyzed to identify the factors influencing short-run, intra-year cattle prices. The empirical results indicate that in addition to market location and seasonality of supply and sales, market participants show systemic preferences for specific cattle attributes (sex, weight, condition and finish) and are willing to pay premium prices consistent with their preferences. Communicating this information to producers can assist them to tailor their production and marketing decisions to meet market expectations and thereby improve their competitiveness, profitability and intra-regional livestock trade. Innovative policy and institutional approaches to improve market information dissemination and ease other constraints that tend to dampen supply response, even in the face of favorable prices, are discussed in the paper.
http://purl.umn.edu/25423

It analyses the economic, institutional and policy constraints to livestock marketing and trade to provide a basis for new policy interventions to improve market efficiency and intra-regional livestock trade.

http://hdl.handle.net/10568/1783.


The magnitude and direction of trade flows in cattle and beef, and how cattle production and beef consumption adjust in response to more open trade in the Central Corridor (an acronym for the sub-region that includes Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, and Burkina Faso) have been estimated. A mathematical programming approach was used to model trade in cattle and beef in the West African Central Corridor. Quadratic programming which maximizes the net social surplus in the Samuelson sense under a competitive market framework when farmers are risk averse was applied. Estimates of consumer surplus, producer profits, and government revenue changes were used as welfare indicators. The different scenarios analyzed indicate that there would be an increase in trade in cattle and beef consumption in the sub-region, as well as an overall welfare gain.
http://purl.umn.edu/21830
VC Regional Trade and Food and Nutrition Security

Finally, there is some literature connecting regional integration processes with food security issues, and resilience, and one study discusses the tensions between growing regional food trade and food sovereignty. There is some attention for the policy aspects: the regional approach to food security propagated by the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), and for the impact of aid and trade for the West African livestock sector for food security in the region. During the scoping conference the relatively limited number of publications linking food trade with food security was seen by the participants as a striking conclusion in view of the important role for agricultural/food products in West African regional trade.

Sources of information for this important topic were mainly found in publications by international agencies, with a considerable Dutch contribution here.

African agencies: CILSS, Ouagadougou

International agencies: IFPRI, FAO, the Famine Early Warning System (USAID), Wageningen University and LEI, ECDPM.

Academic Journal: Food Policy


Aid and trade for livestock development and food security in West Africa. - Wageningen: Wageningen UR Livestock Research, La Ventana Consulting, 2014. The central issue in this study is the search for opportunities for livestock development to enhance food security in West Africa through aid and trade. The report discusses win-win and trade-offs between aid and trade, reflecting a rather traditional divide between development aid and economic development. Nowadays the notion public and private might replace that of aid and trade. http://edepot.wur.nl/292476


The 2013 Annual Trends and Outlook Report (ATOR) contributes to the emerging debate by analyzing Africa’s recent trade performance and future outlook at the global and regional levels, including discussions of the mechanisms of dealing with food price volatility, the scope for increasing trans-border trade, and the potential impacts of weather-related shocks and biophysical factors on intra-regional exports. The ATOR finds that Africa’s share of world trade of goods and services, and specifically of agricultural goods, made a turnaround and started increasing in the 2000s. Also, intra-Africa agricultural exports have grown rapidly in recent years, particularly in calorie terms, thus lessening the continent’s dependence on the West in terms of trade. The Report attributes the improved trade performance to recent improvements in economic growth and infrastructure on the continent, together with higher world prices for some key raw materials.


In 2003 the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) was established by the
assembly of the African Union (AU). Its aim is to raise agricultural productivity by at least 6% per year and increase public investment in agriculture to 10% of national annual budgets. After an initial phase focused primarily on interventions at the national level, there is growing awareness on the need to work more on the regional dimensions of the CAADP. In this context, the European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) has undertaken a policy analysis of regional CAADP processes in various African regions, focusing on the issues at stake as well as its linkages with the broader regional integration processes. The underlying study focuses on the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). It is intended to stimulate further discussions among stakeholders and to contribute to the consultative processes around the implementation of the regional CAADP compact and related investment plan in the region, as well as to contribute to lessons-sharing across regions, to strengthen food security in West Africa and beyond. http://ecdpm.org/publications/regional-approaches-food-security-africa-caadp-relevant-policies-programmes-ecowas/

African regional integration: implications for food security / M.v. Dijk. – The Hague: LEI Wageningen UR, 2011. (Paper Series) This report looks at the African regional trade, regional integration agreements (RIAs) and the implications for food security. An overview is presented on the present state of African regional integration and the determinants of regional trade in agriculture and food commodities. In particular the study focuses on eight target countries, related RIAs and a set of strategic food commodities. The evidence presented in this study shows that African countries have made progress in opening up agriculture and food trade with partner countries. With, the exception of Ghana, Tanzania and Mozambique, the effective applied tariff rates for regional trade partners are substantially lower than the (MFN) rates applied to world trade partners. Nonetheless, regional trade in agriculture and food only increased marginally between 1990 and 2009, and is relatively low in comparison with other developing regions. The weak state of soft and hard infrastructure, rather than high trade tariffs, seem to be the cause of this.
http://purl.umn.edu/101645.
