



# AGRODEP

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African Growth & Development Policy  
modeling consortium

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## NEWS

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### [New Technical Note on Unit Root Tests: Pitfalls and Best Practices](#)

Since the seminal work of Granger & Newbold (1974), econometricians can no longer ignore the time series properties of the variables with which they are concerned. The early literature on unit roots focused on the problem of spurious regression, a situation in which more unrelated and not all stationary series can show a significant relationship through the application of linear regression. In [AGRODEP Technical Note #23](#), by Fousseini Traore and Insa Diop, the authors highlight the common pitfalls in developing unit root tests, suggest the best practices to consider when performing univariate unit root/stationary tests, and provide some practical examples using price data from Kenya, Mali, Togo, and South Africa.

### [E-learning courses on Pro-WEAI from the Food Security Portal](#)

The Pro-WEAI Foundations Module, in English and in French, is now available to AGRODEP network members from the [Food Security Portal's e-learning platform](#). The French language version of the e-learning course was launched in February 2022 and the English language version was launched in March 2021. The Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) is the first comprehensive and standardized instrument to directly measure women's empowerment and inclusion in the agricultural sector. The project level WEAI (pro-WEAI) has specialized project-relevant modules as well as optional modules tailored to livestock, nutrition and health, and market inclusion. The Pro-WEAI Foundations Module involves approximately 3 hours of online content followed by a final quiz.

### [The Impact of Price Shocks on Poverty](#)

A new tool in IFPRI's [Food Security Portal](#) allows users to explore the impact of price changes in key food commodities on poverty in selected countries including Ethiopia, Liberia, Malawi, and Tanzania. Using household survey data, the tool estimates first-order impacts of price shocks for each household (net producers and consumers) and calculates changes in poverty. The tool is useful for looking into the impact of price shocks that are exogenous to a country's agriculture (i.e., trade-related price changes and shifts in world prices). More information about the tool and methodology can be found on the [tool page](#).

## FEATURED NETWORK MEMBERS



**Dr. Miracle Benhura** is a citizen of Zimbabwe. She has been an AGRODEP member since November 2012. Miracle is an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa. She holds a B.Sc. in Economics from the University of Zimbabwe, an M.Sc. in Economics from the University of Zimbabwe, and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Cape Town. She specializes in health, education, and welfare economics. Her research interests include labor, the economics of gender inequalities, education, migration, and poverty analysis.



**Dr. Simon Wagura Ndiritu** is an Associate Professor of Development Economics at the Strathmore University Business School and has been an AGRODEP member since September 2018. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden. He holds a B.Ed. in Economics and Mathematics and an M.A. in Economics from the University of Nairobi. Simon has worked on climate change adaptation and mitigation, food security, gender issues, agricultural technology adoption, applied micro-econometrics, economics of water resources, livestock economics, corporate environmental performance, and post-harvest losses.



**Dr. Adebunola Adepoju** is a citizen of Nigeria. She has been an AGRODEP member since July 2015. Adebunola is a Professor of Agricultural Development and Policy at the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology. She teaches and conducts research in Agricultural Economics. She holds a B. Agric. (Tech) in Agricultural Economics and Extension from Federal University of Technology, Akure, and an M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from the University of Ibadan. She is specialized in development economics. She is interested in welfare economics, poverty analysis, farm management, food security, and social protection analysis.

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