

ABDOULAYE SECK, Ph.D.

Professor (full) of Economics

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PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS (current and past)

Professor of Economics, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar (first hired in 2004).

Guest-editor, Review of Development Economics (2018-2019)

Visiting Scholar, International Monetary Fund (IMF), Washington, D.C. (Feb.-Mar. 2019)

Research Fellow and Corporate Member, Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP) (since 2018).

Economic Advisor, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Equipment, Senegal (2013–2014)

Visiting Professor: University of the Gambia; Université Général Lassana Conté, Guinea (past); Université A.S. de Ziguinchor, Sénégal (past); Université de Nouakchott, Mauritania (past)

Adjunct Professor, Suffolk University, Boston, MA, USA (2007-2010)

Summer Research Internship, World Bank institute, Washington, D.C. (2010)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Trade (country and firm levels); Productivity and Efficiency Analysis (firms and agriculture); Macroeconomics (growth, institutions, and development); Agricultural Economics; Environmental Valuation; Impact Evaluation; Applied Econometrics.

EDUCATION/DIPLOMAS

“Aggrégation” in Economics, CAMES, 2011

Ph.D. in Economics, Suffolk University, Boston, MA, 2011

Fields: International Economics, Econometrics.

M.S. in Economics, NPTCI-Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal, 2002.

Fields: Industrial Organization, Environmental and Resource Economics

AWARDS/PRIZES

“*Lecturer of the year*”, 3rd year level, Department of Economics, Cheikh Anta Diop University, 2015-2016.

“*Best Conference Paper*”, African Economic Conference, UNDP-AfDB-UNECA, 2014.

“*Best Ph.D. Paper*”, United Nations University (UNU-MERIT) and GLOBELICS Annual Conference, 2009.

TEACHINGS (current and past)

Research Methodology and Communication (Ph.D. and Master, NPTCI, Dakar campus).

International Trade (PhD and 3rd year, Cheikh Anta Diop University)

Development Macroeconomics (Master, University A.S. of Ziguinchor, Senegal).

Advanced Microeconomics (Master, University G.L.C. of Sonfonia, Guinea).

Data Analysis (Master, University A.S. of Ziguinchor, Senegal).

Impact Evaluation (Master, Cheikh Anta Diop University).

Applied Microeconometrics (Master, Cheikh Anta Diop University).

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles

“Heterogeneous Bribe Payments and Firms’ Performance in Developing Countries”, *Journal of African Business*, 2019.

Using firm-level data, the paper showed that when it comes to firms’ performance, corruption is both a grease and a sand in the wheels of commerce, depending on the business life cycle (whether at infancy, during expansion or regular activities).

“Heterogeneous Credit Constraints and Smallholder Farming Performance in the Senegal River Valley”, *Emerging Markets Finance and Trade*, 2019.

The paper looked at the generating mechanisms of the various credit constraints (risk, transaction cost, price, and quantity constraints), as well as the implications for farmers’ labor productivity and yields, using farm-level survey data.

“Female Entrepreneurship, Access to Credit, and Firms’ Productivity in Senegal”, (with co-author), forthcoming, *Journal of African Development*.

Using firm level data (World Bank Enterprise Surveys) to compute non-parametric efficiency measures from a Data Envelopment Analysis approach, the paper has showed that credit has a beneficial impact on performance, but no gender-based difference.

“Fertilizer Subsidy and Agricultural Productivity in Senegal”, *The World Economy*, 2017.

Survey data from farmers in the North of Senegal are used to first compute efficiency (using a DEA approach) to show that the fertilizer subsidy is indeed effective in raising both technical and economic efficiency.

“How Facilitating Trade would Benefit Trade in sub-Saharan Africa”, *Journal of African Development*, 2017.

The paper develops a structural gravity model show that improving the trading environment would significantly increase trade flows both within Africa and with the outside world.

“Trade Participation and Trade Facilitation: Are sub-Saharan African Firms Different?”, *Journal of African Trade*, 2016.

Facilitating trade by reducing customs clearance time and costs or by improving the efficiency of the telecommunication and energy infrastructure will increase firms’ exports and imports at both the extensive and intensive margins, more so than the rest of the developing world, with a sizable distributive effect and negative short run adjustment of the balance of payments.

“A Dichotomous-choice Contingent Valuation of the Parc Zoologique de Hann”, *African Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, 2016.

The paper applies market tool to reveal the willingness to pay for visitors of the Park, which is at least three times the actual administrative entrance fees, suggesting a loss of revenue that would have reverted the continuous deterioration of the supply of recreational services.

“Why is Agricultural Trade within ECOWAS so High?” (co-author), *Journal of African Economies*, 2013.

The paper shows, from a gravity model, that agricultural trade within the region is far larger than what the prevalence of corruption and bottleneck along the roads would suggest.

“International Technology Diffusion and Economic Growth: Explaining the Spillover Benefits to Developing Countries”, *Structural Change and Economic Dynamics*, 2012.

From a non-stationary panel model, the paper shows that R&D developed in the North can substantially benefit economic growth (TFP) in the South, mainly through trade in knowledge-embodied machinery and equipment.

Ongoing research projects

“Entrepreneurship in Developing Economies”, special issue project, guest-editor and contributor, *Review of Development Economics*.

The various contributions look at issues related to entrepreneurship, such as access to credit, business training, labor markets, etc.

“Is Africa an Economic Space” (AERC-sponsored collaborative research)

The research looks at the ability of existing regional integration processes across Africa to generate growth spillovers using spatial dynamic panel data method, with the aim to inform the upcoming continent-wide free trade area (AfCFTA)

“Trade Facilitation and Firms’ Performance in Export and Import Markets in sub-Saharan Africa”

This AERC thematic research analyzes what policy measures to be considered in order to improve extensive et intensive margins of African firms in international trade.

“How Valuable and Profitable is Organic Agriculture in Africa? Evidence from Senegal”

At a data collection stage in Dakar, the research aims to assess the willingness to pay for healthy, organic foods, and to measure the profitability of organic agricultural activities.

“How do People Vote in Africa? Evidence from the 2019 Presidential Election in Senegal”

At a data collection stage, the research tries to understand why people vote in the first place, and what drives their votes.

“Propensity to bribe and corruption tolerance in Africa: Empirical evidence from Senegal”

At a data collection stage, this research tries to understand the determinants of bribe payments by citizens, and their attitude vis-à-vis government corruption.

“The life value of air quality improvement in African cities: the case of Dakar”

At a data collection stage, the research applies contingent valuation methods to assess the benefits in terms of increased life expectancy and reduces mortality.

Book and chapters

“La Recherche Appliquée en Economie: Méthodologie, Communication Scientifique et Financement” (*Research Methodology, Communication, and Funding in Applied Economics*), Paris: L’Harmattan, December 2018.

The book explains, in details and with examples, how to develop a research proposal and how to write a high-quality journal article, in addition to research communication and research funding.

“International Transactions of Land Rights: Implications for African Economies” (co-author), in TRAPCA, ed.: *New Generation of Land Grabs in Africa: Implications for Trade, Investment and Development Policies*, Arusha, Tanzania (2014).

This book chapter explores the various economic and social challenges associated with land purchases by foreign government and organizations on Africa.”

“Has Economic Growth in WAEMU Countries Benefited from International Technology Diffusion?” African Economic Conference proceedings, AfDB/UNDP/UNECA, forthcoming.

This contributing chapter looks at whether and how international technology may have benefitted economic growth in West Africa.

Working papers and technical reports

“Frontier Analysis and Agricultural Typologies” (co-author), ZEF-Discussion Paper on Development Policy No. 251, Mars 2018.

This working paper proposes a mapping of agricultural productivity in Africa obtained from stochastic frontier analysis (SFA), the gap between actual and potential efficiency, how they are related to country characteristics, and how public policies may reduce the gap.

“Contract Farming in the Onion Sector in Senegal”, FAO Senegal, 2017.

This report and now an FAO working paper looks at the economic feasibility of contract farming for onion producers in Senegal in the face of weak legal systems as well as a lack of competitiveness vis-à-vis foreign producers.

“Agricultural Risk Management in Senegal”, IFPRI/IFAD (ongoing).

This report investigates the risks faced by agricultural activities in Senegal, and ways in which government could cooperate with international organization, such as IFPRI and IFAD to mitigate them.

RESEARCH GRANTS AND CONSULTING WORKS

- IFPRI-IFAD, Sept.-Nov. 2018.

“Mainstreaming of Agriculture Risk Management into Public Policies and Investments: Overview Report for Senegal”.

- African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) – Collaborative Research program, 2018-2019.

“Rethinking Regional Integration for Inclusive and Sustainable Development in Africa.”

- African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), Thematic Research program, 2018-2019.

“Trade Costs, Trade Facilitation and Trade Behavior of sub-Saharan African Firms.”

- African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), 2017-2018.

“Financial Inclusion and Smallholder Farming Productivity in Senegal”

- Ministry of Commerce – FAO Senegal

“Contract Farming in the Onion Sector in Senegal”

- Ministry of Finance, Senegal, 2016

“Public Policy and Structural Transformation of the Senegalese Economy”

- Wetlands International, West Africa Regional Office, 2016

“Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services around R’Kiz Lake in Mauritania”

- AGRODEP/IFPRI – Research Valorization Grant, 2015.

Southern Economic Association Conference attendance and presentation, New Orleans, Louisiana

- Réseau Ouest et Centre Africain de Recherche en Education (ROCARE), 2014-2015.

“Qualité de l’Education Primaire en Guinée : Déterminants et Implications.”

- Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP), Laval University, Quebec, 2014-2015.

“Female entrepreneurship, Access to Credit, and Productivity of Firms in Senegal.”

- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), 2014-2015.

“Contributions Economiques et Sociales des Migrants de la CEDEAO en Guinée.”

- *African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), Thematic Research program, 2014-2016.*

“Trade Facilitation and Trade Flows in Africa.”

- *AGRODEP/IFPRI – Innovative Research Grant, 2014-2015.*

“Fertilizer Subsidy and Agricultural Productivity in Senegal”

- *TrustAfrica, 2013-2014.*

“How Costly are Power Outages to Business Firms in Senegal?”

- *World Bank, 2009-2010.*

“Impact of Non-Tariff Barriers on Agricultural Trade in West Africa”.

CONFERENCES (FORTHCOMING/LATEST)

- Econometric Society, African Section Meetings; Rabat, Morocco, July 2019.

- GTAP Annual Meetings; Warsaw, Poland, June 2019.

- PEP Annual Meetings; Cape Town, South Africa, May-June 2019.

- AERC Regional Policy Forum – West Africa: “Financial Inclusion for Rural Development”; Accra, Ghana, May 2019.

- AERC Senior Policy Seminar: “Fragility of Growth in African Economies for Economic Transformation”; Harare, Zimbabwe, March 2019.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP), Laval University (Quebec).

- African Growth and Development Policy Modeling Consortium (AGRODEP/IFPRI).

- African Economic Research Consortium (AERC).

LANGUAGES

- *French* (very fluent)

- *English* (fluent).