

CREG NEWSLETTER

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Events

CREG assists Senegalese experts in producing DDMI reports for the following regions: Ziguinchor, Sédhiou and Kolda



Workshop regional experts to produce DDMI reports for Ziguinchor, Sedhiou and Kolda

This workshop was organised to set up National Observatories of the Demographic Dividend in West and Central Africa, under the aegis of the United Nations Fund FOR the Population (UNFPA) and initiatives such as the Sahel Women Empowerment Demographic Dividend. Senegal, like other sub-Saharan African countries¹, has set up its national observatory on the demographic dividend and, as part of that observatory's activities, a workshop was organized to produce reports on demographic dividend monitoring (DDMI) for Ziguinchor, Kolda and Sédhiou. The aim of the workshop was to equip the regional experts with the methodologies for calculating dimensional indicators and the DDMI index, to support participants in carrying out dimensional analyses, and to raise awareness of regional players on demographic dividend issues. The workshop began with an opening ceremony at which several speakers emphasized the importance of the session.

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Thereafter, presentations on the foundations, theories, concepts, methodologies and results of the DDMI were followed by discussions to bring participants to the same level of understanding. The groups then worked on the production of regional reports by using the DDMI results of the Harmonised Survey on Living Conditions of households. (EHCVM, 2018/2019). The closing ceremony of this workshop included a report on the work of the three regions with discussions on how to improve these reports. Finally, recommendations were made, both on technical issues, notably the content of future capacity-building sessions, and on logistics.

In Cameroon, experts are trained by CREG on the National Transfers Accounts (NTA) and National Time Transfers Accounts (NTTA)



Cameroon NTA/ NTTA training and profile-building workshop

The demographic dividend (DD) is the accelerated economic growth that can be generated by a steady decline of a country’s mortality and fertility rates followed by a progressive change in the age structure of the population. With fewer dependent people to support, a country has a huge opportunity for rapid economic growth, if accompanied by appropriate policies to promote human capital, employment and investment in health, education and governance etc. Regarding political decision-makers’ commitment following the summit of African Union Heads of State on the Demographic Dividend, UNFPA and its partners are intensifying the information, advocacy and dialogue with all parties involved, including the population and change agents that consists of national experts as well as the action for carrying out the DD.

As part of the SWEDD project, UNFPA, via technical assistance from the Regional Center of Excellence in Generational Economics (CREG), intends to support countries in drawing up their demographic dividend profiles so that they can have the evidence they need to monitor and harness their demographic potential. Based in this context, Cameroon has requested CREG support for the construction of its new Demographic Dividend profile. The general objective of the workshop was to provide country researcher participants with information and tools allowing them to appropriate the demographic dividend calculation. Participants in this workshop came from several structures and ministries in Cameroon: MINEFOP, SWEDD, MINESEC, INS, MINEPAT, IFORD/ BUCREP- SWEDD, CREG and the University of Yaoundé. Supported by CREG experts during (06) six days, the technicians of Cameroon were equipped with the methodology of the National Transfer Accounts (NTA) on the one hand, and the measurement of unpaid domestic work according to the National Times Transfer Accounts (NTTA) approach, on the other hand.

Face-to-face training with Cameroon experts on calibrating the Demographic Dividend Monitoring Index



Training session for Cameroonian experts on calibrating the DD monitoring index

The FRAMOTEL hotel in Kribi was the host of a workshop on capacity building and the calibration of Cameroon’s demographic dividend monitoring index. This workshop follows on the virtual workshops held last September, which covered the concepts and notions of the NTA and NTTA, as well as the calculation of the DDMI and GDDI.

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This series of presentations ended on the process of integrating gender issues into the DDMI calibration of the DDMI. The last six (06) days of face-to-face sessions provided an opportunity to briefly review the elements of the methodology before continuing with the work in parallel sessions. In the latter six (06) groups, each corresponding to a different dimension of the DDMI, were responsible for data collection, calibration and analysis of the results for each dimension. The synthesis of the results of the dimensions was entrusted to group (Six). At the end of the training, Cameroon’s synthetic indices for monitoring the demographic dividend and gender were calibrated (DDMI and GDDI), with a first version of the country reports produced, together with recommendations for decision-makers. The workshop ended with words of congratulations from the UNFPA-WCARO representative, Mr Yousoufa. The participants expressed their deep satisfaction regarding the quality of the new skills acquired and the new results obtained. From now on they shall be able to draw up recommendations of effective economic policies for policy-makers. In the next stages, Cameroon intends to continue the process through workshops to finalise the DDMI/GDDI report and a workshop to produce thematic policy briefs.

PRB training on unpaid domestic work, session 8



This eighth session focused on “the strategy for developing messages for a political purpose”. After a brief review of the previous session, each group, represented by country outlined the typical results of the group’s work on session 8. It should be noted that the various parts of a message are essentially made up of:

- Determining the target audience;
- Identifying the evidence;
- Implication of the evidence;
- Recommendations.

Relevant comments were made on each message shared, particularly with regard to the implications and recommendations in the eight (08) countries. The second part of this session covered the characteristics of the “entry point message”. In the 3rd part of this session, it was recommended that each group’s work be re-read for a better understanding of this module.

Training on SWEDD Learning knowledge management platform



From 05 to 06 June, the UNFPA headquarters conference room in Dakar hosted the training workshop on how to use the Knowledge Management platform “Swedd Knowledge and Learning” The aim of this workshop was to train SWEDD in the management of the SweddKnowledge & Learning platform. The migration of the platform involved transferring the platform from: <https://sweddkb.creg-center.org/> to <https://sweddknowledge.org> in relation to the platform’s domain name. Some SWEDD managers, including Mr Waly Sène, Mr François Bado and Mr Saliou Sylla, made hands-on training in the “administrator” part of both parts (knowledge management and the community of practice), with technical support from Mr Jean Maurice Gomis, head of the I.T Unit at CREG. The first day was devoted to a review of administrator access and to the presentation of hosting. Following this review, participants explored the “knowledge sharing” section, followed by a practical session on publishing new content,

questions and answers, classifying documentation, managing user profiles, viewing audience statistics and extracting statistics. The second day began with a review of the first day’s activities, followed by a number of presentations on getting to grips with Bubble, the presentation of the guide to using the community of practice for administrators and the launch of this community online in a new domain. These were reinforced by practical sessions on creating pages and menus, inviting members by email, adding content, and the various steps for joining the community of practice. A number of questions from participants focused on creating a new community of practice as an administrator, managing the privileges of community users and personalising invitation emails. At the end of the course, participants were amazed by the quality of the presentations and demonstrations.

The Gambia seeks CREG’s expertise on the National Transfer Account (NTA) and the Demographic Dividend Measurement Index (DDMI)



NTA and DDMI workshop in Gambia

For ten (10) days, Gambian technicians received a series of capacity-building on National Transfer Accounts (NTA) at the Metzy Hotel in Senegambia. The workshop is organised by the Gambia’s National Secretariat for Population with the financial support of the Sahel Women’s Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Project and technical support from the Regional Consortium for Research en Generational economy (CREG). Some twenty experts from several different ministries participated actively in this meeting. The holding of this workshop demonstrates The Gambia’s commitment to pursuing the orientations

support of the Sahel Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Project and technical support from the Regional Consortium for Research and Development (CREG). Some twenty experts from several different ministries participated actively in this meeting. The holding of this workshop demonstrates The Gambia's commitment to pursuing the orientations of the 2017 African Union Heads of State meeting on harnessing the Demographic Dividend, from the analysis of DD sensitivity in countries development plans to the operationalisation of DD harnessing policies through Budgeting Sensitive to the Demographic Dividend (BSDD). As a reminder, The Gambia participated as an invited country in the Regional Workshop on BSDD for SWEDD countries, which was held in June 2022 in Dakar (Senegal). Following this event, The Gambia's commitment is to implement demographic policies to complete all the steps to harness the Demographic Dividend. This led to the holding of this NTA workshop, the main objective of which was to draw up the Gambia's DD profile and to produce technical national reports on the profile. The session began with words of welcome from Mrs Fanneh Mariama, Director of the National Population Commission, and Professor Latif Dramani, Coordinator of CREG. In his speech, Professor Latif thanked the Director for all the efforts made by the Gambia to make this workshop possible. He presented the context of the collaboration between CREG and the National Population Secretariat, and spoke of the importance of harnessing the Demographic Dividend (DD) for developing countries with young populations. Indeed, the population structure shows that the working-age population is growing faster than the dependent population. Mrs Fanneh took the floor after Professor Latif Dramani to thank CREG and the World Bank for this initiative and for their collaboration. She officially opened the workshop on the development of the profile of the Gambia's Demographic Dividend after a brief review of the history of the project in The Gambia. The workshop itself was organised in two formats:

- Plenary sessions which provided a platform for the presentation of the theoretical and methodological approach to National Transfer Accounts (NTAs), which took place over the first five days. Discussions around the NTA presentations focused on methodological issues,

the differences between economic dependence and demographic dependence, the interpretation of the support rate and the demographic dividend. - Parallel sessions were devoted to data collection, calculation and analysis of the various components of the NTA profile. Participants were divided into six (06) working groups, namely i) the state of the nation; ii) consumption profiles; iii) labour income profiles; iv) the life cycle deficit; v) the Demographic Dividend and projections and vi) the synthesis.

The participants, in collaboration with CREG experts, worked over six (6) days to produce a draft of the NTA report, including the 2015 and 2020 profiles, both at national and regional level. In conclusion, the participants recommended, in terms of prospects for the continuation of the process, the finalisation of the NTA report and the drafting of the policy paper.

Training for Benin experts on how to use the DDMI application from 24 to 27 October 2023 at the National Institute of Statistics and Demography (INStAD)



Training session in Benin about DDMI application

Training for Benin experts on how to use the DDMI application from 24 to 27 October 2023 at the National Institute of Statistics and Demography (INStAD). The training workshop on the Demographic Dividend Monitoring Index application (DDMI App) took place from 24 to 27 October 2023 in Cotonou, Benin, in the SWEDD conference room.

It was organised by SWEDD-Benin with the technical support of CREG and was attended by experts from INSTaD and sectoral ministries. The aim of the workshop was to build the capacity of Benin's experts in DDMI App. Participants should acquire the skills needed to use this application to monitor the demographic dividend. The event began with opening speeches by representatives of CREG and the SWEDD Benin project. The training covered various modules, including an introduction to harnessing the demographic dividend, synthetic indicators, the national observatory for the demographic dividend, the architecture of the DDMI App, the user interface, familiarising oneself with the App, and a remediation plenary session. The presentation sessions on the concepts of the DDMI tool were punctuated by discussion sessions. At the end of the workshop, a number of recommendations were made on the need to communicate the results to parliamentarians and decision-makers. CREG underlined its commitment to support the ONDD Benin and to examine the recommendations made.

Scientific Thursday's at CREG, a panel of eminent researchers from all backgrounds

As usual, on every second Thursday of the month, CREG provides a platform for researchers from Africa and elsewhere to showcase their scientific research and receive guidance on their papers. In this session, moderated by D. Camille, the discussions were about "unpaid domestic work in Benin and Togo".

That session began with a film about the 3rd edition of the NTA, held last September. The aim of the film was to give participants an insight into the highlights of that event, which is one of CREG's key activities. This was followed by presentations of the NTTA and NTA results of Benin and Togo for 2019 by two CREG economists, Mrs NDOYE Edmée and Mr RACHIDOU Yorou, respectively. At the same time, they shared the methods and results of the DDMI and the GDDI to the audience. It should be noted that :

- Young people have more opportunity to have a consumption surplus in Benin than in Togo;
- In Benin, 76% of unpaid domestic work is carried out by women, representing 38% of GDP;
- Men contribute more to harnessing the demographic dividend than women in both Togo and Benin. Benin was at 2% to fully begin harnessing its demographic potential. According to Mrs NDOYE Edmée, "The territorial network of infrastructures and the mobility of financial resources are still insufficient to fully harness the demographic dividend".

Finally, a debate was opened on the various results presented. The appointment has been made for Prof Djaoudath ALIDOU DRAMANE, a resource person on the subject of unpaid domestic work.

JEUDIS SCIENTIFIQUES DU CREG

Travail domestique non rémunéré:
Analyse comparée des résultats entre
Bénin et Togo.

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Université de Parakou (Benin)

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Pr. Djaoudath ALIDOU DRAMANE
Université de Parakou (Benin)

Jeu. 12
Octobre 2023

à partir
de 15h

via la plateforme ZOOM

Announcements

- Scientific Thursday's at CREG on Profiling the Chronic and Transitory Poor people in Senegal and determinant factors



November 16, 2023

- Workshop to finalise the report on monitoring the demographic dividend and transforming the classic budget into a functional budget for budgeting sensitive to the demographic dividend (BSDD)



November 20 to 25, 2023

Time-use data remote Workshop on the production and analysis



December 07, 2023

- Regional workshop on the integration process of the SWEDD network



November 30, 2023