SWAC Seminar

18 JUNE 2018
OECD, Boulogne-Billancourt
In the framework of the Strategy and Policy Group (SPG) meeting, the SWAC Secretariat will organise a seminar to present key results of its analytical work for 2017-18, on cities & urbanisation and the food economy, employment & women.

The meeting brings together SWAC members including regional organisations, research institutions, international organisations, partners as well as local Stakeholders.

Each session includes:
- Presentations on SWAC work by the team and partners;
- Points of view from local actors followed by discussions.

Disseminate and share knowledge and experiences on the region’s change including urbanisation and its impacts on the food economy and employment;

Understand the role of women in trading networks and derive policy implications;

Highlight the importance of having up-to-date and consistent statistics and further the discussion on how state-of-the-art analytical methods such as social network analysis (SNA) contribute to development.
AGENDA

CITIES AND URBANISATION (page 6)
09:15 – 10:00 Presentations
10:00 – 10:55 Discussion
10:55 – 11:00 Next steps
Coffee break

THE FOOD ECONOMY, EMPLOYMENT AND AGRICULTURAL TRANSFORMATION (page 10)
13:30 – 14:00 Presentations
14:00 – 14:40 Discussion
14:40 – 14:45 Next steps
Coffee break

GENDER AND TRADE NETWORKS (page 12)
15:00 – 15:50 Presentations
15:50 – 16:20 Discussion

VIEWS AND VOICES ON SECURITY CHALLENGES IN THE SAHEL (page 14)
16:20 – 17:45 Panel
Cocktail and photo exhibit

Members and fans of the Iris Carnaval group in Bissau wait while their teammates prepare for dance practice for the big party, 5 February 2016.
Africa is set to have the fastest urban growth rate in the world in coming decades. Cities are and will increasingly be a defining feature of Africa’s social, economic and political landscape. Urbanisation and the growth of cities and their impacts on demographics, regional and local development, economy and migration need to be monitored and analysed in order to recommend adapted, territorial and sustainable policy paths. Given the pace of the transformations, there is strong demand to continuously update our knowledge and understanding of urbanisation dynamics. SWAC is currently finalising the update and analysis of the Africapolis database. The first results show that in the five years between 2010 and 2015, the number of people living in West African cities grew by more than 30 million people and 250 new agglomerations emerged. Beyond the main figures in urbanisation and city growth, this session will focus on the political, historical and cultural factors, geographic and economic conditions, morphologies, densities and accessibilities that are key to understanding observed patterns.

Moderator

- Laurent Bossard, Director, SWAC Secretariat

Panellists

- Philipp Heinrigs, Senior Economist, SWAC Secretariat
- François Moriconi-Ebrard, Director of research, CNRS, e-Geopolis

Questions for discussion

- What are the major urbanisation dynamics in Africa, and what do they tell us about future trends?
- How can public policies contribute to more sustainable, inclusive and balanced urban growth?

Source: SWAC/OECD, Africapolis update (forthcoming)
Following COP21 and the Paris Agreement, cities are not just viewed as powerful centres of production that also generate pollution; they are also recognised as the main hubs of decision-making and drivers of change and adaptation. The urban context is therefore relevant for analysing existing resilience mechanisms and assessing sustainable development opportunities.

As part of the work of the SWAC Secretariat, climate-related risks and vulnerabilities in urban border agglomerations are mapped; horizontal and vertical co-ordination modes for cross-border climate resilience actions are discussed. The information derived from this work is supporting the development of a guide that identifies existing financial and legal tools to support West African cities to better adapt to a changing climate, and to advocate for better access to climate finance. Local actors involved in the work carried out in Gaya (Benin) – Malanville (Niger); Dori (Burkina Faso) – Tera (Niger) and the Abidjan-Lagos corridor will join the discussions.

**Questions for discussion**

- What are the main obstacles to resilience to climate challenges in cross-border agglomerations?
- How to improve the co-ordination between local, regional and global actors in the mitigation of climate change specifically in urban areas?
The food economy is transforming across West Africa driven by rapid urbanisation and rising household income. These changes provide great opportunities for the West African food system to increase value added, job creation and food security. The food and agriculture sector employs two-thirds of the total regional workforce. While the majority of these jobs (78%) are in agriculture, off-farm employment in food-related manufacturing and service activities is growing in number and share. Off-farm food economy activities play a particularly important role in women’s employment (68%). Women dominate employment in food processing, food marketing and food-away-from-home activities. This session will focus on the potential of the food economy in employment creation and on the implication for employment and agricultural policies.

Questions for discussion

- What are the challenges and prospects for the West African food economy in terms of job creation?
- What does the analysis imply for designing employment strategies and policies?
- Which actors, private and public, will play an important role and what data is needed to inform policy formulation?
To better understand women’s participation, constraints and challenges in the food economy, SWAC is analysing a local rice trade network in the Dendi border area (Benin, Niger, Nigeria). Based on Social Network Analysis, the study allows to map and understand the structuring of activities along the rice value chain and informs on gender specific roles and relationships between actors. Combining these results with a regional study of institutional policies and partners’ strategies improves understanding of the social, cultural and economic barriers that limit women’s access and participation in regional markets and their resilience strategies. The session will focus on discussing the potential levers to enhance governance and policy frameworks in support of gender equality.

**Questions for discussion**

- Starting from the example of local rice for which demand is increasing, what characteristics emerge regarding the role of women in trade networks?
- How are institutions responding to the challenges facing women traders?
- What do these results mean for local governance?
- Men
- Women

**BUSINESS TIES INVOLVING MEN AND WOMEN**

The relationships between 1,951 actors involved in the production, transport and sale of rice between Benin, Niger and Nigeria.

- Desiree Zwanck, VAM Gender Specialist, World Food Programme (WFP)
- Marie Trémolières, Head of Unit, SWAC Secretariat
- Olivier Walther, Visiting Associate Professor, Center for African Studies, University of Florida
- Leena Hoffmann, Researcher and Associate Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House
- Hajia Salamatu Garba, Executive Director, Founder, Women Farmers Advancement Network (WOFAN)
- Lawali Dambo, Lecturer and researcher, University of Niamey

VIEWs AND VOICES ON SECURITY CHALLENGES IN THE SAHEL

16:20 – 17:45

Moderator

► Laurent Bossard,
   Director, SWAC Secretariat

Panellists

► Ibrahim Mayaki,
   Chief Executive Officer, NEPAD-African Union

► Jean-Marc Châtaigner,
   Ambassador, Special Envoy for the Sahel, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France

► Zainab Akariou,
   Adviser, Sub-Saharan Africa Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands

► Sékou Sangaré,
   Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources, ECOWAS

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF BOKO HARAM-RELATED EVENTS, MARKET ATTACKS AND MARKET LOCATIONS

December 2014 – November 2016

Dearest Coleman, one of the leaders of the Pink Panthers, a collective of female motorcycle taxi drivers in Monrovia, 19 February 2015.

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