Number 5 - September 15, 2011

NEWS

DISCUSSION PAPER SERIES

The AGRODEP modeling Consortium has launched its <u>Discussion Paper</u> Series, a bilingual (English and French) online publication that aims at enhancing the visibility of African researchers and experts as well as contributing to the policy dialogue on African Growth and Development.

Manuscripts are accepted only from AGRODEP members and the focus of the analysis must be on economic growth, poverty reduction, and development policy in Africa. There are no pre-conditions on the manuscript length and presentation.

Members are invited to submit their manuscript to the Editor, Ismael Fofana at i.fofana@cgiar.org, either in English or in French.

The goal of these publications is to raise awareness of African Researchers and their interesting work on various topics that are dear to the African continent.

An Editorial board was set up to manage the review and publication process. It consists of the Editor, Associate Editors, and Referees. Reviewers will remain anonymous to the authors, and vice-versa.

Further details on the submission procedure can be found in the <u>AGRODEP</u> website.

NEW STAFF

AGRODEP welcomes new staff members Soonho Kim who will serve as Web Portal Specialist, and Yuan Gao who will serve as Senior Research Assistant. Both are based in IFPRI, Washington DC.

DEVELOPMENTS

GRANT PROGRAM

On July 15th, AGRODEP Modeling Consortium launched its competitive call for proposals for innovative research which resulted in 28 proposals submitted by members. Through these proposals, the AGRODEP initiative seeks to facilitate a systematic policy assessment for African economies in order to study policy changes that are necessary and in line with the key objectives of **CAADP** proposed policies. Proposals are currently being evaluated and the selection will be made by September 30, 2011.

Research Valorization Grant

The AGRODEP Grants Program also includes the Conference Participation Grant which allows members to apply for financial support from the Consortium in order to present their research at international conferences. As of September, members have submitted three proposals under this category; one has been awarded while the other two are under evaluation.

FEATURED MEMBERS



Shaymaa Mahmoud Bayoumi is a citizen of Egypt. She is a Senior Economic Analyst at the Ministry of Trade and Industry where she analyzes the impact of trade negotiations on Egypt. Shaymaa participates in drafting Egypt's negotiating positions in the WTO and various bilateral trade agreements. She also conducts research and drafts legal analytical memos on trade remedies. Shaymaa holds a B.A. degree in Economics and Political Science from Cairo University, an M.A. in Business Administration and International Markets form Arab Academy for Science and Technology, and a Ph.D. in International and Comparative Law from the American University in Cairo. Her research interests include economics, law, international trade, and dispute settlement.



Gbadebo Olusegun Odularu is a citizen of Nigeria. He has been an AGRODEP member since April 2011. At present, Gbadebo Odularu is a Policy/Markets Analyst at the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA). In this position, Gbadebo contributes to the Ministerial Policy Brief Series, the FARA e-newsletter, Regional Policies and Markets Info Intelligence (RPMII) Series, and FARA Policy Seminar Series. Prior to his current position, Gbadebo worked for Covenant University, Nigeria. He holds a B.A. and an M.A. in Economics from University of Ibadan, Nigeria and a Ph.D. in **Economics from Covenant** University. His research interests include tourism economics, development economics, international trade, and public sector economics.



Christian Kakese Tipov is a citizen of Democratic Republic of Congo. He has been an AGRODEP member since April 2011. At present, Christian is Researcher Assistant at Saint Augustine College of South Africa and the Centre for Inclusive Banking in Africa of the University of Pretoria. In this position, Christian teaches economics and econometrics at the college and conducts research on financial services delivery and inclusive banking at the Centre. Before joining the Centre for Inclusive Banking in Africa, Christian worked for the JEEP NGO in Kinshasa. He holds a B.A. degree in Economics from the University of Kinshasa and an M.A. in Economics from the University of Pretoria. His research interests include financial inclusion, poverty and applied econometrics.

Website: www.agrodep.org; Email: info-agrodep@agrodep.org