

Update on 2013 AGRODEP Activities

Betina V. Dimaranan

Steering Committee Virtual Meeting
July 30, 2013



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*

- **Members' Workshop (Nov 13)**
- **Fourth and Fifth Membership Rounds**
- **Launch of Technical Notes Series (models)**
- **Training Courses – 2012 / 2013**
- **Grants Programs – 2012 / 2013**
- **Data Portal**
- **Communications Activities**
- **Website Improvements**
- **Plans for rest of the year**

* Annual Meeting, November 12, 2012 in Dakar, Senegal

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
- <http://www.agrodep.org/event/2012-members-workshop>

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



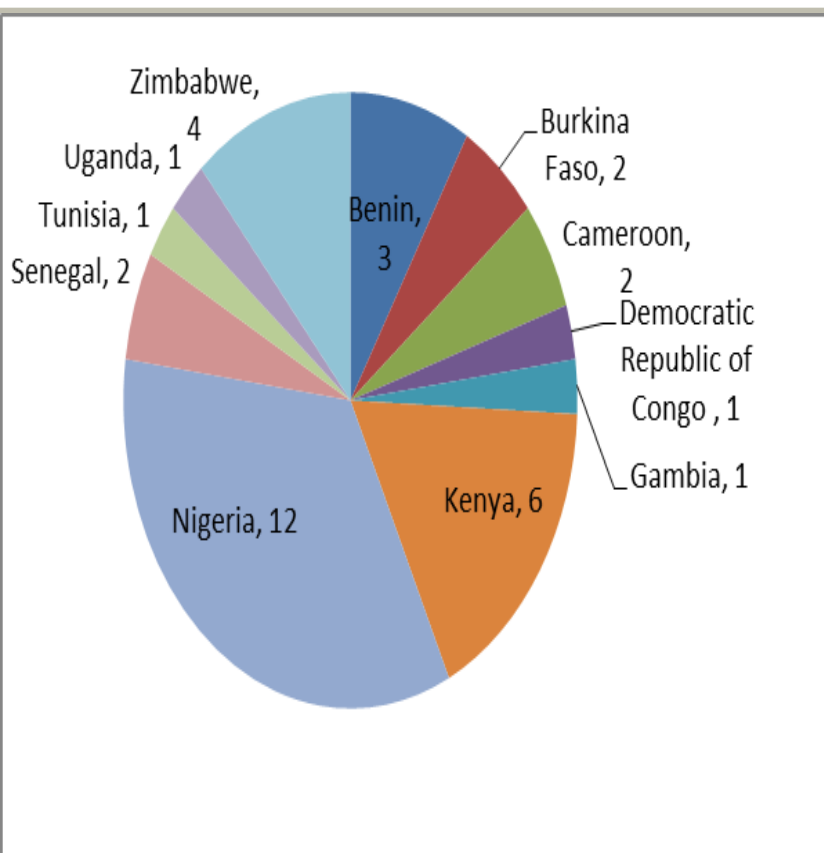
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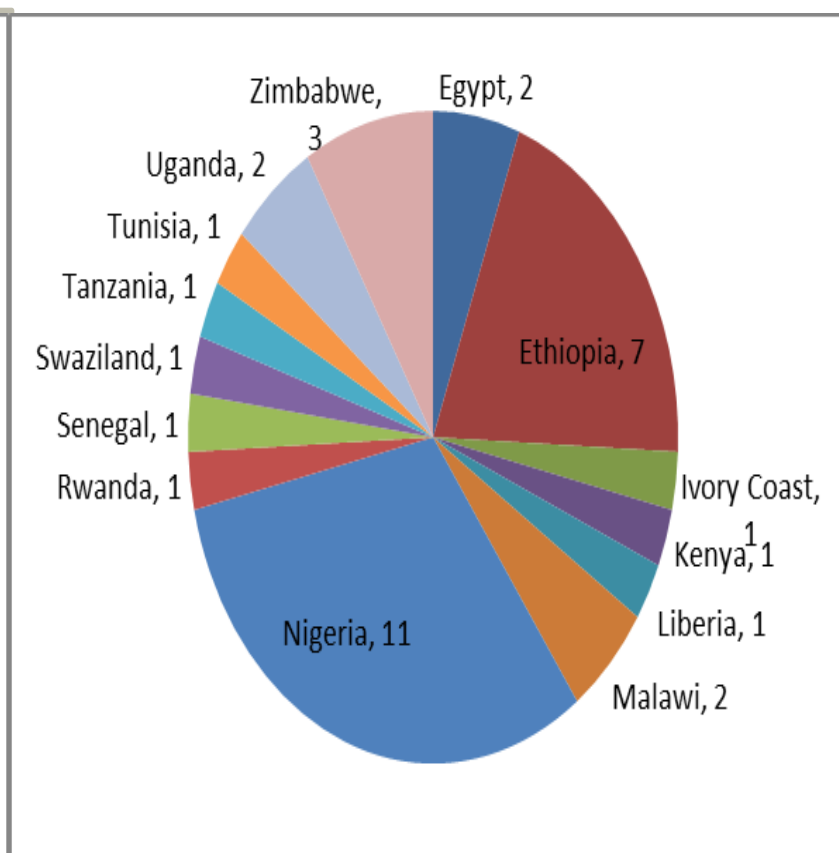
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LAST TWO MEMBERSHIP ROUNDS

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

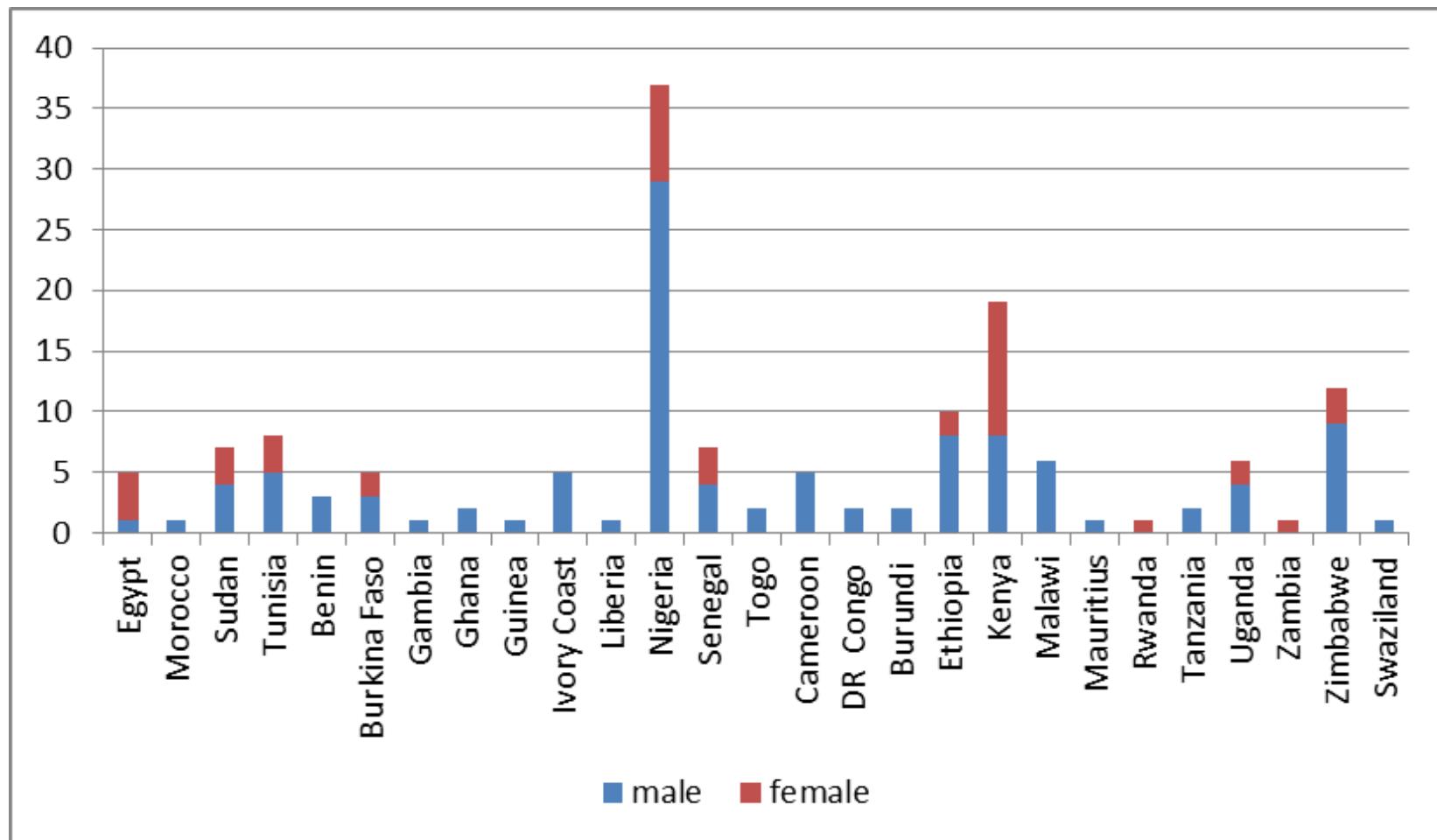


Fifth Round, March 2013,
35 members, 14 Cs, 9 F, 26 M,



*special round – impact evaluation -> AIEN

153 CURRENT TOTAL MEMBERS: 43 F, 110 M



AGRODEP MEMBERS SELECTION CRITERIA

Key criteria:

- Location
 - Based in Africa
- Education
 - Ph.D. defended within the last 10 years, or
 - Ph.D. student for at least 3 years, or
 - Masters degree holder in economics with 3 to 15 years of professional experience)
- Research Experience
 - Publications
 - Training and workshops completed
- Diversity
 - Regional, gender, and scientific interest considerations

LAUNCHED TECHNICAL PAPERS 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.
- **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.
- **December 17-19:** *Multicountry and Multisector General Equilibrium Analysis (MIRAGRODEP)*: three days/David Laborde & Antoine Bouet, IFPRI, USA.

2013 TRAINING COURSES

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
Oct 14-16	Poverty Measurement and Analysis	John Gibson, Univ of Waikato
Oct 14-18	Assessing Crop Production Nutrient Management, Climate Risk, and Environmental Sustainability with Simulation Models	Jawoo Koo, IFPRI; Gerrit Hoogenboom, Wash. State Univ.
Nov. XX	Impact Evaluation and Analysis of Development Interventions (Part I)	Bernard Tanguy*, IFPRI
Nov 25 - Dec 3	GAMS-based Computable General Equilibrium Modeling (basic)	Veronique Robichaud, Universite Laval

* AGRODEP Impact Evaluation Network organizer

AFTER EACH TRAINING COURSE

- Course Evaluation of course from the participants
- Course Evaluation of participants from the instructor
- Feedback from participants
- Mentorship / Publication Incentives
- Seed Fund Grants

UNDERSTANDING THE THEORY BEHIND THE MODELS: FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS ON THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF HIGH FOOD PRICES TRAINING COURSE

[Overview](#) [Edit](#) [Clone](#)

Submitted by [sgustafson](#) on 9 Jul, 2013 16:41



The AGRODEP Training Course on Estimation of the Economic Impact of High Food Prices Using Micro Data was held from May 28-30. The course was organized by instructed by Miguel Robles of IFPRI.

The three-day training course showed participants how to conduct estimations of the economic impact of simulated food price changes at the household level. Among other things, the course covered estimations of average losses/benefits for different types of households, changes in national and regional poverty rates as a result of food price changes, and estimation of food price elasticities to account for changes in consumption decisions.

Eleven AGRODEP members participated in the course: Funke Iyabo Olagunju, Joshua Ajetomobi Olusegun, Mekbib Haile, Job Oladeebo, Laudia Ogunniyi, Kabir Salman, Adebayo Shittu, Gebrehaweria Gebrezgi, Susan Watundu, Oluwakemi Obayelu, and Miriam Omolo. The participants represented four countries and a wide range of experience and interests. The training course was well-received by all participants; participant feedback will be very valuable in improving future training experiences of AGRODEP members. The quotes below highlight just some of the positive feedback received from participants.

Susan Watundu of Makerere University Business School had this to say about the training:

One important lesson I learnt is that research is not all about carrying out empirical estimations using STATA or any other statistical software but the understanding of the theory and reasons behind these estimations. This is important in understanding the right models to be estimated for a given data set as well as interpretation of the results attained thereafter. This study clearly brought out the application of microeconomics theory to the day to day problems faced by households and individuals. I also appreciate the guidance in understanding the Household survey questionnaires and data generated from such kind of surveys. The programming in STATA was wonderful as well as the simulation process. I am sure this will guide me in my future household survey studies.

Mekbib Haile of the Ethiopian Economics Association provided this feedback:

The 2013 AGRODEP training on "Estimation of the Economic Impact of High Food Prices Using Micro Data" was indeed an outstanding experience for me. I learned and revised the various

NEW

AGRODEP GRANTS PROGRAM – 2011/2012

○ Grants for Innovative Research

- 14 out of 28 research proposals approved for funding in October 2011; Funding for 12 projects began in early 2012 (8 are 1yr and 4 are 2yr grants)
- *Now reviewing submitted research papers from 1 yr grants*

○ Research Gap Grants

- On October 2012, selected three research proposals on topic “Foreign Direct Investment in Land (FDI), Land Markets and Land Institutions, and Development of the Agricultural Sector in Africa”
- *Papers due early next year*

○ Grants for Research Valorization

- Four AGRODEP members received funding for conference presentation: 1 in 2011, 3 in 2012

○ Special Award for Excellence in 2012 Publications – awarded to Nicodeme Nimenya

2013 AGRODEP GRANTS PROGRAM

○ Grants for Innovative Research

- To be launched on August 5, 2013: *“Economic growth and development in Africa: lessons from the last forty years and implications for its sustainability”*
- Open only to AGRODEP members

○ Research Gap Grants

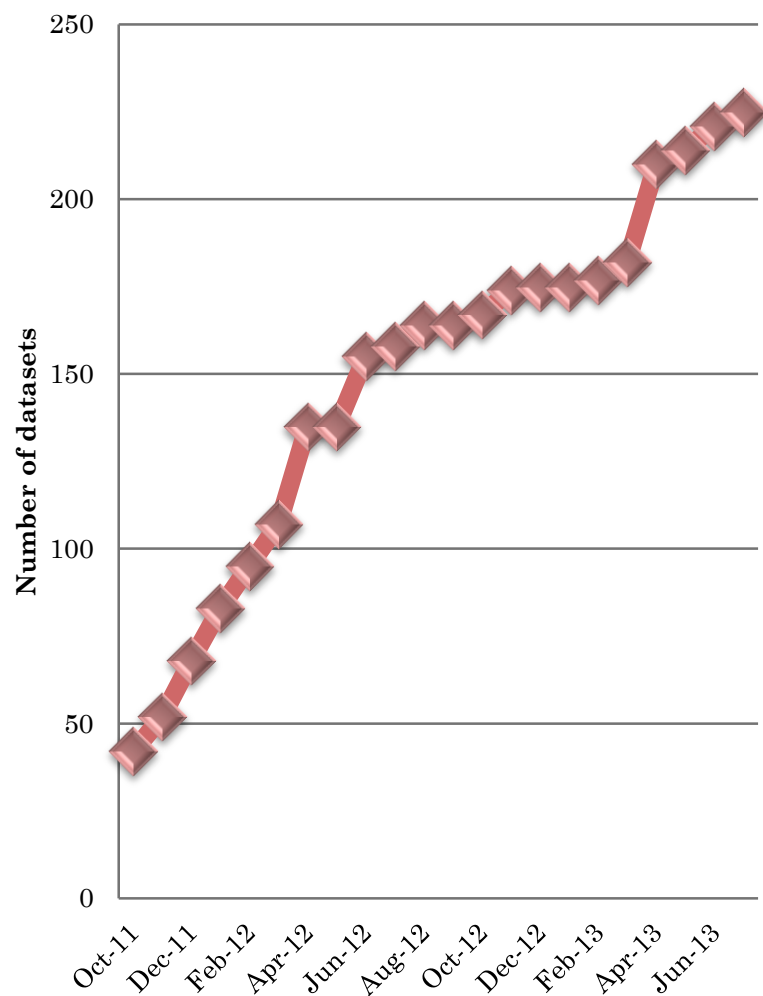
- Launched on July 2012: *“Barriers to the expansion of agriculture and agroindustry in Africa”*
- Open to AGRODEP and non-AGRODEP members

○ Grants for Research Valorization

- Three AGRODEP members have been funded for conference presentation in 2013 so far.

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

NUMBER OF DATASETS IN THE AGRODEP PORTAL



DATA CATALOG

Sort by: Title Order: Asc Apply

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 - July 2013

AGRODEP Bulletin

2 issues in 2012 – March and Sept

Quarterly in 2013

Latest issue – May 2013

Quarterly Updates

First issue - September 2011


Latest issue – June 2013

Sent only to SAB, SC, NAC members

Other announcements on the website

Regular AGRODEP news – news blast

Blog announcements – to members



AGRODEP
African Growth & Development Policy
modeling consortium
FACILITATED BY IFPRI 

AGRODEP BULLETIN

AFRICAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY (AGRODEP) MODELING CONSORTIUM

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,

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.](#)

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, Poverty, and*

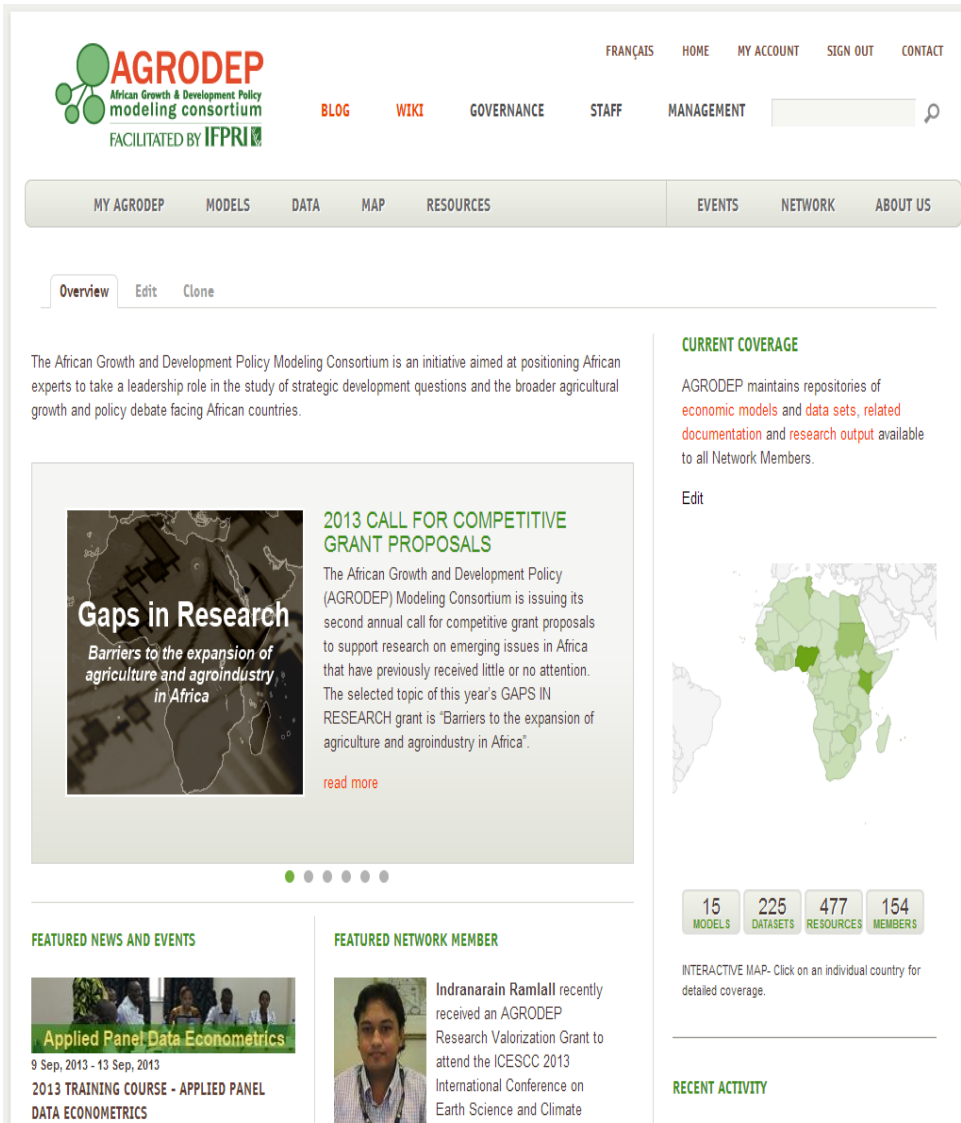
NEW FEATURES IN THE AGRODEP WEBSITE

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
- Key statistics data mashups
- AIEN collaborative space



The screenshot shows the AGRODEP website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for FRANÇAIS, HOME, MY ACCOUNT, SIGN OUT, and CONTACT. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links for BLOG, WIKI, GOVERNANCE, STAFF, and MANAGEMENT, along with a search bar. The main content area features a header with links for MY AGRODEP, MODELS, DATA, MAP, and RESOURCES, and another set of links for EVENTS, NETWORK, and ABOUT US. The central content area includes an 'Overview' tab, a description of the consortium, and a featured article titled 'Gaps in Research' with a sub-header 'Barriers to the expansion of agriculture and agroindustry in Africa'. To the right, there is a 'CURRENT COVERAGE' section with a map of Africa and a list of network members. At the bottom, there are sections for 'FEATURED NEWS AND EVENTS' and 'FEATURED NETWORK MEMBER'.

AGRODEP
African Growth & Development Policy
modeling consortium
FACILITATED BY IFPRI

FRANÇAIS HOME MY ACCOUNT SIGN OUT CONTACT

BLOG WIKI GOVERNANCE STAFF MANAGEMENT

MY AGRODEP MODELS DATA MAP RESOURCES

EVENTS NETWORK ABOUT US

Overview Edit Clone

The African Growth and Development Policy Modeling Consortium is an initiative aimed at positioning African experts to take a leadership role in the study of strategic development questions and the broader agricultural growth and policy debate facing African countries.

Gaps in Research
Barriers to the expansion of agriculture and agroindustry in Africa

2013 CALL FOR COMPETITIVE GRANT PROPOSALS
The African Growth and Development Policy (AGRODEP) Modeling Consortium is issuing its second annual call for competitive grant proposals to support research on emerging issues in Africa that have previously received little or no attention. The selected topic of this year's GAPS IN RESEARCH grant is "Barriers to the expansion of agriculture and agroindustry in Africa".
[read more](#)

CURRENT COVERAGE
AGRODEP maintains repositories of economic models and data sets, related documentation and research output available to all Network Members.
[Edit](#)

15 MODELS **225 DATASETS** **477 RESOURCES** **154 MEMBERS**

FEATURED NEWS AND EVENTS
Applied Panel Data Econometrics
9 Sep, 2013 - 13 Sep, 2013
2013 TRAINING COURSE - APPLIED PANEL DATA ECONOMETRICS

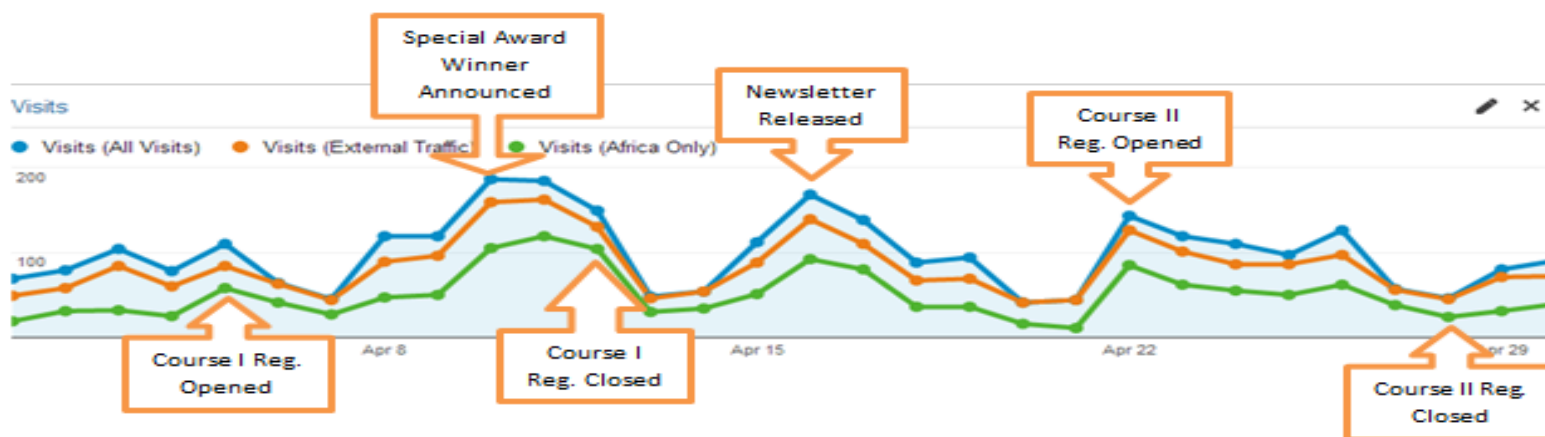
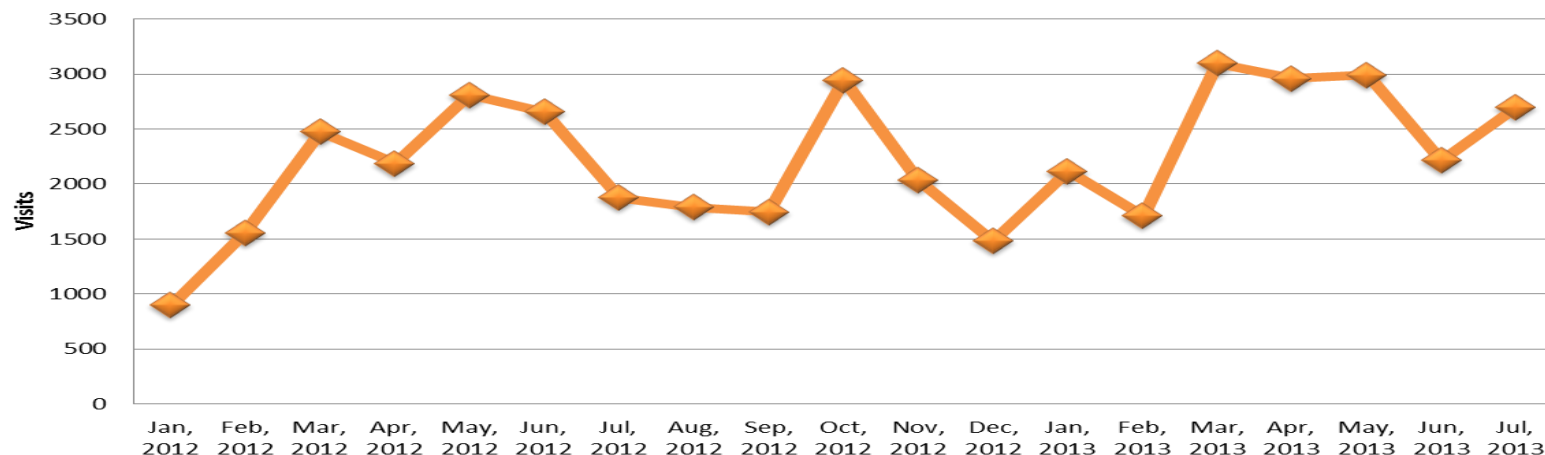
FEATURED NETWORK MEMBER
Indranarain Ramlall recently received an AGRODEP Research Valorization Grant to attend the ICESCC 2013 International Conference on Earth Science and Climate

INTERACTIVE MAP. Click on an individual country for detailed coverage.


RECENT ACTIVITY

WEB ACTIVITY REPORTS / MONTHLY ANALYSIS

AGRODEP Web traffic



CLASSIFICATION BY AREA OF SPECIALIZATION



[FRANÇAIS](#)
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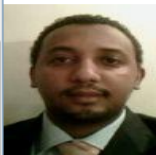






AIEN

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

[\[Edit view\]](#)
Select a role:
AGRODEP Members

Select an area of specialization:
Food Policy Analysis
Agricultural Markets and Prices
Agricultural Production and Technology
Applied Econometrics
Development Economics
Economic Modeling
Energy Economics
Environmental and Resource Economics
Experimental Economics
Food Policy Analysis
Food Security and Nutrition
Growth, Development, and Equity
Health, Education and Welfare Economics
Impact Evaluation
Industrial Organization
International Trade
Labor and Demographic Economics
Macroeconomics and Monetary Economics
Microeconomics
Poverty Measurement and Analysis
Public Economics

Apply

 <p>Ajetomobi, Olusegun Joshua Nigeria Ladoke Akintola University of Technology Contact me</p>	 <p>Birhanu, Dawit Ethiopia African Development Bank (ADB) Contact me</p>
 <p>Kiiru, Joy Kenya University of Nairobi Contact me</p>	 <p>Mabuza, Majola Lawrence Swaziland University of KwaZulu-Natal Contact me</p>
 <p>Obayelu, Abiodun Elijah Nigeria Federal University of Agriculture Contact me</p>	 <p>Ramadan, Racha Egypt Faculty of Economics and Political Science Contact me</p>
 <p>Shittu, Adebayo Nigeria</p>	 <p>Thabet, Chokri Tunisia</p>

AGRODEP PLANS FOR REST OF 2013

- Continue with activities defined in the 2013 work plan – models, data, and network components
- Continue GTAP 2014 conference preparations
- Start implementing membership plans: de-selection, affiliate members, Friends of AGRODEP
- Annual meetings and members' workshop in November
 - November 18-20 or November 25-27
 - Draft 2014 Work plan
 - Report progress by component