

Overview of AGRODEP Activities



Betina V. Dimaranan

AGRODEP SAB SC NAC Annual Meetings
November 18, 2013 • Dakar, Senegal

GOAL AND KEY ROLES OF AGRODEP

Goal of AGRODEP

To position African experts to take a leading role in both:

- the study of strategic development questions facing African countries as a group and
- the broader agricultural growth and policy debate, which traditionally has been dominated by external actors and concerns.

Key Roles

- Promoting access to and use of state-of-the-art economic **modeling** tools
- Facilitating access to existing **data** sources for research and policy analysis
- Building a **network** of state-of-the-art researchers:
 - Supporting collaboration among leading African scientists and their peers outside Africa
 - Building a dynamic research community that can respond to the emerging and long-term needs of CAADP growth and poverty reduction agenda.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PAST THREE YEARS

- Year one highlights (2010-2011)
 - establishment of the AGRODEP Modeling Consortium and its main components: models, data, network
 - Staffing in IFPRI-DC and IFPRI-Dakar
 - formation of the governance bodies: SAB, SC, NAC
 - web portal development, including data and model libraries and collaborative spaces for members
 - first two membership rounds
 - inception workshop: October 2010
 - June 2011 meetings and workshop (food prices and climate change)
- Year two highlights (2011-2012)
 - implementation of the AGRODEP grants program
 - implementation of the AGRODEP training program
 - outreach materials (newsletter, AGRODEP bulletin, quarterly update)
 - launch of working paper series
 - third membership round
- Year three highlights (2012-2013) in this presentation

ROLE OF SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD (SAB)

- **Main function:** Provide general scientific guidance to the Project manager according to AGRODEP's mission
- **More specific:**
 - Gather individual researchers from the academic community with a high international scientific reputation and a knowledge of Africa;
 - Provide recommendations on scientific topics and scientific activities that AGRODEP should prioritize;
 - institutions in and outside Africa that can contribute to AGRODEP's objectives,
 - Review scientific pertinence of research projects developed by AGRODEP members
 - Suggest improvements and/or innovations on analytical methodologies used by the AGRODEP community
- **Membership:** Board consists of individual members who are experts from the economic research and policy community with an outstanding international reputation as well as knowledge of African countries and the major challenges that they face.
- **Co-Chairs:** **Dr. Maximo Torero**, *IFPRI* and **Prof. Bernard Decaluwé**, *Université Laval, Québec, Canada*

ROLE OF STEERING COMMITTEE (SC)

- **Main function:** Discuss and advise the functioning of the AGRODEP initiative and its contribution to capacity building and policy debate in Africa
- **More specific:**
 - Gather institutions that will actively contribute to AGRODEP
 - Guide the AGRODEP initiative on key matters of policy, operational issues and resource mobilization
 - Ensure that the AGRODEP initiative remains focused on its objectives and mission and is run effectively.
- **Members:** Institutional representatives from regional and international organizations, academic institutions and universities, international aid agencies, and other leading policy and development organizations, and two AGRODEP member representatives
- **Co-Chairs:** **Dr. Ousmane Badiane**, *IFPRI* and **Dr. Lindiwe Sibanda**, *FANRPAN*

ROLE OF NETWORK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- **Main function:** is a consultative group that provides advice to the Consortium on the content and delivery of networking activities
- **More specific:**
 - Provides advice on:
 - Collaborative research
 - Capacity building
 - Outreach activities
- **Membership:** individuals representing the key African institutions that are active in the area of economic growth and policy research and capacity building.
- **Co-Chairs:** **Dr. Michael Waithaka**, *ASARECA, Entebbe, Uganda*, and **Dr. Harold Roy-Macauley**, *CORAF-WECARD, Dakar, Senegal*

AGRODEP ACTIVITIES: HIGHLIGHTS OF YEAR 3

- Annual meetings of the SC and SAB in November 2012
- Members' workshop in November 2012
- Fourth and fifth AGRODEP membership rounds (Oct 2012 and March 2013)
- Launch of the Technical Notes series in November 2012
- Awarding of special award for excellence in 2012 publications
- Completion of 2012 training courses and implementation of first five 2013 training courses
- Launch of seed fund grants for research associated with 2013 training courses
- Launch of second call for grants for gaps in research in July 2013
- Launch of second call for grants for innovative research in August 2013
- Approval of grants for research valorization to seven AGRODEP members
- Preparations for hosting the GTAP 2014 conference in Dakar in June 2014
- Implementation of Affiliate Membership, Friends of AGRODEP and member de-selection

2012 ANNUAL MEMBERS' WORKSHOP

- 13 November 2012
- 11 AGRODEP members presented and received feedback on their research
- 5 SAB members, 6 SC members, and 3 NAC members participated
- **21 AGRODEP members will present at 2013 members' workshop in the next two days**

PARTICIPANTS IN THIS EVENT



Agbodji, Damien Akoété Ega



Ajetomobi, Olusegun Joshua



Alaba, Olumuyiwa Bamidele



Cabral, Joseph François



Cisse, Fatou



Fall, Cheickh Sadibou



Kareem, Olayinka Idowu



Kiiru, Joy



Kwaramba, Marko



Ramlall, Indranarain

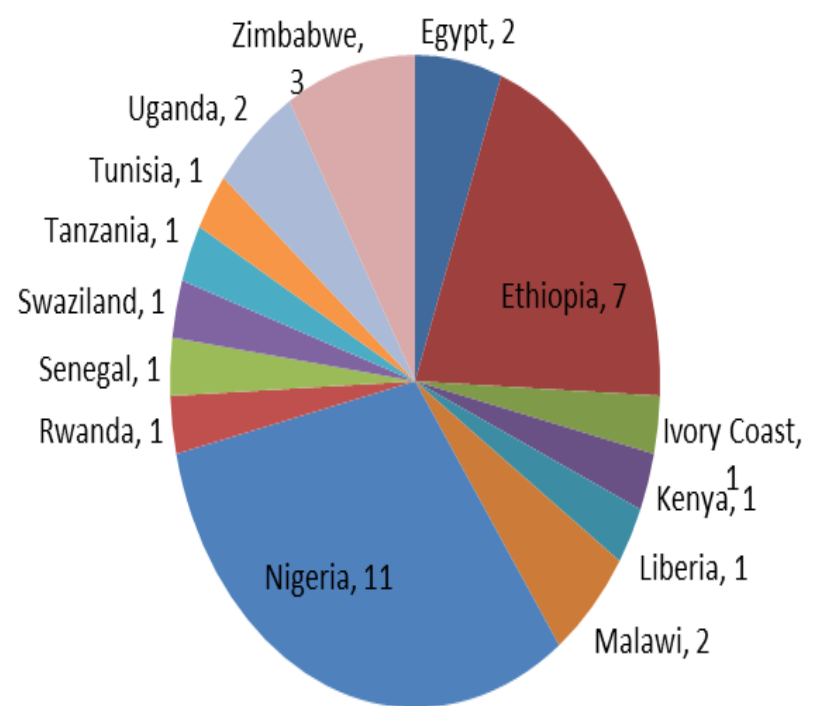
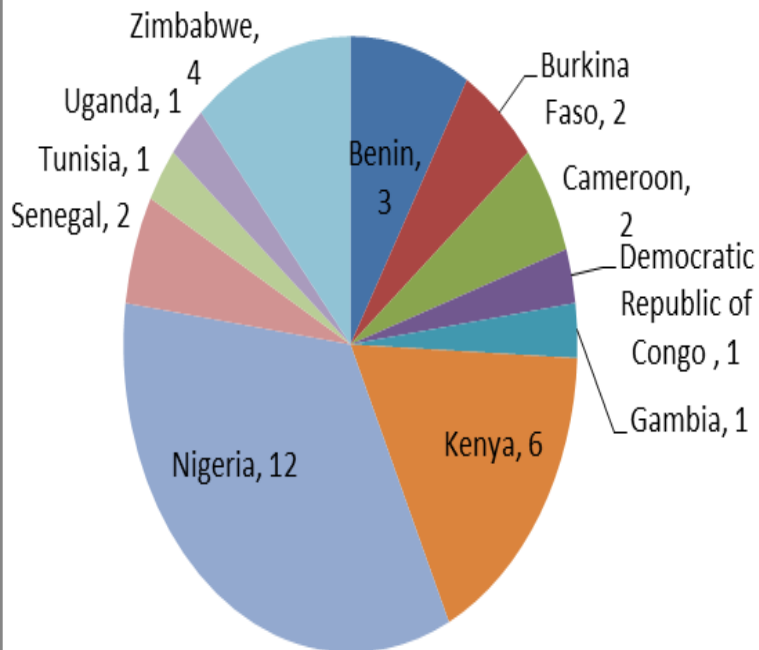


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LAST TWO MEMBERSHIP ROUNDS

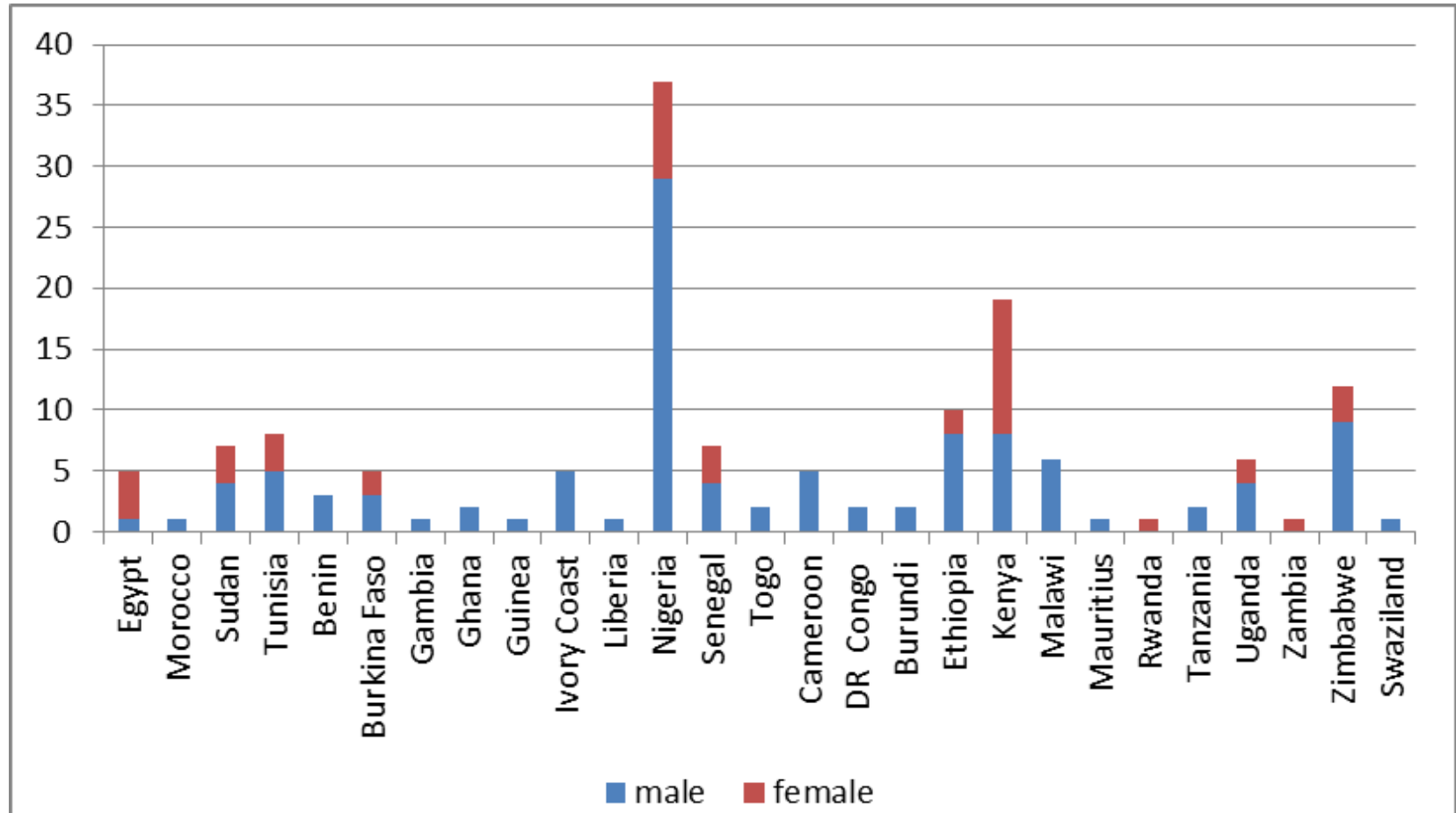
Fourth Round*, October 2012
35 members , 11 Cs, 10F, 25 M

Fifth Round, March 2013,
35 members, 14 Cs, 9 F, 26 M,



*special round – impact evaluation -> AIEN

153 TOTAL MEMBERS*: 43 F, 110 M



- Total before affiliate membership and member de-selection

LAUNCHED TECHNICAL NOTES SERIES

Number	Title	Date
No. 09	<u>Guide to Microsimulations Linked to CGE Models: How to Introduce Analysis of Poverty and Income Distribution in CGE-based Studies</u>	May-13
No. 08	<u>AGRODEP Stata Training</u>	Apr-13
No. 07	<u>Trade Policy Partial Equilibrium model in Excel: Documentation</u>	Feb-13
No. 06	<u>Modeling commodity markets in stochastic contexts: A practical guide using the RECS toolbox version 0.5</u>	Feb-13
No. 05	<u>Hands-on gravity estimation with STATA</u>	Apr-13
No. 04	<u>The Gravity Model in International Trade</u>	Apr-13
No. 03	<u>Documentation of the Export Restrictions And import Tariffs Overall impacts (ERATO) PE model</u>	Oct-12
No. 02	<u>Functional Forms Commonly Used in CGE Models</u>	Nov-12
No. 01	<u>A comparison between the PEP 1-1 model and the IFPRI standard model</u>	Nov-12

2012 TRAINING COURSES

- **March 13-15:** *Building and Updating a Social Accounting Matrix*: three days/Ismael Fofana, IFPRI, Senegal.
- **April 24-27:** *Poverty Measurement and Analysis*: four days/Philippe Van Kerm and Anne-Claire Thomas, Universite catholique de Louvain, Belgium.
- **May 14-25:** *GAMS-based Computable General Equilibrium Modeling (basic)****: nine days/Veronique Robichaud, Universite Laval, Canada (in Entebbe, Uganda)
- **September 24-28:** *Panel Data Econometrics*: five days/Rembert De Blander, Universite catholique de Louvain, Belgium.
- **October 8-10:** *Household Surveys Data: Sampling and Processing*: three days/Carlo Azzarri & Melanie Bacou, IFPRI, USA.
- **October 29-31:** *Impact Evaluation & Analysis of Development Interventions*: three days/Bernard Tanguy, IFPRI, Senegal.
- **December 3-5:** *GAMS-based Computable General Equilibrium Modeling (advanced)*: three days/Helene Maisonnave, Universite Laval, Canada (in Pretoria).
- **December 17-19:** *Multicountry and Multisector General Equilibrium Analysis (MIRAGRODEP)*: three days/David Laborde & Antoine Bouet, IFPRI, USA.

2013 TRAINING COURSES (+ SEED FUND GRANTS)

Date	Training Course	Instructors
May 13-18	Impact Evaluation and Analysis of Development Interventions (Part I)	Bernard Tanguy*, IFPRI
May 28-30	Estimation of the Economic Impacts of High Food Prices Using Micro Data	Miguel Robles, IFPRI
Jul 1-3	Evaluation of Public Policies	Guy Lacroix, Laval University
Sep 19-13	Applied Panel Data Econometrics	Christopher Parmeter, Univ of Miami
Oct 1-3	Applied Microeconometrics	Manuel Hernandez, IFPRI
Dec 9 - 20	GAMS-based Computable General Equilibrium Modeling (basic)	Veronique Robichaud, Universite Laval
Dec 16-20	Impact Evaluation and Analysis of Development Interventions (Part I)	Bernard Tanguy*, IFPRI
Jan 8-10	Poverty Measurement and Analysis	John Gibson, Univ of Waikato
???	Assessing Crop Production Nutrient Management, Climate Risk, and Environmental Sustainability with Simulation Models	Jawoo Koo, IFPRI; Gerrit Hoogenboom, Wash. State Univ.

* AGRODEP Impact Evaluation Network organizer

2013 AGRODEP GRANTS PROGRAM

○ Grants for Innovative Research

- Launched on August 2013: “*Economic growth and development in Africa: lessons from the last forty years and implications for its sustainability*”
- Open only to AGRODEP members
- 18 proposals, under review, selected proposals in the workshop

○ Research Gap Grants

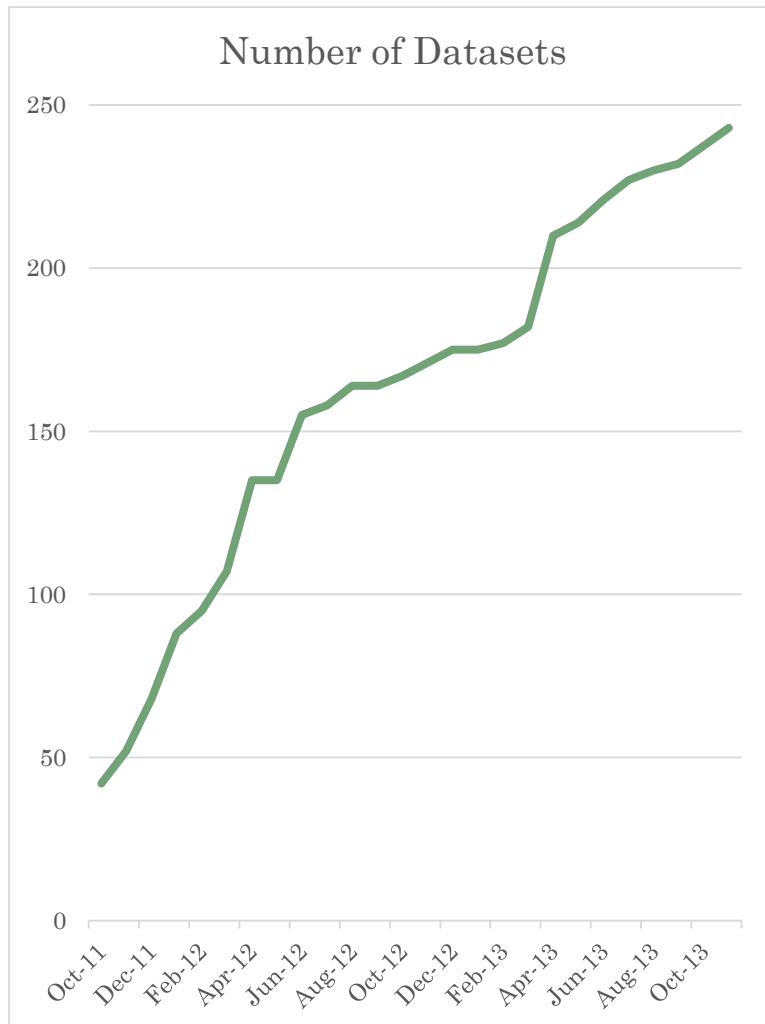
- Launched July 2012: “*Barriers to the expansion of agriculture and agroindustry in Africa*”
- Open to AGRODEP and non-AGRODEP members
- 50 proposals, under review

○ Grants for Research Valorization

- Thirteen submissions in 2013, seven selected for funding.

- Award for Excellence in Publication – launched Nov 2011, continues year-round

NUMBER OF DATASETS IN THE AGRODEP PORTAL



DATA CATALOG

Sort by: Order:

Title	Category	Geographic Coverage
2000/2001 Tanzania Household Budget Survey	Household Survey	Tanzania
2004 Botswana Agricultural Census Report Data	Household Survey	Botswana
2004 Tanzania-Kagera Health and Development Survey	Household Survey	Tanzania
2007 Tanzania Household Budget Survey	Household Survey	Tanzania
2012 Global Hunger Index Data	Socio-economic Development Indicators	
A 2007 Social Accounting Matrix for Malawi Data	Social Accounting Matrix	Malawi
A 2007 Social Accounting Matrix for Uganda Data	Social Accounting Matrix	Uganda
Africa Development Bank Statistical Data Portal	Socio-economic Development Indicators	
AFRISTAT Databases	Socio-economic Development Indicators	
Agricultural Module, Piggy-Backed onto the Population and Housing Census (PHC) of Uganda, 2002	Household Survey	Uganda
Angola 2006-07 Malaria Indicator Survey (MIS) Data	Household Survey	Angola

FILTER BY DATA SET CATEGORY

- Household Survey (91)
- National Agricultural Statistics (46)
- Model Output (23)
- Social Accounting Matrix (17)
- Agricultural Science & Technology Indicators (13)
- Socio-Economic Development Indicators (12)
- Firms (10)
- Bilateral Trade Statistics (5)
- Tariffs (1)

COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES

Monthly Newsletter

First issue - April 2011

Latest issue – October 2013

AGRODEP Bulletin

2 issues in 2012 – March and Sept

Quarterly in 2013

Latest issue – September 2013

Quarterly Updates

First issue - September 2011

Latest issue – September 2013

Sent only to SAB, SC, NAC members

Other announcements on the website

Regular AGRODEP news – news blast

Blog announcements – to members



LEARNING WITH OTHERS

Key economic decisions are determined by people's preferences and beliefs. For example, the consumption of a certain vegetable by a household may reflect a taste preference for that product as well as certain beliefs – such as a perception

While aspiration is an individual attribute, it nevertheless responds to social interaction.

about the nutritive properties of this commodity or the value placed by the household on some individual or social dimension (being in good health, achieving a level of social status, achieving a level of income or wealth, etc.). When these preferences are future-oriented - when they are motivators and are perceived as an ambition to reach specific outcomes - these are known as aspirations.

Aspirations play an important role in economic and social decision-making. For example, decisions concerning investment in education may be determined by aspirations, expectations about the

the world, and current economic constraints.

Since aspirations are so important in determining key economic decisions (savings, education, investment, etc.), it is important to understand what influences aspirations themselves. They are clearly an

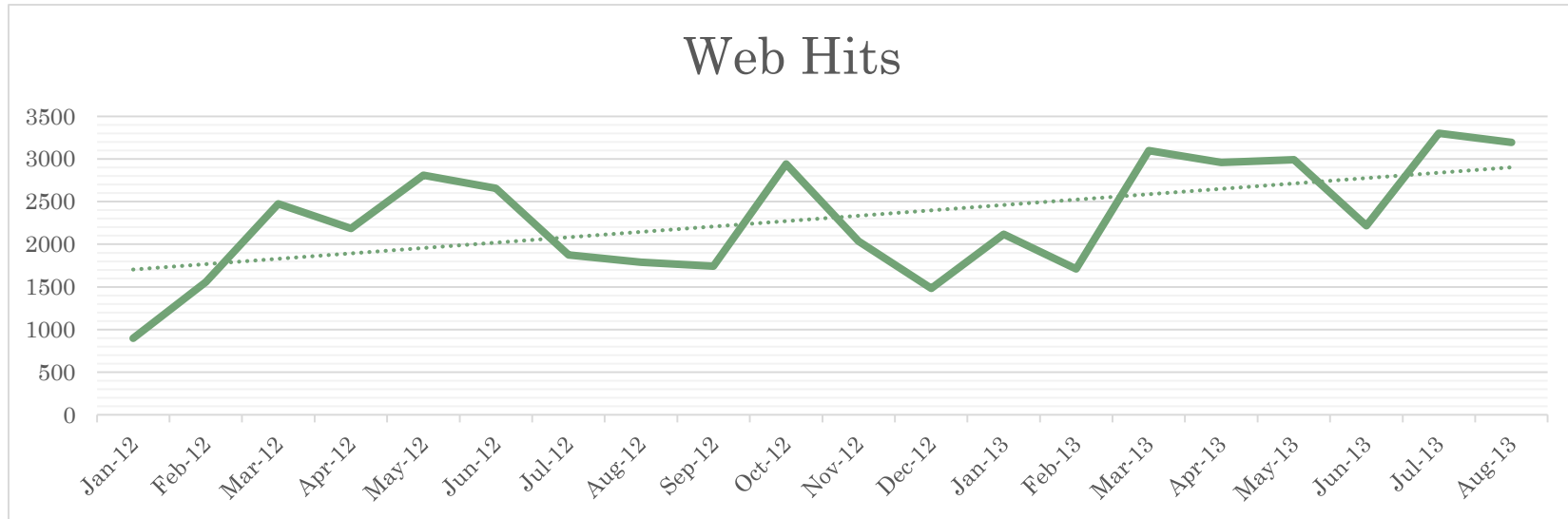
individual attribute, but they can either be determined by purely individual variables (until recently, this has been the traditional point of view in the economic literature) or be partially influenced by the characteristics or behaviors of other agents. Appadurai (2001) and Ray (2004) have concluded that an economic agent's aspirations are also determined by the behavior of other agents whom she/he can observe and/or with whom she can identify.¹ Put slightly differently,

¹ Appadurai, A., 2001. The Capacity to Aspire: Culture and the Terms of Recognition, in V. Banerjee, R. Benabou and D. Mookherjee, eds., *Understanding Poverty*, Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press, and Ray, D., 2004. *Aspirations, Savings, and*

AGRODEP is a Modeling Consortium of African researchers living and working in Africa with research interests ranging from economic modeling to regional integration and development to climate change, gender, poverty, and inequality. There are currently 118 members from 21 countries; our members work at top research institutions and universities in their own countries as well as various government agencies and non-profit organizations.

The **benefits of being an AGRODEP member** include opportunities for research grants, free access to cutting-edge economic research tools, data, and training. Members also gain access and exposure to large global networks of economic researchers and experts. [Click here to learn more.](#)

AGRODEP WEBSITE MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENT



www.agrodep.org

- Portal for economic MODELS
- Portal for DATA
- data visualization tools (MAP)
- Collaborative WIKI spaces
- RESOURCES library
- upcoming and past EVENTS
- NETWORK directories

NEW

- Online course and grant applications
- Online Stata test
- AIEN collaborative space

MORNING

- Models Component – Fousseini Traore
- Data Component – Betina Dimaranan
- NetMembership and Training – Ismael Fofana
- Grants Program & GTAP 2014 Conference – Antoine Bouet

12:50 pm LUNCH, with Guest Speaker: Tanguy Bernard on AGRODEP Impact Evaluation Network

AFTERNOON

- Business meetings
- Wrap-up and Closing

6:00 pm RECEPTION