Number 4 - August 15, 2011

## News

#### **Grants Program**

On July 15, 2011, AGRODEP launched its first call for proposals for innovative research. Only AGRODEP members are eligible to apply for this type of grant. All proposals should be sent to grants@agrodep.org by August 31, 2011.

Special consideration will be given to studies covering new topics or topics of relevance for Africa, as well as development of new databases.

AGRODEP seeks to facilitate a systematic policy assessment for African economies in order to study the policy-level changes needed to enable the environments in which the CAADP proposed policies can achieve their key objectives (economic development and poverty alleviation). With this objective in mind, this year, AGRODEP will give a special consideration to proposals that address priorities defined by the <u>CAADP</u> Agenda:

- 1. Climate change and water resource management
- 2. Output and input marketing policies
- 3. Trade policies and competitiveness
- 4. Market access

The goal is to identify the existing policies proposed and implemented under the **CAADP** Agenda and to perform a systematic assessment that identifies the major bottlenecks affecting the efficiency of such policies. The assessment will be launched through a sequential call for proposals to AGRODEP members and will be implemented with scientific advice from <a href="IFPRI">IFPRI</a> and AGRODEP <a href="partner">partner</a> institutions.

# **Developments**

Welcome to Alimatou Diop and Lacina Balma, the new additions to the AGRODEP team. Alimatou and Lacina will work in IFPRI's Dakar office and provide support to the AGRODEP team on various aspects of the project.

### **Coming Soon**

In the next two months, <u>AGRODEP</u> will launch a discussion paper series and a training program for its members.

The discussion paper series will provide members an opportunity to submit their manuscripts for review and publication on topics related to economic growth, poverty reduction, and development policy.

The training program will include a set of models proposed by the AGRODEP team. A survey will be conducted among members in order to determine their priorities and preferences.

## **Featured Members**



Fatou Cisse is a citizen of Senegal. At present, Fatou is a Researcher at the Consortium Pour La Recherche Economique Et Sociale (CRES) where she conducts research on trade liberalization, regional integration, growth and equity, and migration. She obtained her B.A. and M.A. degrees in Economics from University Chelkh Anta Diop in Dakar and is currently completing a Ph.D. degree in Economics from the same university. Her research interests include trade liberalization, regional integration, growth and equity, and migration.



Francis Mwaura is a citizen of Kenya. He is a Research Fellow at the **Economic Policy Research Centre** (EPRC). Previously, Francis worked for Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC) and Tea Research Foundation of Kenya (TRFK). He holds a B.A. degree in Natural Resources Management from Egerton University and an M.A. in Agricultural Resources Economics and Management from Moi University, Kenya. His research interests include natural resources management and modeling of climate change.



Indranarain Ramlall is a citizen of Mauritius. Currently, Indranarain is a Lecturer at the University of Mauritius where he teaches finance and econometrics and has special interests in modeling of climatic change and food environment. Ramlall holds a B.A. degree in Economics and Finance from University of Mauritius and a Ph.D. in Finance from University of Technology, Mauritius. His research interests include practical credit risk modeling, financial stability, currency risk, and DSGE.

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