

Update on 2014 AGRODEP Activities



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Steering Committee Virtual Meeting
September 24, 2014

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.

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*

AGRODEP ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST SC MEETING*

- **3rd Annual Members' Workshop (Nov 19-20)**
- **Membership Activities: Affiliates & Friends**
- **Co-organized the GTAP Conference in Dakar**
- **Training Courses – 2013 / 2014**
- **Grants Programs – several types of grants**
- **More Working Papers**
- **Technical Notes Series (model documentation)**
- **Launch of Data Report Series**
- **Research Networking Platforms**
- **Other Communications Activities**

* Annual Meetings of AGRODEP SAB, SC and NAC, November 18, 2013 in Dakar, Senegal

2013 ANNUAL MEMBERS' WORKSHOP

- 19-20 November 2013
- 20 AGRODEP members presented and received feedback on their AGRODEP grants research
- 2 SAB members, 4 SC members, 3 NAC members and 6 AGRODEP staff participated
- <http://www.agrodep.org/event/2013-members-workshop>



MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES: AFFILIATES

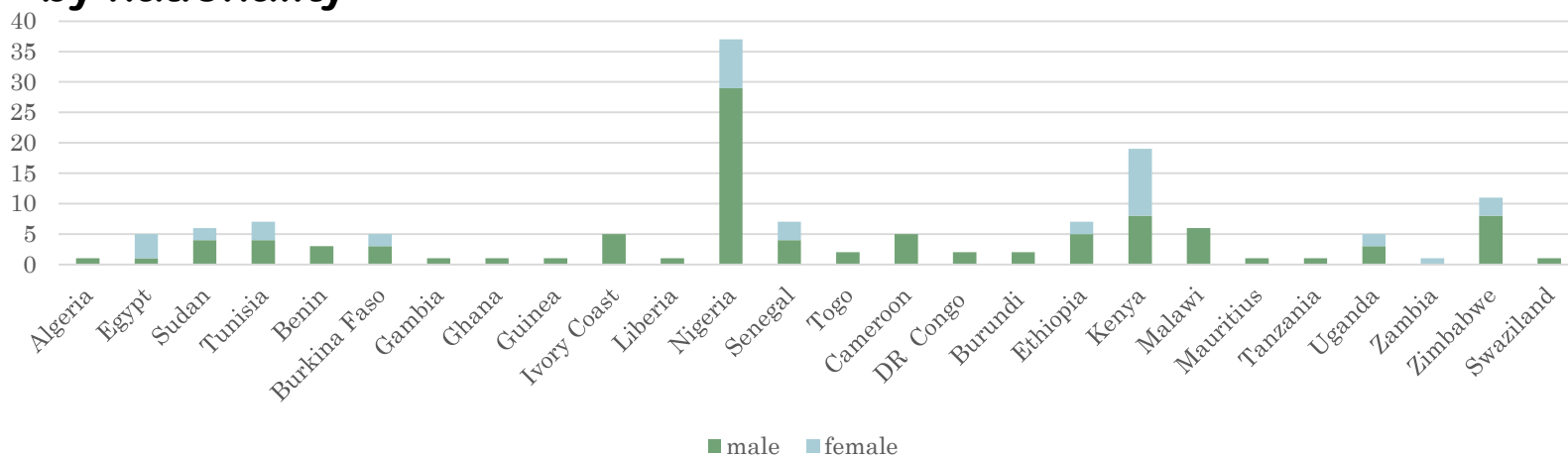
- **Who May Become An Affiliate Member?**
 - AGRODEP member who moves out of Africa (3)
 - Qualified African researcher who lives and works outside of Africa (4)
 - Qualified African and non-African researchers working in international and CG centers in Africa (3)
- **Benefits of Affiliate Membership**
 - Access to AGRODEP resources – data, models
 - Can attend AGRODEP training courses, workshops at their own expense

MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES: FRIENDS

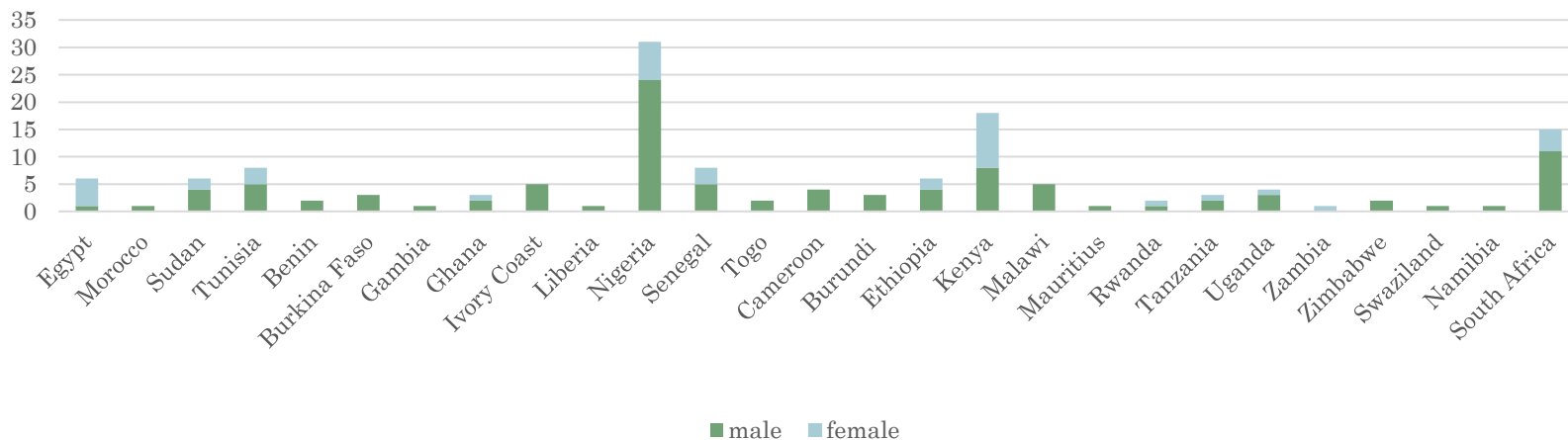
- **Who is a Friend of AGRODEP? An individual or institution that has contributed to the network's activities through:**
 - Documented databases and models;
 - Proposed training courses;
 - Instruction and participation in capacity-strengthening activities;
 - Mentorship of AGRODEP members;
 - Review of members' proposals, reports, and publications;
 - Collaboration with members in various research or publication activities.
- **See 50+ individuals listed in <http://www.agrodep.org/content/friends-agrodep-0>**

143 CURRENT REGULAR MEMBERS: 41 F, 102 M

by nationality

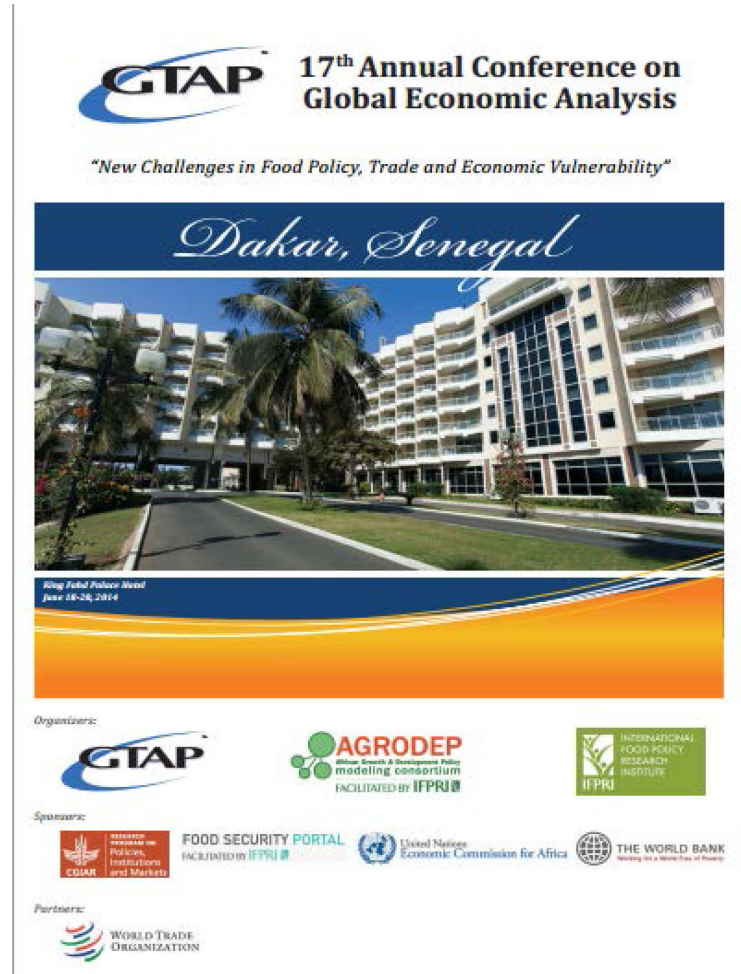


by location – 15 members are in South Africa



CO-ORGANIZED THE 17TH ANNUAL GTAP CONFERENCE

- 18-20 June 2014
- 194 economists from 52 countries
- 50 participants from Africa (40 received sponsorship from AGRODEP, IFPRI's FSP, UNECA, WTO)
- 28 AGRODEP members attended (15 presented)
- AGRODEP held training courses before and after the event



GTAP 17th Annual Conference on
Global Economic Analysis

"New Challenges in Food Policy, Trade and Economic Vulnerability"

Dakar, Senegal

King Faisal Palace Hotel
June 18-20, 2014

Organizers:

GTAP **AGRODEP** **INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE**
African Growth & Development Policy modeling consortium FACILITATED BY IFPRI

Sponsors:

CGIAR **FOOD SECURITY PORTAL** **United Nations Economic Commission for Africa** **THE WORLD BANK**
Research Institute on Policy, Institutions and Markets FACILITATED BY IFPRI

Partners:

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

2013-14 TRAINING COURSES (WITH SEED FUND GRANTS)

Date	Training Course	Instructors
Dec 9-20, 2013	GAMS-based Computable General Equilibrium Modeling (basic)	Veronique Robichaud, Universite Laval
Dec 16-20, 2013	Impact Evaluation and Analysis of Development Interventions (Part II)	Bernard Tanguy**, IFPRI
Jan 8-10, 2014	Poverty Measurement and Analysis	John Gibson, Univ of Waikato
Apr 7 - 11, 2014	Assessing Crop Production Nutrient Management, Climate Risk, and Environmental Sustainability with Simulation Models	Jawoo Koo, IFPRI; Gerrit Hoogenboom, Wash. State Univ.
May 26-17, 2014	Experimental Methods for Impact Assessment	Angelino Viceisza, Spelman College
Jun 2-6, 2014	Impact Evaluation and Analysis of Development Interventions (Part III)	Bernard Tanguy**, IFPRI
June 16-17, 22, 2014	Advance CGE Modeling (PEP and IFPRI Models, Models of Regional Trade Integration)	I. Fofana, F. Traore, D. Tarr, T. Rutherford
<i>postponed*</i>	<i>Applied Microeconometrics</i>	<i>Manuel Hernandez, IFPRI</i>
<i>postponed*</i>	<i>Applied Panel Data Econometrics</i>	<i>Christopher Parmeter, Univ of Miami</i>
<i>postponed*</i>	<i>Productivity and Efficiency Analysis</i>	<i>Christopher Parmeter, Univ of Miami</i>
Dec 8-10, 2014	<i>Evaluation of Public Policies</i>	<i>Guy Lacroix, Laval University</i>

* originally scheduled for September 2014, postponed due to ebola outbreak in West Africa

** AGRODEP Impact Evaluation Network (AIEN) coordinator



AGRODEP

African Growth & Development Policy
modeling consortium

FACILITATED BY IFPRI

2013/14 AGRODEP GRANTS AND AWARDS PROGRAM

○ Grants for Innovative Research

- Open only to AGRODEP members
- 2nd round launched in August 2013: “*Economic growth and development in Africa: lessons from the last forty years and implications for its sustainability*”
 - 18 proposals, 7 awarded, research on-going
- 3rd round to be launched in October 2014

○ Research Gap Grants

- Open to AGRODEP and non-AGRODEP members
- 2nd round launched in July 2013: “*Barriers to the expansion of agriculture and agroindustry in Africa*” (1 awarded)
- 3rd round launched in Aug 2014: “*Using trade for development*”
 - submission period closed on Sept 12, 55 proposals submitted - under review

○ Grants for Research Valorization (conference, publication fees)

- Fourteen submissions in 2013, eight funded
- Ten submissions so far in 2014, eight funded

○ Award for Excellence in Publication

- launched in Nov 2011, revised in 2014, continues year-round
- 6 awarded in 2014 so far

5 WORKING PAPERS* ADDED IN 2014 (FROM GRANTS ACTIVITY)

AGRODEP WORKING PAPERS	DATE
No. 0007 - Implications of High Commodity Prices on Poverty Reduction in Ethiopia and Policy Options under an Agriculture-Led Development Strategy	Sep-14
No. 0006 - Impact of Agricultural Foreign Aid on Agricultural Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Dynamic Specification	Jul-14
No. 0005 - Post-Liberalization Markets, Export Firm Concentration, and Price Transmission along Nigerian Cocoa Supply Chains	Apr-14
No. 0004 - Investigating the Linkage Between Climate Variables and Food Security in ESA Countries	Apr-14
No. 0003 - Investigating the Impact of Climate Change on Agricultural Production in Eastern and Southern African Countries	Apr-14
No. 0002 - Trade Reform and Quality Upgrading in South Africa: A Product-Level Analysis	Sep-13
No. 0001 - Poverty, Growth, and Income Distribution in Kenya: A SAM Perspective	Jun-12

Plus journal articles from members' grant-funded research.

1 TECHNICAL NOTE ADDED IN 2014

AGRODEP TECHNICAL NOTES	DATE
No. 10 - On the Estimation of Supply and Demand Elasticities of Agricultural Commodites	Apr-14
No. 09 - Guide to Microsimulations Linked to CGE Models: How to Introduce Analysis of Poverty and Income Distribution in CGE-based Studies	May-13
No. 08 - AGRODEP Stata Training	Apr-13
No. 07 - Trade Policy Partial Equilibrium model in Excel: Documentation	Feb-13
No. 06 - Modeling commodity markets in stochastic contexts: A practical guide using the RECS toolbox version 0.5	Feb-13
No. 05 - Hands-on gravity estimation with STATA	Apr-13
No. 04 - The Gravity Model in International Trade	Apr-13
No. 03 - Documentation of the Export Restrictions And import Tariffs Overall impacts (ERATO) PE model	Oct-12
No. 02 - Functional Forms Commonly Used in CGE Models	Nov-12
No. 01 - A comparison between the PEP 1-1 model and the IFPRI standard model	Nov-12

LAUNCHED THE DATA REPORT SERIES

AGRODEP DATA REPORTS	DATE
No. 02 - La Matrice de Comptabilite Sociale de l'Economie Senegalaise en 2011	Sep-14
No. 01 - Construction d'une matrice de comptabilité sociale avec des branches et produits agricoles désagrégés pour le Togo	Jul-14

COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES

Monthly Newsletter

First issue - April 2011

Latest issue – September 2014

AGRODEP Bulletin

2 issues in 2012 – March and Sept
Quarterly in 2013

Latest issue – August 2014

Quarterly Updates

First issue - September 2011

Latest issue – September 2014

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 and Development*, Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

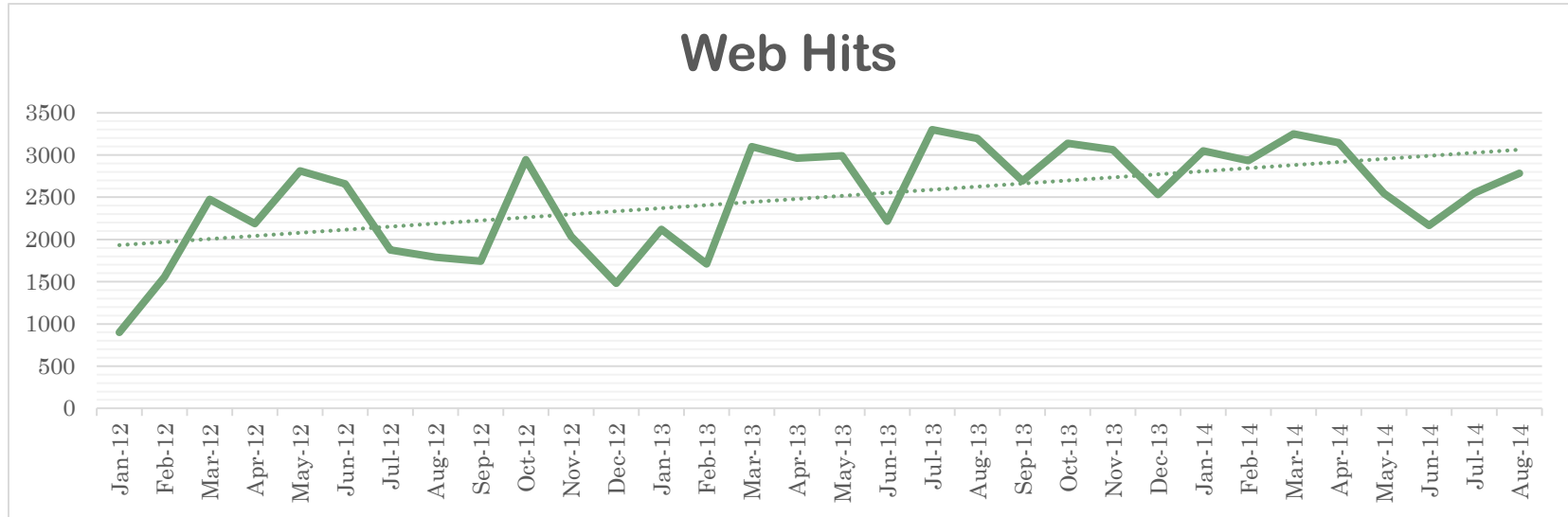
AGRODEP is a Modeling Consortium of African researchers living and working in Africa with research interests ranging from economic modeling to regional integration and development to climate change, gender, poverty, and inequality. There are currently 118 members from 21 countries; our members work at 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.](#)

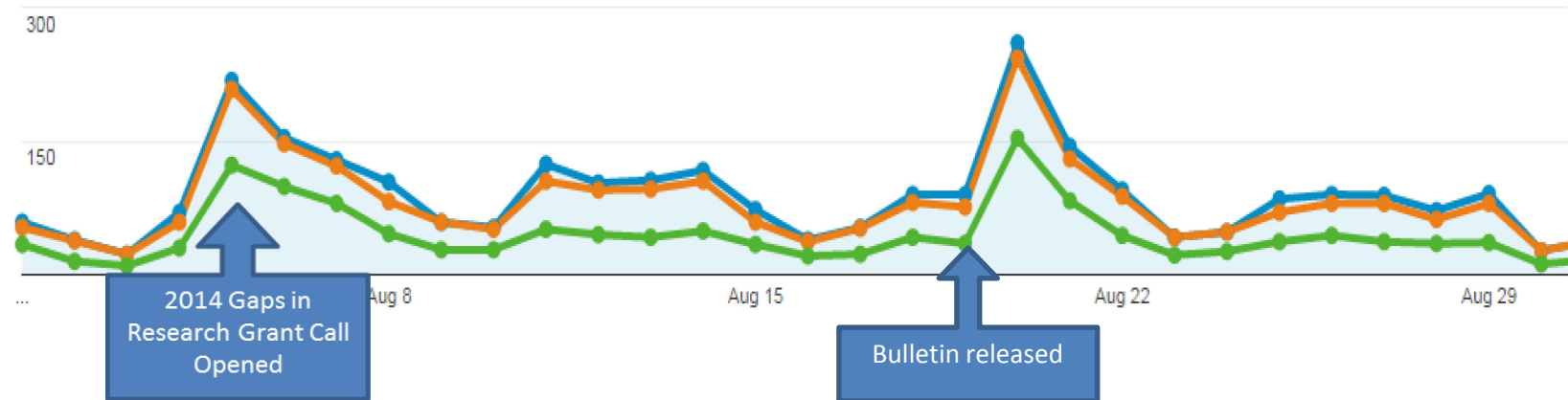
WEB ACTIVITY REPORTS / ANALYSIS

Web Hits



August 2014

● Sessions (All Sessions) ● Sessions (External Traffic) ● Sessions (Africa Only)



AGRODEP PLANS FOR REST OF 2014-15

- Continue with activities defined in the 2014 work plan – models, data, and network components
- Membership call to increase female participation
- Improve monitoring and evaluation of project's impacts
- Annual meetings and members' workshop in February 2015 (2015 Work plan)
- Improve outreach with RESAKSS for eventual linkage with host entities