CREG NEWSLETTER MAY 2023

EDITION 15

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CREG and PRB Second session on "Unpaid Domestic Work in Africa: questioning Public Policies"May, 5, 2023



That webinar moderated by Aissata FALL (PRB), follows the one held on March 30, 2023, during which researchers shared the evidence from their research on unpaid domestic work. The main remaining question was about knowing how to use that evidence to propose policies for a better consideration of Unpaid Domestic Work (UDW) in West African countries in general. Bringing answers to that question was the second webinar main objective which brought together researchers, techni-

Ito Peng, Professor of sociology at Toronto University in Canada, started the discussions. She talked about the importance of measuring the UDW for many reasons, including domestic and social mutations, which mean that fertility rates are progressively declining worldwide, and that women, who used to have the social role of taking care of the household, are increasingly educated and present on the formal labour market.

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It is good to anticipate the future changes in the care sector by investing in quality care, and by promoting policies in favour of caregivers (domestic workers and women in general) to fight against vulnerabilities and disparities Ьеtween women and genders at global level. Dr Rohini Pande, from the World Bank presented a case study to show the World Bank's initiatives for reducing gender disparities. She presented the Sahel Women empowerment and Demographic Dividend (SWEDD) project, which aims at giving greater economic and social opportunities to women in the Sahel through its various components. As an example of

initiatives to reduce women's unpaid domestic work time, she presented the case of Burkina Faso, where women who benefited from the project have been advocating for significant investment in maternal health.

Then, professor Dramani, CREG President-Coordinator delivered a presentation on recent evidence on UDW in West Africa. He highlighted the fact that thinking on gender disparities has for a long time ignored an important reality, that of UDW, which are fundamental to the reproduction of a society. Policies should be implemented to take into account gender inequalities, but also to ensure quality care services for the renewal of generations. The first part of the presentation set the scene for the current situation of UDW in West Africa, but also of concerns about the need to take action for a better integration in policies for greater equity and well-being. The second part of the webinar focused on enhancing public policies in West Africa with, in addition to the previous speakers, Dr Larba Issa KOBYAGDA (ONDD -Burkina Faso) and Moussa Sidibé (SWEDD Mali). In the discussions, it emerged that policies in favour of considering UDW must establish a supportive framework for the effective participation of women in society. In other words, they must enable the reconciliation of private and professional life, notably through investments in the sectors of babyhood care and old age, among others.

A greater effectiveness of those policies would involve:

small-scale А participation of decithrough integration sion the of the UDW in communal development plans. A systematic inclusion of time use module in the surveys such as demographic and health surveys to better identify and address the problems. A data disaggregation on time-use at the urban/ rural scale to identify the spatial specificities of the UDW issue and better consider them in policies.

First performance of CREGF Brainstorming Series (CBS) around the theme: Demographic Dividend Sensitive Budgeting (DDSB), an application to West African countries (May 9)



On Tuesday May 09, 2023, Professor Latif Dramani - President-Coordinator of the Regional Consortium for Research in Generational Economics, was the guest of the first performance of CREG Brainstorming Series. He shared his experience of the Demographic Dividend Sensitive Budgeting (DDSB) process and the application of this decision-support tool to West African countries. In this context, he recalled the importance of effectively allocating of budgets fo

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African states, one of whose major ambitions is to take better advantage of the demographic dividend. Therefore, the DDSB process includes the matching of countries' budgets to the various Demographic Dividend Monitoring Indicators (DDMI). Firstly, this exercise has permitted to identify the weight of the budget allocated to harness the demographic dividend. Secondly, it helps to determine budget elasticities, which permit to assess the behaviour of the DDMIs to changes in the budget. Application to West African countries shows the imbalances in terms of allocation. Following the presentation, participants raised some questions for clarification and understanding, in particular concerning the depth results for the case of Mali. Discussions highlighted the importance of this decision-support tool for more effective and efficiently, in order to harness the demographic dividend.

The scientific Thursdays (ST) at CREG: a framework dedicated to the valorisation of our research-



The ST is one of CREG most important activities. It provides a forum to researchers and doctoral students to discuss and exchange views on their scientific research. Whatever their area of residence, candidates can take advantage of this space made up of eminent professors, experts and resource persons in various fields. While the previous year registered eight sessions in total, with a variety of themes, the first session of 2023 began with the theme "External effectiveness of education in Niger: the intelligences from the data of the Integrated Regional Survey on Employment and the Informal Sector", a paper presented by Mr Issa Guiré Boureima.

According to the presenter, it appears that:

"Schools play an important role in learning. However, there must be a balance between improving people's abilities and the economic opportunities for using them. Otherwise, immense frustration sets in."
The education of workers improves their incomes. This human capital is valued differently depending on employment status.
Education, contrary to all expectations, seems to be more productive in informal jobs than in formal ones. These results refer to economic policies that increase technological integration, tax mitigation and the business environment".

Both speaker, Dr. Kadio Eric KADIO, and Dr. Amy KA, respectively from Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (Morocco) and Assane Seck University in Ziguinchor (Senegal), following their judicious examination of the paper and presentation of the results of their research, made observations and suggestions likely to improve the scientific quality of the paper.

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CREG with ECA at the regional capacity-building workshop on DDMI retropolation and linking and in Cotonou, Benin (AZALAI Hotel, May from 22 to 26).



The demographic transition offers an opportunity for accelerating economic growth, thanks to the growing proportion of the working age population, relying on the dependent population. This phenomenon, also known as the Demographic Dividend, can be optimized if effective investments are made to strengthen the accumulation of physical and human capital. With this in mind, the African Union, at the summit of heads of state and government in January 2016, urged on countries to invest massively in employment, education, health, governance and

youth empowerment to harness the demographic dividend. Therefore, tools such as the "Demographic Dividend Monitoring Index (DDMI)" and Demographic Dividend Sensitive Budgeting (DDSB) have been developed by CREG, in synergy with the UNFPA Office for West and Central Africa of the Sub-Regional Office for West Africa of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). The DDMI facilitates countries monitoring in terms of the Demographic Dividend harnessing. After this diagnosis, and for the needs of guiding the political action, it is useful to assess how government investment in harnessing the Demographic Dividend can affect its evolution. In this way, the coherence between the national budget and the components of the DDMI help to better gauge a country's investment efforts in the sectors driving sustainable and inclusive growth.

This is the background to the workshop on the DDSB. Experts from the Budget Direction, national statistical institutes and the DDNOs of Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger, Senegal and Togo, attended the meeting with the aim to pursuing a key stage of the DDSB process: retropolation and linking of the DDMI for the last 20 years, and calibrating the index for years without a survey in the target countries. Started with an opening ceremony marked by several speeches of representatives of various structures (UN-Benin, CEA, the Minister of State in charge of Development and Coordination of Government Action, CREG), this meeting was attended by some fifty participants.

Over a five-day period, CREG, supported by ECA, provided technical assistance to experts from the five countries in calculating the DDMI (with its indicators and sub-dimensions) for the years

for which survey data were available. Next, they identified the variables that could be correlated with the DDMI sub-dimensions or indicators, and that are available in the form of time series (for all years). Finally, they exploited the variation in the calibration variables to estimate the values of the sub-dimensions or indicators for the years when no survey would be available.

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The workshop, attended by some fifty participants, ended with a note of satisfaction at the presentation of the results and the DDMI retropolation technical report available for each country (Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger, Senegal, Togo), followed by a closing ceremony. Following CREG coordinator and the ECA representative, the Director of the Sub-Regional Office for West Africa (ECA) gave his closing remarks , thanking all the country and CREG experts for their dynamism and team spirit during the workshop, he also looked forward to seeing them in Niamey in the very near future, to continue the already satisfactory work carried out in Cotonou.

CREG, honored to attend the regional capacity-building workshop on Monitoring and Evaluation of Communication for Social and Behavioral Change, organized by SWEDD: from May 22 to 26 at the Granada Hotel in Mali's Capital city-Bamako



Officially launched in November 2015 with six countries-including Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Chad-the Sahel Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend (SWEDD) project is a regional initiative that expanded to Benin, then Cameroon and Guinea. A new stage that integrates four (4) new countries (Republic of Congo, Gambia, Senegal and Togo) will bring the number of countries covered by the project to 13. This initiative aims at reducing population vulnerability and demographic growth, in order to help harness the demographic dividend in the project countries. In the implementation of Component 1.1 of the SWEDD project, a team from Johns Hopkins University (JHU) is responsible for providing support through the STR since 2020 to develop and update strategic communication plans for social and behavior change to create demand for reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and nutritional health (RMNCHN) products and services.

Since then, several communication actions have been carried out on the mass media, local radio stations, community mobilization and interpersonal communication in order to remove social and cultural barriers and achieve the objectives set by the SWEDD project. This is why SWEED, with the support of UNFPA, brought together several communication experts, officials responsible for monitoring and evaluation, statisticians, ONDD focal points, representatives of family planning structures at a regional capacity building workshop in Monitoring and Evaluation of Communication for Social and Behavior Change (CCSC). The organization of this workshop responds to a need to develop practical tools to better harness the changes induced by CCSC campaigns, in the short and medium terms. Through various presentations and group work, this workshop enabled more than seventy participants to develop a list of indicators for monitoring and evaluating CCSC activities. It should be noted that on this same occasion, the representatives of CREG, Pop Council and CHMP contributed to the collection of data for the information of the indicators of the other components of the project.

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REG, in Lomé as part of the workshop to launch the drafting of country notes for the economic and regional perspectives of ECOWAS (22 May)



The ECOWAS Commission organized a workshop on the ECOWAS annual regional economic outlook from May 22 to 26, 2023 in Lomé, Togo. This workshop is being held to implement the directives of the ECOWAS Administrative and Financial Committee (AFC). In accordance with this directive, the objective of the ECOWAS Economic Outlook is to improve the production and analysis of applied socio-economic research on the pillars of ECOWAS Vision 2050 to inform policymakers on the region's socio-economic development. The publication and its spreading should enable policymakers to make informed decisions to address the region's socio-economic

challenges. It should also enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the ECOWAS Commission in managing the economies of member states, based on effective monitoring of their economies. Representatives from fourteen (14) ECOWAS countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Gambia, Niger, Senegal and Togo attended the workshop. Each of those countries was represented by a delegation of expert consultants. Senegal was represented by CREG's expert, Dr LAW-SON Dzidzogbé Hechely, CREG Expert.

The workshop, whose general objective was to present the state of play in the drafting of the ECOWAS annual regional economic outlook for each country, was punctuated by Prof N'ZUE (ECOWAS) opening remarks. Works then proceeded in two (02) phases:

- Presentation of the current state of work for the different country;

- Speakers' Intervention.

The presentations focused on five (5) major points:

- Background
- Analysis methodology
- Socio-economic situation
- Safety challenges & risk factors
- Outlook

At the end of the workshop, the closing remarks, delivered by Professor Felix NZUE, was an opportunity to thank the participants and consultants for their multi-faceted support in the process of drafting the country outlook notes. The workshop concluded with essential note of recommendations to countries, which focused essentially on the need to:

- finalize the drafting of the notes;

- integrate the various security challenges and risk factors that the different economies are facing into the analyses;

- integrate country-specific risks into the analyses.

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2.Book or article publications

Le Master du CREG



Recruitment for the second cohort of the CREG Master's program is going on. You can obtain more information on recruitment procedures from the following contacts:

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NTA- AFRICA CONFERNCE EDITION 3

The Conference on Population and Development in Africa is a biennial flagship conference of the National Transfer Accounts Network Africa (NTA-Africa). The global National Transfer Accounts Network (NTA Network) is a network of researchers working on the introduction of the age structure of the population into the estimation of economic progress. The NTA methodology has been recognized as an effective tool for estimating both the first and second demographic dividend.



DDMI / GDDI workshop



Côte d'Ivoire's DDNO, in partnership with CREG and with technical and financial support from the World Bank and UNFPA, is organizing a hybrid capacity-building workshop on DDMI calibration and GDDI.

CREG's Scientific Thursday



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The aim of this paper is to analyze the microeconomic impact of education on well-being, apprehended through social capital measured by the various methods used to look for a job in Senegal. The endogenous variable (social capital), is categorized into four sub-modalities represented as follows: "Personal relations", "Advertisements-companies" composed of advertisements/media/internet and applications to companies; "Agencies-State" composed of the civil service, the employment office, private placement agencies and Competitions/tests and "Others" composed of the search for partners, the search for financing or any other means.

exogenous characteristic variables are: different levels of education (primary, middle, secondary and higher), gender, age and marital status of individuals aged 15 and over. The data comes from the ANSD database on the 2011 Senegal Poverty Monitoring Survey, based on a sample of 168,203 individuals. Under Stata, the results obtained through estimation by the multinomial logistic method (MLM) estimation indicate that only the higher level has a positive and significant impact on all the means used to look for a job in Senegal, but at different levels and probabilities.



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