Social network analysis
An innovative tool for development

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What is social network analysis?

- A formal study of social, economic, and political interactions
- Social networks can be composed of individuals, groups, or organizations
- Social networks can be formal or informal
- Rarely used in Africa
Cross-border trade in West Africa
Decentralized networks adapted to uncertainty

Brokers bridge nationally-organized markets

Trade networks and value chains

large trader  middleman  producer
Cross-border cooperation in West Africa

• 2015-2016 West African Perspectives Program
Mapping policy networks

- Who works with whom?
- Who are the most prominent actors?
- What is the effect of borders?
Mapping policy networks

ECOWAS + 3
Senegal River
Liptako
Lake Chad
Policy implications

- Improve coordination between various partners
- Identify bottlenecks and missed opportunities
- Identify structural constraints and power
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