
NEWS

AGRODEP 2012 MEMBERSHIP EXTENSION

The third round of AGRODEP membership in March 2012 attracted a large number of high quality applications from researchers around Africa. AGRODEP will make the selection of new members from this pool of applicants based on a combination of factors including the level of education, experience, and technical skills. This round of selection will increase the number of AGRODEP members and contribute to the AGRODEP's objective of mobilizing a critical mass of modeling experts within Africa's policy research and analysis community.

AGRODEP membership is offered exclusively to African researchers living in Africa. Members gain free access to cutting-edge economic research tools, data, and training as well as opportunities to apply for competitive research grants. The next membership round will be announced in 2013.

TRAINING ACTIVITIES

The recently launched AGRODEP training program provides members opportunities to attend training on data (social accounting matrices data, household survey data), computable general equilibrium modeling, poverty measurement and analysis, impact evaluation, and panel data econometrics.

The first three-day training course on "[Building and Updating Social Accounting Matrices \(SAM\)](#)" was held on March 13-15, 2012 in Dakar, Senegal, at IFPRI WCA Office. The course was taught by Dr. Ismael Fofana, Post-Doctoral Fellow at IFPRI and Network Coordinator for AGRODEP.

The training provided instructions on how to build a SAM from the national accounts tables and how to update it with more recent data. Participants had learned how to transform a SAM into an input-output table used by global CGE models.

The topic of the next training course will be "[Poverty Measurement and Analysis](#)" and is scheduled for April 24-27, 2012 at IFPRI WCA Office. The course will be conducted by Philippe Van Kerm and Anne-Claire Thomas from the Universite catholique de Louvain, Belgium.

DEVELOPMENTS

WTO AWARDS

Recently the [World Trade Organization](#) (WTO) awarded scholarships to eight (8) AGRODEP members to attend the [15th Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis](#) that will be held in June 2012 in Geneva, Switzerland. The awards were a result of a recent agreement signed between the [International Food Policy Research Institute](#) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) in an effort to increase opportunities for AGRODEP members to participate in highly reputable international events such as the upcoming GTAP conference.

AGRODEP RESEARCH VALORIZATION GRANT

As part of its Grants Program, AGRODEP offers a [Research Valorization](#) Grant which allows members to apply for financial support from the Consortium in order to present the outcome of their research at international conferences.

The second conference grant was awarded to Albert Makochekanwa, an AGRODEP Member, to attend the [Study of African Economies \(CSAE\)'s International Conference](#) held in Oxford University, United Kingdom on March 18-20, 2012. The grant enabled Albert to present his research on COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite FTA, Implications on welfare and food security.



AGRODEP Members at SAM training at [IFPRI WCAO](#).

Albert is a Trade Analyst at the USAID Southern Africa Trade Hub. He holds an M.A. in Economics from University of Zimbabwe and a Ph.D. in Economics from University of Pretoria, South Africa.
Congratulations Albert!

FEATURED MEMBERS



John Ele-Ojo Ataguba is a citizen of Nigeria. He has been an AGRODEP member since April 2011. At present, John is a Lecturer/Researcher at the Health Economics Unit (HEU), University of Cape Town. In this position, John conducts research in public sector economics, poverty and health care financing. Before joining the HEU, University of Cape Town, John worked for the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. He holds a B.A. degree in Economics from University of Nigeria and an M.A. in Health Economics from University of Cape Town. His research interests include poverty, pro-poor growth and human development, and health care financing.



Patrick Irungu is a citizen of Kenya. He has been an AGRODEP member since April 2011. At present, Patrick is a Lecturer at the Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Nairobi, Kenya where he teaches both undergraduate and postgraduate students while also conducting research mainly in livestock economics. Before this position, Patrick worked for Kenya Agricultural Research Institute. He holds a B.A. degree in Range Management from University of Nairobi and an M.A in Agricultural Economics, and Ph.D. in Economics. His research interests include livestock health economics, climate change, and livestock trade and value chain analysis of livestock and livestock products.



Nimenya Nicodeme is a citizen of Burundi. He has been an AGRODEP member since April 2011. At present, Nimenya is a Professor/Lecturer at the University of Burundi where he teaches and conducts research on quantitative methods applied to agricultural economics. Before joining University of Burundi, Nimenya worked for private schools of Bujumbura (Burundi). He holds a B.A. degree in Agronomy from University of Burundi, an M.A. in Agricultural Economics from Université catholique de Louvain (Belgium), as well as a Ph.D. from the same University. His research interests include international agricultural trade, non-tariff measures and regional integration.

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