
NEWS

Impact of the Slowdown in Global Growth on Rural Poverty

Recent research from David Laborde and Will Martin of IFPRI finds that global projected economic growth rates has declined in recent years and that this slowdown will have particularly detrimental effects on poor rural populations in Africa. Even countries not directly affected by changes in productivity will likely be impacted by the changes in commodity prices associated with the global slowdown.

The authors compared the most recent IMF forecasts for economic growth to 2017 with forecasts from a previous environment (in 2012) and assumed that the changes in projected growth rates from the latter part of each of the five-year projection periods will continue to 2030. Using the MIRAGRODEP model, they then project the implications of the global growth slowdown at the national level, including reductions in productivity growth rates and subsequent changes in economic balances and relative prices. Finally, they use household models for almost 300,000 households to assess how these changes will impact the poor.

The study concludes that the implications will be strongest for the poorest countries. In these countries, when using the latest IMF forecasts, over 5 percent of the population will fall into poverty compared to the baseline, while 3 percent will rise out of poverty, leading to a net increase in poverty of 2 percent from the original 2012 forecast. In addition, in this scenario, over 4 percent of farming households in the poorest countries will no longer be lifted out of poverty by 2030. Many of the countries with large numbers of vulnerable populations in 2030 will be in Africa south of the Sahara.

DEVELOPMENTS

Online Data Platforms for Africa

This month, the AGRODEP team would like to highlight two online resources with data for Africa. The ReSAKSS Country eAtlases (RCeA) are a GIS-based mapping tool that provides country-level data for 22 countries in Africa south of the Sahara. The tool is designed to help policymakers access and use high-quality, disaggregated data on agricultural, socioeconomic, and bio-physical indicators in order to make better-informed policy decisions.

The Data Africa platform provides open access information on agriculture, climate, poverty, and health at the sub-national level. The tool utilizes user-friendly visualizations for 13 countries.

FEATURED MEMBERS



Dr. Miriam Omolo is a citizen of Kenya. She has been an AGRODEP member since 2010. At present, Miriam is a Programmes Coordinator at the African Policy Research Institute in Nairobi. She holds a B.A. in Economics from Kenyatta University of Technology, an M.A. in Economics from the University of Nairobi, and a Ph.D. from the University of South Africa, Pretoria. Her research interests include trade liberalization, poverty, social policy, and CGE modeling. She received an AGRODEP Innovative Research Grant in 2011 and a Research Valorization Grant in 2015.



Dr. Raphael Babatunde is a citizen of Nigeria. He became an AGRODEP member in April 2013. At present, Raphael is an Associate Professor at the University of Ilorin. He holds a B.Sc. and an M. Sc. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Ilorin and a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics and Social Sciences from the University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany. His research interests include migration and remittances, food security and poverty studies, food and nutrition economics, impact assessment, farming systems, and resource management in agricultural production.



Mr. Benjamin Kachero is a citizen of Uganda. He has been an AGRODEP member since July 2015. At present, Benjamin is an Economist in the Office of the Prime Minister - Uganda. He holds a B.A. and an M.A. in Development Economics from Makerere University. In his current position, he is involved with the preparation of the Government's Annual and Half-Annual performance report, conducts impact evaluations, and works on capacity-building for monitoring and evaluation. He specializes in development economics.

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