AGENDA

Cross-Border Development in the Sahel

3 & 4 July 2018
Golden Tulip Hotel, Cotonou, Benin
The 32,000 kilometres of borders that divide West Africa have long been viewed as an obstacle to regional integration. Criticised for the costs and time they impose on the movement of goods and people, these borders have also often been described as an artificial barrier between local communities. In a context marked by a resurgence of trafficking and international terrorism, borders are also often perceived as threats to the stability of states.

The aim of the seminar on cross-border development in the Sahel organised by the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) and the Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC) of the OECD from July 3-4 at the Golden Tulip Hotel in Cotonou, is to offer an alternative vision of the region’s borders. Based on the Programme for Local Cross-Border Co-operation (PCTL) supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in collaboration with UEMOA, the seminar highlights the crucial contribution of border areas and populations to the regional integration process.

**Objectives:**
- Promote the sharing of knowledge and experiences on cross-border co-operation between institutional and local actors and West African partners, based on the initiatives led by the UEMOA Council of Local Governments (CCT);
- Identify constraints and discuss innovative mechanisms for understanding and operationalising cross-border co-operation;
- Deepen understanding of institutional challenges and their impacts on cross-border development, by sharing experiences between peers.

**DAY 1 – 3 JULY**

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<td>9:00 – 9:30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>9:30 – 10:00</td>
<td>Opening ceremony</td>
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<td>10:00 – 10:30</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
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<td>10:00 – 10:30</td>
<td>Family photo/Press conference</td>
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**El Hadji Malick Diop**
President of the Economic and Financial Committee of the UEMOA Council of Local Governments (CCT)

**Laurent Bossard**
Director, SWAC Secretariat, OECD

**Benoît Meyer-Bisch**
Deputy Resident Director, SDC (Cotonou)

**H.E. Barnabé Dassigli**
Minister of Decentralisation and Local Governance, Benin
SESSION 1. TRANSFORMATIONS AND REGIONAL CHALLENGES

Moderator: Laurent Bossard, Director, SWAC Secretariat, OECD

10:30 – 11:00  Structural and spatial transformation: urbanisation and climate change
   • Philipp Heinrigs
     Senior Economist, SWAC Secretariat, OECD

11:00 – 11:30  Crisis of state security and the development of cross-border and regional trafficking
   • Olivier Walther
     SWAC and Associate Professor, Center for African Studies, University of Florida

11:30 – 12:15  Questions and discussion

12:15 – 14:00  Lunch

SESSION 2. CROSS-BORDER DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES IN SKBo AND LIPTAKO-GOURMA

Moderator: El Hadji Malick Diop, President of the Economic and Financial Committee of the UEMOA Council of Local Governments (CCT)

14:00 – 15:00  Integrated Transboundary Development Scheme (SATI)
   • Jacques Barbier
     President, Jacques Barbier Consultants

14:20 – 15:00  Economic and commercial influence and urban development in Téra
   • Youssef Samlali
     Director, Jacques Barbier Consultants

15:00 – 15:20  Policy and advocacy dialogue: How to build a territorial collaborative and border governance
   • Mariame Doukouré
     Co-ordinator for Mali, GRDR

15:20 – 15:40  Coffee break

15:40 – 16:20  Round table discussion
   • Kinza Jawara-N’Jai
     Principal Programme Officer and Head of Division, Cross-Border Co-operation, ECOWAS Commission

   • Bakary Sanou
     Expert, GIZ

   • Abdoul Kader Dicko
     Regional Adviser for Governance, SDC
DAY 2 – 4 JULY

8:00 – 9:00  Registration and welcome

SESSION 3. LOCAL AND INFORMAL REALITIES: METHODOLOGIES AND CHALLENGES
Moderator: Laurent Bossard, Director, SWAC Secretariat, OECD

9:00 – 9:30  Cross-border women trade networks in the Dendi
Lawali Dambo
Lecturer and Researcher, University of Niamey
Olivier Walther
SWAC and Associate Professor, Center for African Studies, University of Florida

9:30 – 10:00  Local issues and one-stop border posts: the case of Gaya-Malanville
Raogo Antoine Sawadogo
President, Laboratoire Citoyennetés, Burkina Faso

10:00 – 10:45  Questions and discussion

10:45 – 11:00  Coffee break

11:00 – 11:20  The challenge of financial decentralisation

11:20 – 11:40  What legal and financial options for cross-border activities?

11:40 – 12:10  Questions and discussion

12:10 – 12:40  How to promote co-ordination between actors involved in cross-border co-operation?

12:40 – 13:15  Conclusions

13:15  Lunch

SESSION 4. GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES: LIMITATIONS AND CONSTRAINTS FOR DECENTRALISATION PLANNING

Moderator: Mame Abdoulaye Sarr, Head of Division, Territorial Development and Cross-border Co-operation, UEMOA

11:00 – 11:20  The challenge of financial decentralisation
Christophe Mestre
Expert, International Center for Local Development Studies (CIEDEL), Catholic University of Lyons

11:20 – 11:40  What legal and financial options for cross-border activities?
Kinza Jawara-N’Jai
Principal Programme Officer and Head of Division, Cross-Border Co-operation, ECOWAS Commission
Bakary Sanou
Expert, GIZ

11:40 – 12:10  Questions and discussion

12:10 – 12:40  How to promote co-ordination between actors involved in cross-border co-operation?
Aguibou Diarrah
former Director of the African Union Border Programme and former Ambassador from Mali

12:40 – 13:15  Conclusions
Abdoul Kader Dicko
Regional Adviser for Governance, SDC