



AGRODEP

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modeling consortium

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NEWS

[Determinants of Informal Cross-Border Trade: The Case of Benin](#)

AGRODEP released a new [working paper](#) this month. "[Determinants of Informal Cross-Border Trade: The Case of Benin](#)" focuses on Benin's exports and re-exports to its neighbors to examine the determinants of formal vs informal trade.

The authors find that agricultural products are traded mostly informally and that trade policies (specifically tariffs and import bans) play a significant role in explaining informal trade.

[Welfare Effects of ICTs in Agricultural Markets: A Case of Selected Countries in East Africa](#)

A second new working paper, "[Welfare Effects of ICTs in Agricultural Markets: A Case of Selected Countries in East Africa](#)", examines several specific ICT portals in Rwanda and Kenya that are being used by both traders and farmers to access agricultural market, price, and input information. The study finds mixed results for the effect of ICTs on the welfare of these two groups.

DEVELOPMENTS

[2016 ReSAKSS Conference Held in Ghana](#)

The [2016 ReSAKSS Conference](#) took place this week from October 18-20 in Accra, Ghana. The theme of this year's conference was "Achieving a Nutrition Revolution for Africa: The Road to Healthier Diets and Optimal Nutrition." The conference was organized by IFPRI and the African Union Commission (AUC).

The conference discussed recent regional efforts to address Africa's nutrition needs, including the CAADP Nutrition Initiative and the 2014 Malabo Declaration, in order to better understand how these various initiatives can be leveraged and coordinated to make more rapid progress on the region's nutrition targets.

Among the speakers at the conference were [Ousmane Badiane](#), co-chair of the [AGRODEP Steering Committee](#), and [Maximo Torero](#), co-chair of the [AGRODEP Scientific Advisory Board](#).

FEATURED MEMBERS



Dr. Jules Medard Nana Djomo is a citizen of Cameroon. He joined AGRODEP in November 2012. At present, Jules is a Member at the University of Yaounde II-Cameroun, where he conducts research on microeconomics with a focus on human capital, social capital, welfare, and production efficiency. He holds an M.A. in Economics from the University of Yaounde II-Cameroun and a Ph.D. in Economics of Human Resources from the University of Yaounde II-Cameroun. He specializes in agricultural production and technology.



Dr. Gutu Boka is a citizen of Ethiopia. He joined AGRODEP in April 2013. At present, Gutu is a specialist in Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation at World Vision International, East Africa Regional office. He holds a B.A. and an M.Sc. in Agricultural Economics from Haramaya University and a Ph.D. in Economics, Agriculture, and Climate Change from Haramaya University. He specializes in agricultural production and technology.



Dr. Nkechi Owoo is a citizen of Ghana. She joined AGRODEP in August 2015. At present, Nkechi is a Lecturer/Researcher at the University of Ghana where she conducts research on microeconomics. She holds a B.A. in Economics from the University of Ghana, an M.A. in Economics from Clark University, and a Ph.D. in Economics from Clark University. She specializes in health, education, and welfare economics.

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