



ACTIVITY
REPORT
2021

F&Di

FONDATION POUR LES ÉTUDES
ET RECHERCHES
SUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT
INTERNATIONAL



A foundation to influence the international discussion on development

Created in 2003, the Foundation for Studies and Research on International Development (FERDI) is a think tank whose research-based purpose, is to influence the international discussion on major development issues.

Independent, objective, and not-for-profit, FERDI mobilizes high-level researchers in the North and the South and offers innovative thinking on key issues in development economics.

FERDI's activities are led by three ambitions: Promoting excellence in research, bringing thinking and decision-making closer together, and building capacity.

www.ferdi.fr

With IDDRI (Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations), FERDI implements the Initiative for Development and Global Governance (IDGM) and coordinates the Labex IDGM+ in association with CERDI and IDDRI. FERDI's publications are supported by the French government and managed by the ANR under the program "Investissements d'avenir" ANR-10-LABX-14-01.



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FOREWORD

As FERDI enters its twentieth year, it is doubling the volume of its activities. Notably thanks to the expansion of its training activities provided by the Institut des Hautes Études du Développement Durable (IHEDD) and thanks to the support provided by the French Government through the French Development Agency (Agence Française de Développement) to the hub for international development in Clermont Ferrand, France. This support includes the hosting of the Global Development Network in Clermont Ferrand.

This change in scale does not mean that FERDI is changing its objectives but that greater resources are available to achieve them.

FERDI'S MISSION

FERDI, the Foundation for Studies and Research on International Development, is recognised by the French government as an "organisation which works in the general interest". It was created in 2003 at the initiative of CERDI (CERDI, UCACNRS), the Centre for Studies and Research on International Development, a leading French research institute in the field of development economics.

FERDI's purpose is to promote research and thinking about the policies which contribute to international economic development. It has become a think-tank with a strong presence in international debates on development thanks to a vast network of high-level researchers, who are among the most renowned in the development domain.

FERDI brings together prestigious Senior Fellows, university professors, and eminent personalities from the North and the South who are known for their extensive experience.

Through the organization of events, publications, and the creation of indicators, FERDI has contributed to the evolution of ideas on important and diverse topics, such as the criteria for geographic allocation of aid and how to address the vulnerability of economies and the fragility of states, the effectiveness of international policies implemented for Least Developed Countries, and the ways to reconcile trade policies, climate, and environmental protection.

Promoting Francophone research

FERDI promotes the contribution of French-speaking work to the international debate on major development issues, in particular on the nature of the economic policies implemented in the South and the North that are best able to contribute to sustainable development by increasing the capacity for choice of individuals, and equal opportunities between nations.

With its partners, IDDRI and CERDI, FERDI leads the French government designated IDGM+ Laboratory of Excellence LABEX entitled "Designing new international development policies based on research results. Strengthening the Initiative for Development and Global Governance", one of the few LABEX in economics and the only one in development economics.

Inform the decisions of public and private actors on development

FERDI creates a link between research and the implementation of actual development policies by both donors and developing countries.

To this end, it mobilizes high-level researchers in the field of development, and thanks to their work it contributes to the major politico-economic debates affecting development.

With the creation of academic chairs (Sahel Chair, Digital Trust Chair, Policy Chair for the Modernization of Agriculture in Africa, Impact Investment Chair), FERDI involves policy makers, the private sector, and research professionals for joint advocacy.

Capacity building

FERDI actively supports capacity-building activities for managers and public officials in developing countries. It coordinates the Economic Policy Management ("GPE") training programme in cooperation with the Clermont Auvergne University (UCA) and supports the implementation of the master's degree in Project Management for Development (MODEV) coordinated by the French Development Agency (AFD) and the UCA.

Since 2018, FERDI, IDDRI and CERDI have offered short face-to-face or e-learning training courses on topics related to sustainable development through the Institute for Advanced Studies in Sustainable Development, the training institute of the IDGM+ laboratory of excellence (LABEX).

FERDI's activities are motivated and guided by three ambitions: to promote excellence in research, to bring research closer to decision-making, and to build capacity to do so.

TOOLS



PUBLICATIONS

Since its creation in 2003, FERDI has published **582** publications.

25 books (as publisher or co-publisher)

323 working papers

234 policy briefs

Including **107** documents in 2021:

40 publications published by FERDI
(working papers, policy briefs, reports, and books)

**10 books or contributions to books
by FERDI Senior Fellows**

42 articles in peer-reviewed journals

15 working papers or policy briefs by Senior Fellows

REVUE D'ÉCONOMIE DU DÉVELOPPEMENT

FERDI and CERDI co-edit the *Revue d'Économie du Développement*.

The *Revue d'Économie du Développement* is an international journal originally published in French. Since its launch in 1993, it has been one of the key francophone journals in economics and the only one specialized in development economics. The *Revue d'Économie du Développement* is focused on relevant development issues. It includes contributions and perspectives coming from both North and South. The journal is published by Editions de Boeck Supérieur, at the rate of 4 issues per year. It benefits from the support of CNRS, FERDI and AFD.



SCIENTIFIC TOOLS



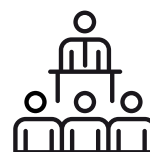
INNOVATIVE DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS

FERDI designs innovative, original, and relevant indicators of international development. All these indicators are freely available on its website under FERDI license, including the calculation methods and databases used.

This work is in response to the need for new indicators on development to better measure progress, handicaps, and performance, as well as comparisons between countries and an assessment of countries' economic evolution.

FERDI also provides databases on specific themes covering the African continent: Sustainable competitiveness observatory, Gold mining rent, and Electrification projects.

<https://ferdi.fr/donnees>



REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND RESEARCH SEMINARS

Since 2003, FERDI has organised more than **550 regional and international conferences and research workshops**. In 2021, the foundation organised, or participated in, **45 conferences**.



**FERDI WEBSITE:
WWW.FERDI.FR**

An average
of **70,000** visits per year



SOCIAL MEDIA

- **LinkedIn**
<https://www.linkedin.com>
- **Twitter**
<https://twitter.com/FondationFERDI>



**COMMUNICATION
TOOLS**



RELATED WEBSITES

- **Observatory of sustainable competitiveness**
<https://competitivite.ferdi.fr/>
- **Database on the sharing of mining rent:**
<https://fiscalite-miniere.ferdi.fr/>
- **Platform** dedicated to the initiative for development and global governance (IDGM): <https://idgm.org/>



BLOGS

- **FERDI Fellows** contribute an average of 2 to 3 blog posts per month.
<https://ferdi.fr/medias>
- **A blog** dedicated to entrepreneurship in Africa (An I&P, FERDI, Club des entrepreneurs africains project)
<https://www.entrepreneurfrique.com>

RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS AND LABEX

IDGM and IDGM+ initiatives

The Initiative for Development and Global Governance (IDGM), supported by the French Development Agency (AFD) and strengthened by the IDGM+ project, which has been designated a French Laboratory of Excellence, brings together FERDI, the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) and the Centre for Studies and Research on International Development (CERDI), which is a research unit of the Clermont Auvergne University and the CNRS. This initiative aims to design new international development policies based on research results. In addition to the permanent members of the three institutions, IDGM+ benefits from the support of internationally renowned researchers. Its objective is to develop innovative ideas aimed at influencing decisions regarding public policies for sustainable development. IDGM+ promotes the dissemination of the results of research, which it encourages and supports, and strengthens the capacities of current and future public and private decision-makers.

IDGM+ aims to develop innovative ideas to influence decisions regarding public policies for sustainable development.

The work of IDGM+ focuses on three themes:

- sustainable development
- effectiveness of development policies
- regulation and global governance

IDGM+ was selected in 2011 as part of the French "Investments in the Future" (Investissements d'avenir) programme. In 2018, it was evaluated by an international jury and extended until 2024.

IDGM+ Labex within the I-SITE CAP 20-25

The I-SITE CAP 20-25 project, led by the Clermont Auvergne University, aims to create a university research hub with high international visibility based on the Clermont Ferrand academic site. The ambition is to make a major contribution to scientific, technological, environmental and behavioural developments related to an overall theme of "new models for sustainable living and production". The IDGM+ Labex contributes to the 4th international research challenge of the I-SITE CAP 20-25 on Disaster risk and socio-economic vulnerability.

2003

Creation of FERDI



2007

Launch of IDGM

2 partners: IDDRI and FERDI

Topics: sustainable development, development policy and economics, global governance



2011

Launch of IDGM+ and the designation Labex obtained - 3 partners: IDDRI/ FERDI/ CERDI

Themes: sustainable development, development effectiveness, global governance



Launch of the idgm.org website

2015

Mid-term evaluation of the Labex

Results:

- Leading French think-tank on sustainable development issues
- Effective translation of scientific results into policy recommendations
- Benefits for training

The IDGM and the IDGM+ Labex (part of the I-SITE CAP 20-25) contribute transversally to FERDI's programmes.

For several decades, Clermont Ferrand has been a recognised centre of expertise in international development, thanks to the presence of several key stakeholders. This hub is of strategic interest for France's capacity to reflect and anticipate development issues, in particular thanks to FERDI's research and training activities.

In 2021 the Global Development Network (GDN), an international organisation with the mission to strengthen the research capacities of countries in the South, set up a branch in Clermont Ferrand to benefit from the local dynamic and to be closer to European donors.

The hub for international development in Clermont Ferrand (Pôle Clermontois de Développement International - PCDI) is grant funded by the French Ministry of Economy and Finance through the French Development Agency (AFD), its financing is part of the 2021 finance act and runs until 2027.

The PCDI has two strategic objectives:

- To increase French influence and the advocacy of actors with a similar approach to development at the European and international levels,
- To consolidate an internationally-oriented hub of expertise in the Auvergne Rhône Alpes region and strengthen the influence and attractiveness of the Clermont Auvergne metropole.

The project is also financially supported by the three local authorities Regional Council of Auvergne Rhône Alpes, Puy-de-Dôme Department, and Clermont-Auvergne Metropole, and by the Michelin Foundation. The PCDI project has 3 complementary components to strengthen the Clermont Ferrand stakeholders:

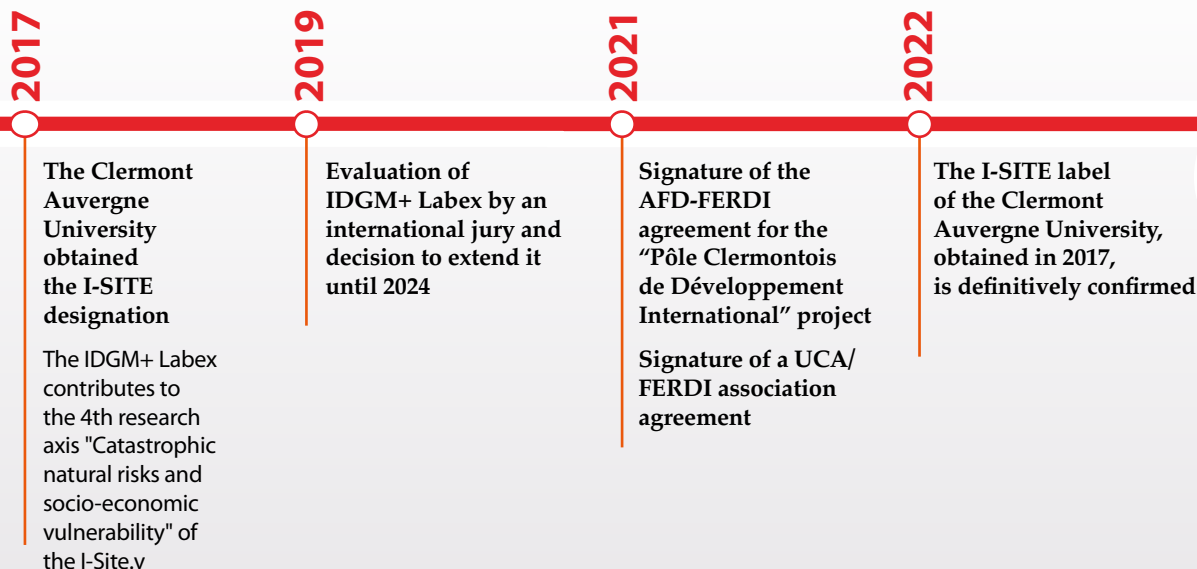
- Support for the establishment of the Global Development Network (GDN) in Clermont Ferrand, to strengthen its visibility among donors and other development actors (particularly European) and broaden its capacity-building activities and research ecosystems in

Southern countries, particularly in French-speaking Africa.

- Support for FERDI's think-tank activity, as an extension of IDGM funding, to achieve the critical mass necessary to position it as an international reference in sustainable development public policies.

- Support for continuing training activities on international sustainable development (FERDI/IHEDD courses and Clermont Auvergne University School of Economics courses).

The project started in 2021 with the signing of the financing and collaboration agreements between the stakeholders, the steps for the acquisition of the premises that will house the GDN, and the first training courses of the project.







FERDI'S
PROGRAMMES:
ACHIEVEMENTS
AND PERSPECTIVES

International Financing for Development

Avoiding chaos

For more than 20 years, FERDI's research activities, publications, and conferences on international aid effectiveness and aid allocation policies have contributed to international discussions and helped in the taking account of vulnerabilities in financing for development.

FERDI is contributing to international decisions with its work on:

Identifying, measuring, and differentiating financing flows for development. In a context of great country heterogeneity, FERDI accurately identifies what is the best financing flow in each situation. FERDI helps to determine how to finance development in the most fragile environments, where vulnerabilities are strongest, and where traditional market mechanisms struggle to function effectively.

Assessing the effectiveness of external financing for development. FERDI examines the effectiveness of financing flows on development, in particular international aid. This effectiveness is examined in its different aspects such as its impact on growth, income inequality and poverty, climate and the environment. FERDI also examines the effects of aid for trade, the effects of vertical funds, and aid to "Fragile states" and Least Developed countries (LDCs).

Allocating flows according to vulnerabilities. FERDI has long advocated for the use of a vulnerability index in the allocation criteria of multilateral donors, and hopes to contribute to the renewal of the debate with its work on multidimensional vulnerability. It is designing indices covering structural economic vulnerability, physical vulnerability to climate change, and vulnerability to internal violence.

The international financing architecture. FERDI, which has always advocated the inclusion of vulnerability in the international agenda, has undertaken to review the international financing architecture with a high-level group of experts and the creation of a chair in this field that will be responsible for identifying the main reforms that should be made.



SOME CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

January 2022 • IMF Intervention in Poor Countries: Reforming the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT). FERDI online conference.

July 2021 • Reallocation of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) for vulnerable countries. CGDev - FERDI online conference. Economists and policymakers met to discuss the opportunities and challenges ahead for an effective reallocation of SDRs to help vulnerable countries.

May 2021 • How to strengthen the private sector's contribution to African development by improving its financing? FERDI Online Conference organised in the framework of the Summit on the Financing of African Economies.

March 2021 • Mobilising and allocating external finance for Africa. CGDev- FERDI conference to contribute to the Summit on the Financing of African Economies.



SOME PUBLICATIONS

May 2022 • **Guillaumont P., Wagner L.** Three criteria that a multi-dimensional vulnerability index should meet to be used effectively, FERDI Policy Brief B234.

March 2022 • **Severino J-M.** Climate finance for Africa: Burden or opportunity? *Politique étrangère* 2022/1 (Spring), pp.43-54.

April 2022 • **Guillaumont P., Guillaumont Jeanneney S., Wagner L.** How to Allocate New External Financing to African Countries? The Vulnerability Challenge, A Briefing in Response to the Paris Summit on Financing African Economies. FERDI Policy Brief B217.

September 2020 • **Guillaumont P., Guillaumont Jeanneney S., Wagner L.** *Measuring vulnerabilities to improve aid allocation, especially in Africa*, Ferdi, 156 p.



MEDIA

August 2021 • **Espagne E., Jacolin L., Léon F.** How could Africa finance its development in a climate change context? Blog post, ideas4development.org

May 2021 • **Léon F.** Pourquoi l'aide publique au développement doit (aussi) servir à soutenir les entreprises privées en Afrique (in English: Why public development assistance should (also) be used to support private enterprise in Africa) theconversation.com

Achievements 2021-2022

● **Active participation in the international debate on the modalities and implications of the reallocation of IMF Special Drawing Rights (SDRs).** FERDI has published several papers on the challenges of reallocation, on the evolution of the IMF's financial instruments, and on how to take vulnerabilities into account in the reallocation of SDRs. It has organised four conferences on the subject with its partners.

● **Facilitating debates on international development financing, particularly on the contribution of the private sector to African development.** FERDI organised a conference

in May 2021 as part of the Summit on the Financing of African Economies and its expertise is sought by the French National Assembly.

● **Contribution to the impact assessment of development policies, programmes, and projects in the G5 Sahel countries.** FERDI's Sahel Chair studies and refines the implementation of methods for the rapid evaluation of development programmes and policies adapted to so-called fragile areas, i.e. where there are difficulties in monitoring and collecting data.

● **Recent initiatives such as the Commonwealth Secretariat's Universal Vulnerability Index and the United Nations' Multidimensional Vulnerability Index build on FERDI's work on vulnerability indicators.**

● **Study of the countercyclical role of development banks.** This is part of a more global study on the modalities of intervention of development banks and their role in the achievement of the development goals undertaken by the French Development Agency (AFD) and the Development Finance Institutions.

THE CHALLENGES OF REALLOCATING SDRS TO VULNERABLE COUNTRIES

The voluntary reallocation of part of the Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) from advanced to developing countries is potentially a major transformation of the international monetary system. Attention has so far focused on the channels of this reallocation, due to the need to preserve the reserve asset nature of SDRs. It is equally important to discuss the final geographical distribution and use of these reallocated SDRs. An important issue is the determination of the beneficiaries and how they will be targeted. This is particularly the case for the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT) or the potential Resilience and Sustainability Trust (RST), both of which would be administered by the IMF and for which the amounts reallocated would be determined by the IMF quota formula. The IMF quota formula was not designed to target the poorest countries, and as FERDI's work shows, it gives little weight to the IMF's questionable measure of vulnerability. Not all developing countries have the same vulnerabilities, needs, or absorptive capacity. The current IMF quota formula, while it does take vulnerability into account to a small extent, does not seem appropriate for reallocating SDRs to and among vulnerable countries. FERDI's work argues that the vulnerability of countries, in all its main dimensions, should guide this reallocation. Simulations show that the shares of SDRs reallocated decrease with vulnerability if the IMF quota formula is used and increase if the FERDI vulnerability-based formula is used. Sub-Saharan Africa countries, Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) would be the main beneficiaries of using a vulnerability-based formula.

Cabrillac B. (2021) Questions raised by the SDR channeling, FERDI Policy Brief B221.

Cabrillac B., Jacolin L. (2022) L'évolution des facilités du FMI pour les pays pauvres (The evolution of IMF facilities for poor countries), FERDI Policy Brief B227, updated May 2022.

Cabrillac B., Guillaumont Jeanneney S. (2022) The challenges of reallocating SDRs to vulnerable countries, FERDI Working Paper P298.

Cornier A., Wagner L. (2022) Using a Vulnerability Index to Simulate a Reallocation of SDRs?, FERDI Policy Brief B229.

Cornier A., Wagner L. (2022) Taking Vulnerability into Account for the Reallocation of SDRs?, FERDI Working Paper P299.

National financing for development

Accompanying the reforms

The "National financing for development" programme deals with all issues related to the capacity to mobilise domestic resources and the effectiveness of public policies in developing countries.

FERDI's work focuses on three complementary areas:

- Taxation for development. FERDI's work examines the capacity of developing countries to mobilise domestic public resources. In particular, FERDI is involved in assessing the tax expenditures and the tax burden of certain economic sectors (extractive industries, telecommunications), the connection between tax and customs policies, and their role in the regional integration process. FERDI is also interested in the taxation of international aid and tax incentives for investment. This work is in line with the 2030 Agenda, whose objective 17.1 is to "enhance, including through international assistance to developing countries, domestic resource mobilisation to strengthen national capacity to raise taxes and other revenues".

- Financial Structures for Development. FERDI's work in partnership with the Bank of France aims to determine the role of the financial system in development. Particular attention is paid to the relationship between finance and climate, the economic and financial digitalization of economies, the competitiveness of economies, the development and stability of financial systems, and economic and monetary integration.

- Macroeconomics of development. FERDI works with CERDI on exchange rate policy issues. Particular attention has been paid to the issue of the CFA franc and the Eco and to the conduct of macroeconomic policy in the context of monetary unions. FERDI advocates a scientific and dispassionate look at possible and desirable developments in African monetary systems.

On these themes, FERDI works in collaboration with researchers from the Centre for Studies and Research on International Development (CERDI/UCA), the Bank of France, the Public Financial Department of the IMF, the ICTD, CREDAF and the General Directorate of Public Finances of France (DGFiP).



SOME CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

February 2022 • OECD Tax and Development Days. Grégoire Rota-Graziosi (CERDI-UCA, FERDI) and Anne-Marie Geourjon (FERDI) presented FERDI's work on aid taxation.

November 2021 • 9th International Workshop on Tax Expenditures and Domestic Revenue Mobilisation. Workshop organised by The Council on Economic Policies (CEP), German Development Institute (Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik, DIE), Addis Tax Initiative (ATI). Fayçal Sawadogo (Research Assistant, FERDI and PhD student, CERDI-Clermont Auvergne University) presented his work on the effects of tax incentives on firms in developing countries.

June 2021 • International high-level conference "Facing climate change: what financial choices for Africa?" co-organised by FERDI, the Bank of France, and the French Development Agency. FERDI warned of the risk of pollution that certain exchange rate policies could cause in Africa.



PARTNERSHIP

December 2021 • 16th Annual WCO PICARD Conference - The World Customs Organisation represented by its Secretary-General signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the IDGM+ Laboratory of Excellence "Initiative for Development and Global Governance" through FERDI, represented by Grégoire Rota-Graziosi, in order to strengthen their cooperation and research capacities in various fields.



SOME PUBLICATIONS

June 2022 • Rota-Graziosi G., Sawadogo F. The tax burden on mobile network operators in Africa, *Telecommunications Policy*, vol.46(5), p.102293.

June 2021 • Arezki R., Rota-Graziosi G., Adessé Dama A. Revisiting the Relationship between Trade Liberalization and Taxation, FERDI Working Paper P293.

April 2021 • Caldeira E., Geourjon A-M., Laporte B. La codification des mesures dérogatoires en matière de fiscalité indirecte dans les pays de l'UEMOA. État des lieux et orientation pour une harmonisation au sein de l'UEMOA. (In English: The codification of derogatory measures in indirect taxation in the WAEMU countries. State of play and guidelines for harmonisation within the WAEMU). FERDI Report, 52 pp.

February 2021 • de Quatrebarbes C., Laporte B., Calipel S. Fighting the soaring prices of agricultural food products - VAT versus Trade tariffs exemptions. A case study in Niger, FERDI Working paper P283.



MEDIA

March 2022 • Plane P., Da Piedade C. L'Afrique et le taux de change des francs (Africa and the CFA franc exchange rate). Blog post, Inshs.cnrs.fr

September 2021 • Kpodar K., Mlachila M., Quayyum S., Gammadigbe V. Defying the odds: Remittances held up during the COVID-19 pandemic. Blog post, Voxeu.org

August 2021 • Arezki R., Rota-Graziosi G., Adessé Dama A. Trade liberalisation and taxation. Blog post, Voxeu.org

February 2021 • Rota-Graziosi G., Arezki R. Quatre mesures pour inventer une fiscalité africaine post-Covid. (Four measures to invent a post-Covid African tax system). *Jeune Afrique*

January 2021 • Rota-Graziosi G., Sawadogo F. Les opérateurs de téléphonie mobile trop taxés en Afrique ? (Are mobile phone operators overtaxed in Africa?) Blog post, entreprenanteafrique.com

Achievements 2021-2022

● **Support to tax administrations for the evaluation of tax expenditures.** In 2021, FERDI supported the Togolese Revenue Office (OTR) in the preparation of its first tax expenditure evaluation report for the year 2020 and the Cameroonian General Tax Directorate in the review of its tax expenditure evaluation and impact analysis report.

● **Training on taxation of extractive industries.** FERDI, through the Institute for Advanced Studies in Sustainable Development (IHEDD) regularly delivers online tutored training courses on the sharing of mining rents and on oil taxation.

These training courses are based on FERDI's African Mining Tax Database, the first legal and fiscal database to identify the tax regime applying to industrial gold mines in 22 African producer countries. This database is accompanied by a tool for simulating the sharing of mining rents between a State and investors. <https://fiscalite-miniере.ferdi.fr/>

● **Participation in the DATAFID project.** This project financed by the French Treasury and implemented by Expertise France aims to: 1. improve knowledge of the digital economy and its impacts, 2. strengthen the capacities of tax and customs administrations through better use of data science. FERDI, through the Institute for Advanced Studies in Sustainable Development (IHEDD), is participating in the project to create a suitable, complete, training offer.

● **Facilitation of the French Inter-ministry Exchange and Coordination Platform on the Mobilisation of Domestic Public Resources (MRIP).** Since 2020, FERDI has been mandated to lead this platform, which is a support for information and coordination of French operators in the framework of the implementation of the French strategic investment plan for development (PISD).

● **Determining the tax burden of mobile network operators in Africa.** CERDI, in partnership with FERDI, is developing an application in R-Shiny for the determination of the tax burden of mobile network operators in Africa. <https://data.cerdi.uca.fr/telecom/>

● **Analysis of African Financial Systems for Development.** FERDI is developing two research programmes on African financial systems. A first programme analyses the effect of changes in African financial systems on access to credit for businesses and households in collaboration with researchers from the University of Strasbourg/Proparco-AFD. A second programme analyses the relationship between the risky environment in which African actors operate (health and political risks) and the use of financial tools.

● **Macroeconomic support to the European Union.** In December 2021, FERDI's experts made a commitment to the Budget Support Division of the European Union (EU) Commission's International Partnerships Directorate of macroeconomic support for the year 2022.

● **Study of the quality of public spending.** FERDI is collaborating with CERDI to provide a tool for analysing and measuring the efficiency of public spending. The application is accompanied by a user's guide "L'efficacité de la dépense publique: mesure et déterminants" ("The quality of public spending in the world: measurement and determinants"). <https://data.cerdi.uca.fr/afd-pubexp/>

TAXING AID, THE END OF A PARADOX?

The article "Taxing aid: The end of a Paradox" published in 2019 contributed to the renewed debate on the taxation of aid. Cited by the United Nations ("Guidelines on the Tax Treatment of Government-to-Government Aid Projects" 2021). The authors analysed that the broadening of the tax base, which is synonymous with a more evenly distributed tax burden, is hampered by the proliferation of exemption schemes, partly fuelled by the exemption of official development assistance. They presented their work on 5 February 2020 at the opening of the Official Development Tax Exemption workshop organised by the OECD in Paris, and at the OECD Tax and Development Days on 17 February 2022 for the launch of a new instrument on the tax treatment of official development assistance.

As a follow-up to this work, FERDI is committed to producing a report in June 2022 on aid taxation in Benin, Cameroon and Kenya for the Platform for Collaboration on Tax (<https://www.tax-platform.org/>), which brings together the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations and the OECD. This report will provide an in-depth look at, and comparison of, different practices in the field of taxing or exempting aid projects. It is part of FERDI's field of excellence in the area of taxation, that of tax expenditures.

References :

Caldeira E., Geourjon A-M., Rota-Graziosi G. (2018) The paradox of tax exemptions of Official Development Assistance in developing countries, FERDI Policy Brief B172, February.

Caldeira E., Geourjon A-M., Rota-Graziosi G. (2020) Taxing aid: the end of a paradox? *International Tax Public Finance*, vol.27, pp.240-255.

Caldeira E., Geourjon A-M., Rota-Graziosi G. (2020) COVID-19, une raison supplémentaire pour fiscaliser l'aide internationale, et non l'inverse (COVID-19, another reason to tax international aid, not the other way around), FERDI Policy Brief B202, April.

WHAT IMPACT DO MONETARY UNIONS HAVE ON ECONOMIC GROWTH?

FERDI has published a series of papers on CFA francs and their evolution. The authors recall the importance for states of exchange rate stability and the role that a guaranteed convertibility can play in achieving this. Their research puts into perspective the idea of a permanent overvaluation of CFA francs. They show that membership of the Franc Zone has not had a negative impact on economic growth, but has contributed to poverty reduction.

In a CNRS blog of 16 March 2022, Patrick Plane and Camille da Piedade, both members of the CERDI-UCA and FERDI, discuss the possible misalignments of the exchange rate in each of the two monetary unions that made up the Franc Zone using two different measures of the equilibrium exchange rate (Plane P., da Piedade C. (2022) Les francs CFA sont-ils à leur niveau d'équilibre? *Revue française d'économie*, vol. 36(4), pp.87-127, April).

Some of the publications on the subject are listed in the Regional and international Integrations programme.

Regional and international integrations

Deepen or broaden

Ten years after FERDI's diagnosis on the state of integration in its various aspects, it is actively involved in both theoretical and technical work intended to guide the action of community institutions. FERDI's studies and research are carried out in close partnership with CEMAC and other African regional institutions.

FERDI's work focuses on three areas:

- **Effects and challenges of regional integration.** The work carried out covers the whole range of integration issues, from the impact of monetary zones and multilateral surveillance of macro-economic policies to infrastructure, and fiscal and trade policies.

- **Trade facilitation.** FERDI analyses the impact of measures that affect developing countries' trade in goods. These can be trade facilitation measures or protection measures such as non-tariff measures.

- **Sustainable Competitiveness.** The Sustainable Competitiveness Observatory (Observatoire de la Compétitivité durable - OCD, in French) aims to analyse the capacity of each of the 54 African countries to integrate into the global economy. This is analysed through the vulnerability of economies, the attractiveness of territories, and price competitiveness. These three items are also linked to performance variables, in this case, the overall and product-specific evolution of market shares. <https://competitivite.ferdi.fr/>



SOME CONFERENCES

April 2022 • The CEMAC Commission and FERDI organised an international conference on the challenges and instruments of regional integration in Central Africa. This event brought together institutions, practitioners, and academics.

September 2021 • The role of African Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in accelerating co-development with Europe. Online conference organised by Africameridam and Ipemed with the participation of Moulay Hafid Elalamy, Minister of Industry (Morocco), Thierry Déau, Founder and President of Méridiam, Jean-Louis Guigou, Founder of Ipemed and the Vertical Foundation. Patrick Plane (FERDI) spoke at a round table on the new possibilities represented by SEZs.

May 2021 • What motivates the use of trade preferences? WTO online conference. Jaime de Melo (University of Geneva, FERDI) spoke on the incentives for the use of trade preferences.



SOME PUBLICATIONS

December 2021 • Gourdon J., Dzmitry Kniahin D., de Melo J., Mimouni M. Rules of Origin across African Regional Trading Agreements: A Landscape with Measures to Address Challenges at Harmonization. *Journal of African Trade*, vol. 8 (1), December 2021, pp.96 – 108.

December 2021 • de Melo J., Twum A. Prospects and Challenges for Supply Chain Trade under the Africa Continental Free Trade Area, *Journal of African Trade*, vol.8 (2) Special Issue, pp. 49-61.

August 2021 • Plane P. What Factors Drive Transport and Logistics Costs in Africa?, *Journal of African Economies*, vol 30(4), pp. 370–388.

April 2021 • Plane P., Da Piedade C. Les francs CFA sont-ils à leur niveau d'équilibre ? (Is the CFA franc at its equilibrium level?) *Revue Française d'Economie*, vol.36 (4).

January 2021 • de Melo J. Bananas, Subject of the Longest Transatlantic Dispute in the World Trading System: A Postmortem. Chap. 15 in Hoekman B.M., Zedillo E. (eds), *Trade in the 21st century, back to the past?* Brookings Press, pp. 477-499.

January 2020 • Feindouno S., Guérineau S., Guillaumont P., Guillaumont Jeanneney S., Plane P. *Zone franc, croissance économique et réduction de la pauvreté (Franc zone, economic growth and poverty reduction)*, FERDI.



MEDIA

September 2021 • Plane P. La transformation structurelle de l'Afrique va probablement dans le sens d'une intensification du rôle des ZES (Africa's structural transformation is likely to increase the role of SEZs). Africa Press, Paris.

June 2021 • Byiers B., de Melo J. Delivering regional public goods is key for successful African regional integration. Blog post, Brookings.edu

June 2021 • de Melo J., Kniahin D., Gourdon J., Mimouni M. Harmonising rules of origin for the African continental free trade area. Blog post, theforum.erf.org

Achievements 2021-2022

● **Sustainable competitiveness and support for the CEMAC Commission in the face of the Covid-19 crisis.** After analysing the impact on CEMAC of the external shocks from Covid and the erratic movements of oil prices, FERDI looked at the region's long-term development strategy. This work focused on the competitiveness of member states and the prospects for economic diversification. It helped support CEMAC in discussions with the IMF as part of the negotiation of the second generation of agreements.

● **CEMAC and reform of the common currency.** Given the importance of the current debates and the mandate given by the Heads of State to the Commission and the BEAC about the reform and development of a common currency, FERDI has continued to contribute to the studies on this theme. The necessary changes to the multilateral surveillance framework in a period of external shocks also gave rise to work on a possible multilateral stabilisation fund or public debt, as well as on the CEMAC Commission's own financing.

● **University centres of excellence.** The Heads of State of the CEMAC zone having decided to structure higher education and research around university centres of excellence, the CEMAC Commission asked FERDI to conduct a feasibility study. Based on an inventory of existing training courses and their economic model, recommendations were formulated and presented at a workshop on 7 and 8 April 2022.

● **The Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA)** is the only multilateral agreement which has been in force since the creation of the WTO. The TFA has specific objectives which can be subject to a quantitative analysis of its progress. FERDI is trying to assess what its contribution can be in the context of economic and monetary unions.

● **The launch of the African Continental Free Trade Area (ACFTA) in 2021 has been the subject of numerous studies.** After contributing to the AfDB's 2019 Annual Report, and ACET's third report on structural transformation in Africa, Jaime de Melo continues to assess the policies for implementing the FTAA, including efforts to deliver the regional public goods essential for the long-term success of the FTAA.

MANUFACTURING DYNAMICS AND STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION IN CEMAC: DIAGNOSTIC ELEMENTS AND EXAMINATION OF REFORMS

Economic development involves structural transformations which go hand-in-hand with reallocations of the labour force between the three main sectors of activity. Stylized development facts have long suggested that an economy should move from the primary to the secondary sector and then emerge with a tertiary sector to mark the advent of a post-industrial service society. The shift from the primary to the secondary sector is driven by productivity differentials, and by the long-term income elasticities of both domestic and global demand for manufactured goods. These elasticities are higher than those for primary products.

In a report produced for CEMAC, FERDI first took stock of the situation. It measured and commented on the share of manufacturing activities in GDP, making a comparison with what can be observed elsewhere in developing countries. Attention was then given to the effectiveness of export promotion in terms of market share gains, quality of international specialisation, and export growth acceleration. The second part of the report is more about norms and focuses on a set of recommendations to suggest answers to the question - What are the major institutional and economic reforms that are likely to bring about the transformation of the CEMAC economies?

Plane, P., da Piedade C. (2021) *Dynamique manufacturière et transformation structurelle en CEMAC: éléments de diagnostic et identification de réformes* (Manufacturing dynamics and structural transformation in CEMAC: diagnostic elements and identification of reforms), Report submitted to the CEMAC Commission, FERDI, September, 65 p.

FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE CREATION OF A UNIVERSITY OF EXCELLENCE IN THE CEMAC ZONE

CEMAC has the ambition of creating a regional university of excellence by 2022-2023. This project, driven by the President of the CEMAC Commission, Professor Daniel ONA ONDO, has received the support of the 6 member countries. It was decided that this regional university of excellence would be based in Equatorial Guinea, on the Djibloho campus, and that it would be supported by a network of satellite institutes/training centres of excellence which are present in various CEMAC member countries. One of the main objectives of this university of excellence and the satellite institutes is to meet the training and subsequent employment needs of Central African youth. If the CEMAC countries were to look ahead for the next 20 years, what skills would they need to sustain their growth and be competitive?

The work carried out by FERDI draws up a qualitative and objective inventory of higher education and research in the 6 CEMAC countries. This inventory is followed by a critical analysis of the project to create a university of excellence and satellite institutes. It first presents the elements relating to the general organisation of the university and the governance of the project, and then proposes a reference framework that should help guide the Commission's action to ensure the excellence of the project in the dimensions relating to training, research, and international openness. This reference framework is based on indicators and target values.

Climate, sustainable energy, and development

Policies that cannot be separated

FERDI is searching for new tools to study the political implications of environmental degradation and climate shocks in developing countries. For example, it is examining the effects of trade policies on the environment, the impact of decentralised electrification projects on economic development and poverty reduction, and how an indicator of vulnerability to climate change can guide the allocation of funds for adaptation.

- Trade and environment. Jaime de Melo's work explores the reasons for the successive failures at regional, plurilateral, and multilateral levels to agree on the reduction of barriers to trade in goods and services. His work argues for a concerted effort to reduce plurilateral (and eventually multilateral) barriers (tariffs and non-tariff barriers) on trade in environmental goods.

- A mapping of decentralised electrification projects. FERDI is mapping decentralised electrification projects and analysing their impact on economic development and poverty reduction. Under the direction of Jean-Claude Berthelemy (University of Paris 1/ FERDI), FERDI has developed a database of decentralised electricity projects and their effects: the COSMMA database (Collaborative Smart Mapping of Mini-grid Action).

- Climate vulnerability indicators. FERDI has developed a Physical Vulnerability to Climate Change Indicator (PVCCI) that measures climate shocks and the exposure of countries to these shocks. This indicator is intended to be used as a possible criterion for the geographical allocation of international funds for climate change adaptation. Created in 2012, this indicator is subject to regular adjustments.



SOME CONFERENCES

October 2021 • International Conference Evidence for Development: What Works Global Summit 2021. FERDI organised a session on "Remote sensing to assess what works in contexts of fragility, conflict or violence".

February 2021 • Conference on off-grid renewable energy statistics. Organised by IRENA - International Renewable Energy Agency (United Nations). This conference focused on the challenges of collecting data on off-grid energy. Mathilde Maurel (Sorbonne Economics Centre/ FERDI) and Jean-Claude Berthelemy (Professor Emeritus University Panthéon Sorbonne/ FERDI) presented a paper on the new approach they have developed to assess the economic impact of decentralised electrification projects.



MEDIA

January 2022 • **Casella H., de Melo J.** Taking Seriously the Move to Green Growth: Screening Dimensions of Environmental Progress in African SIDS. Blog post, charlestelfaircentre.com

February 2021 • Le Tadjikistan prend des mesures pour lutter contre le changement climatique (Tajikistan acts to combat climate change). The article cites FERDI's work on the Physical Vulnerability to Climate Change Indicator (PVCCI). Novastang.org.



SOME PUBLICATIONS

May 2022 • **Goujon M., Santoni O., Wagner L.** The Physical Vulnerability to Climate Change Index computed at the sub-national level, FERDI Working Paper P305.

March 2022 • **de Melo J., Solleder J-M.** Towards an Environmental Goods Agreement Style (EGAST) agenda to improve the regime complex for climate change, in Jakob M. (ed) *Handbook on Trade Policy and Climate Change*, pp. 202-220.

February 2022 • **Burzynski M., Deuster C., Docquier F., de Melo J.** Climate migration frightens... climate poverty is frightening! in Beatrice Weder di Mauro (eds) *Combating Climate Change: a CEPR Collection*, Centre for Economic Policy Research, 342 pages.

January 2021 • **Berthelemy J-C.** Mesurer l'impact des projets d'électrification décentralisée : une approche par triangulation, in FACTS Report n°22 : *Eau, déchets, énergie : quel avenir pour les services essentiels en Afrique ?* Institut Veolia, pp.108-115.

October 2020 • **Feindouno S., Guillaumont P., Simonet C.** The Physical Vulnerability to Climate Change Index: An Index to Be Used for International Policy, *Ecological Economics*, vol. 176.

Achievements 2021-2022

● **Measuring the impact of decentralized electricity projects.** In 2021, FERDI developed a method to use night-time light data, which is known to be correlated with human activity, to assess the economic changes observed after the implementation of a mini-grid in remote rural localities. This approach, given its innovative nature, required much discussion with peers. Successive versions were presented at events organised by the Chairs for Energy and Prosperity, Climate Economics, and Industrial Economics of Emergence in Africa, but also by AFD, IRENA and GDN and discussed with various European and African researchers. It also gave rise to in-depth discussions with the Club-ER (the African association of rural electrification agencies which includes more than 30 countries), several of these agencies, and French NGOs.

● **FERDI has proposed the measurement of the physical vulnerability to climate change indicator at the regional and micro-regional level.** A first application was conducted for Madagascar, and was used in a document on the vulnerabilities of Madagascar. This document was used for training in the first quarter of 2021 in the framework of the agreement with the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Madagascar for the project of Support for capacity building in the analysis of structural vulnerability factors and the blue economy (ARCEB).

COOPERATION WITH CLUB-ER

Initial results from the satellite data approach show that about half of the mini-grid projects implemented so far have not resulted in any significant impact. This is confirmed by some work using other methods, including a count of mini-grids that have failed a few years after being commissioned, and discussions with NGOs in the sector and African rural electrification agencies. At a time when mini-grids are seen as the most promising solution for rural electrification in remote areas, this finding is alarming, especially as the projects that work show large-scale effects.

It is therefore essential to identify the blocking factors, which may be linked to an unsuitable economic model (e.g. oversized generators), or poor project governance (e.g. a top-down approach that neglects the expectations of beneficiaries). The partnership between FERDI and the Club-ER will make it possible in 2022 to deepen these analyses by accessing field data via the Club-ER member agencies.

Human capital

Strengthening human capital in all its dimensions

FERDI focuses on human capital in developing economies from three research angles: health, entrepreneurship, and digital development.

- Health systems in Africa and Asia. FERDI advocates that improving efficiency should become a priority in health policies. By assessing the potential room for manoeuvre in terms of improving the efficiency of health care structures, by examining the opportunities presented by "new" financing instruments such as payment based on results, and by analysing the strategies deployed by new donors in the field of health in Africa, the overall objective of the FERDI programme carried out in partnership with CERDI is to provide governments and their partners with elements that can contribute to decision-making which is economically feasible and socially and politically acceptable. Studies analysing the efficiency of health structures and accompanied by recommendations for decision-makers have so far been conducted, or are in progress, in seven African and Asian countries (Botswana, Burkina Faso, Niger, Zimbabwe, Cambodia, China, and Mongolia).

These studies, conducted at the request of, and/or in collaboration with, ministries of health and their external partners, demonstrate FERDI's ability to make a valuable contribution to thinking and decision-making on important health policy issues.

- Fighting the Covid pandemic. Since the emergence of Covid, FERDI has been focusing on issues that are critical to fighting the pandemic and containing its effects: 1/ impact on mortality, 2/ impact on efficiency of health structures, 3/ household perceptions of the pandemic and attitudes towards vaccination, 4/ Vaccine availability in developing countries, particularly in Africa, 5/ Chinese support for health in Africa.

- Training in health economics. The challenges of the health-related development goals also imply strengthening human capital for health. FERDI's applied research programme is complemented by training programmes in health economics specially designed for public and private actors in positions of responsibility in health systems or in related fields (finance, social affairs, etc). These training programmes are based on the expertise of FERDI team members in health policy research in Africa and Asia.

- Entrepreneurship for African development. For several years, FERDI, in the framework of its partnership with Investisseurs & Partenaires (I&P), has been advocating for the development of private enterprise by highlighting the social and economic impacts of SMEs in Sub-Saharan Africa and their role in the economic development of countries. In parallel, FERDI has developed a research programme to better understand the dynamics of African enterprises. This work has made it possible to assess the role of digital technology in the growth of businesses in Africa and the dynamics of high-growth businesses in Senegal.



SOME EVENTS

December 2021 • Extension of the partnership with the Centre for Health Development, Mongolia.

July 2021 • The French Parliamentary Office for the Evaluation of Scientific and Technological Choices on "the scientific and technical aspects of the fight against the Covid 19 pandemic" submitted its report to the offices of the National Assembly and the Senate. The report cites the publication by Billette de Villemeur E., Dequiedt V., Versaevel B. (2021).



MEDIA

May 2021 • **Gravellini J-M., Léon F.** Renforcer en urgence le tissu d'entreprises privées africaines : pourquoi et comment ? (Urgently strengthening the fabric of African private enterprise: why and how?) Blog post, [Entrepreneurafrique.com](https://www.entrepreneurafrique.com)

April 2021 • **Léon F., Baraton P., Fleury S.** Le développement des entreprises privées africaines freiné par les faiblesses de gouvernance publique (The development of African private enterprises is hindered by weaknesses in public governance) Blog post, theconversation.com

April 2021 • **Billette de Villemeur E., Dequiedt V., Versaevel B.** Propriété intellectuelle et Covid-19 : comment accélérer mondialement la vaccination ? (Intellectual property and Covid-19: how to accelerate vaccination globally?) Blog post, [The Conversation](https://theconversation.com).

March 2021 • Les économies africaines face à la pandémie de Covid-19 (African economies facing the Covid-19 pandemic). Participation in the RFI programme "Eco d'ici, Eco d'ailleurs" by Grégoire Rota-Graziosi.



SOME PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming • **Guillaumont P.** Comment le Nord a transféré au Sud son risque de surmortalité : un modèle simple ? (How the North transferred its risk of excess mortality to the South: a simple model?) *Revue d'économie du développement*, 2021, Issue 1-2, Special issue "Covid-19".

April 2022 • **Léon F.** The elusive quest for high-growth firms in Africa: when other metrics of performance say nothing. *Small Business Economics*. 58, pp. 225–246.

January 2022 • **Guillon M., Audibert M., Mathonnat J.** Efficiency of district hospitals in Zimbabwe: Assessment, drivers and policy implications, *International Journal of Health Planning and Management*, vol 37(1), January.

September 2021 • **Garenne M. et al.** Changing sex differences in undernutrition of African children: findings from Demographic and Health Surveys, *Journal of Biosocial Science*, pp. 1-11.

March 2021 • **Billette de Villemeur E., Dequiedt V., Versaevel B.** Pool patents to get COVID vaccines and drugs to all, *Nature, Letter to the Editor*, vol. 591, p. 529.

Achievements 2021-2022

- New programmes to analyse the efficiency of health structures, aimed at strengthening capacity and decision-making processes, have been initiated in Burkina Faso, Botswana, Niger, and Mongolia. They will continue throughout 2022-2023.
- Training programme on strengthening health systems and policies to combat infectious diseases with the support of the Government of Monaco. This training programme initiated in 2018 will continue in 2022-2023 with new sessions. In 2022, the programme offers "à la carte" tutored distance learning courses and a face-to-face session under certain conditions.
- Study of international donors' support to private enterprises. This study was carried out in the context of the Summit on Financing African Economies held in Paris in May 2021 and was the subject of a webinar in May 2021.
- Study on growth entrepreneurship. This study is conducted for the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie.
- A Chair on impact investment is being created. This Chair will contribute to the identification of actors and practices of impact investment on the African continent. Its activities aim to promote a relevant measurement of impact, and to analyse the financial instruments used.

Digital Trust Chair

FERDI and Be-Ys, the international group which is pioneering secure and controlled digital transactions, share the conviction that digital trust is a real opportunity for Africa to reposition itself in the global economic hierarchy.

Digital trust, built on four pillars - network integrity and quality of service, privacy and data protection, protection of minors, prevention of piracy and theft - is an essential factor in the development of digital technology.

The objective of the FERDI Digital Trust Chair is to develop technological solutions to meet the needs, expectations, and economic interests of African countries. The Chair's work focuses on several issues: the massification of access to essential services (education, health, etc), the improvement of SME access to the market and to financing (SMEs represent 98% of companies in Côte d'Ivoire), the direct and indirect creation of jobs.

The Digital Chair is co-directed by Jenny C. Aker, Professor at Tufts University and Fatoumata Ba, founder of the Janngo investment fund.

In 2021 -2022

- A draft book on mobile phones and development in Africa, co-edited by Jenny Aker and Joël Carriolle, has passed the refereeing process and been accepted by Palgrave Macmillan academic publishing. This book, which is currently being written, brings together, updates, and synthesises the key elements of the Chair's reports.
- A study on the digital divide and resilience to Covid-19 in the Francophone space is being carried out at the request of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie. This study will be presented in a parallel session at UNCTAD and the WTO during 2022 and 2023, and at the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (scheduled for March 2023 in Doha).
- A working paper (and associated brief) on "How internet helped firms to cope with COVID-19" has been produced, presented at a seminar, and submitted to an academic review.

CONSEQUENCES OF THE CORONAVIRUS FOR AFRICAN ECONOMIES

As soon as the pandemic broke out, researchers affiliated with FERDI alerted Northern countries to the dramatic consequences of the global economic crisis on African countries in terms of health and mortality. They also warned of the inequalities in access to vaccines and treatments.

In an interview filmed by FERDI in February 2020, Jacky Mathonnat analysed the current situation and the future economic consequences for developing countries. In an editorial published in April 2020, Patrick Guillaumont pleaded for emergency aid and reminded the countries of the North of their responsibility; the countries of the North who by controlling the epidemic at home through containment, may export their potential excess mortality to the South.

Paul Derreumaux's "Scènes de rue à Bamako par temps de Covid" (Street scenes in Bamako during Covid) provided a concrete and illuminating example of the direct and indirect socio-economic consequences that the epidemic and the recession are adding to Mali's internal political challenges, while Jean-Michel Severino underlined the risk of destroying the fabric of small- and medium-sized enterprises that have been built up since the beginning of the century and which was the promise of sustainable development.

In a webinar organised by the Foundation Prospective et innovation "Covid-19, l'Afrique face au choc économique : pour

une nouvelle donne de l'aide internationale" ("Covid- 19, Africa facing the economic shock: for a new deal in international aid"). Tertius Zongo testified of an increase in vulnerability factors (health, governance, education) in Sahelian countries.

In March 2021, Vianney Dequiedt co-published a note in *Nature* calling on manufacturers to share their technological know-how with developing countries through the *Medicines Patent Pool*.

A programme in partnership with the AFD was launched to study the impact of Covid on mortality in Africa, and on the efficiency of health care structures in Burkina Faso and Niger, in collaboration with the Sahel Chair of FERDI. An article on the transfer of mortality from the North to the South is currently being submitted to *The Lancet* (Arcand J-L., Feindouno S. Guillaumont P.).

The fight against Covid depends to a large extent on the perception of households and their compliance with the recommendations made by the authorities, as well as on their attitude towards vaccination. Surveys in partnership with Cevipof and CERDI, led by Jacky Mathonnat, were conducted in Burkina Faso and Niger on these issues.

In total, more than 70 research papers, interviews, editorials, or webinars on the economic impacts of the Coronavirus on developing countries have been published in open access on the FERDI website.

Vulnerabilities - Least Developed Countries and other vulnerable countries

Recognition of a priority

FERDI advocates for the inclusion of vulnerability and the specificity of vulnerable countries in the universal development agenda. Recognised for its expertise and experience on this issue, FERDI strives to influence decisions concerning vulnerable countries, and in particular the "Least Developed Countries" (LDCs).

- **LDC category: rationale and impact.** 50 years after the creation of the category, FERDI's work on LDCs focuses on the rationale of the category, including improving the identification of LDCs, and the effectiveness of measures taken in their favour.

- **Differentiating countries according to their vulnerability.** FERDI's work on LDCs is part of a more general theme relating to the international economic order: that of the differentiated treatment (in financial and commercial matters) of developing countries, vulnerability being one of the three distinctive characteristics of LDCs but which also affects other countries. FERDI is involved in the analysis of developing countries' vulnerability in its different forms (economic, climatic, and socio-political), measurement of vulnerability, and the use that can be made of the corresponding indicators for international policy.

- **The concept of vulnerability and participation in international debates.** FERDI has long been involved in developing and updating vulnerability indicators. This activity aims to keep the debate on the concept of vulnerability alive, and to ensure that it is illustrated by indicators whose properties are compatible with their use in international institutions, particularly in the context of concessional resource allocation. FERDI's influencing activities are reflected in numerous institutional collaborations, with the African Development Bank, the Commonwealth Secretariat, and the United Nations and its Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (OHRLLS). Within the framework of these collaborations, FERDI uses its recognised expertise validated by high-level publications and is called upon to assist in the development of new vulnerability indicators.



SOME CONFERENCES

December 2021 • Webinar on the validity of the LDC category today and its impact on the development of the countries concerned. Webinar organised by FERDI, UN OHRLLS, the OECD Development Centre, and the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs with the participation of high-level institutional, and academic, figures.

October 2021 • Forum on the future of LDCs. United Nations Conference (UN-OHRLLS, UNU-WIDER), SDSN. FERDI contributed to this preparatory event for the 5th UN Conference on LDCs (LDC5).

April 2021 • How can financing for development address the vulnerability of LDCs and other vulnerable countries? UN-OHRLLS/OECD/FERDI Conference in preparation for the 5e UN Conference on LDCs (LDCV) and in the framework of the ECOSOC 2021 "Financing for Development" forum.



SOME PUBLICATIONS

March 2022 • **Guillaumont P.** Least Developed Countries, France, and Europe. FERDI Policy Brief B231.

December 2021 • **Guillaumont P.** La logique de la catégorie des Pays les moins avancés au cours d'un demi-siècle (The Logic of the Least Developed Country Category over half a century), FERDI Policy Brief B225.

November 2021 • **de Melo J., Sorgho Z., Wagner L.** Implementing the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA): estimates of reduction in time at customs for the United Nations' vulnerable economies. Ferdi Working Paper P296.

June 2021 • **Guillaumont P., Wagner L.** In Secretariat du Commonwealth (eds) *The Commonwealth Universal Vulnerability Index. For a Global Consensus on the Definition and Measurement of Vulnerability*. 80p.

April 2021 • **Boussichas M., Nossek V.** In CDP-United Nations (eds), *Comprehensive Study on the Impact of COVID-19 on the Least Developed Country Category*. 62p.

Achievements 2021-2022

● **Preparing for the 5th UN Conference on LDCs.** For this conference, which marks the 50th anniversary of the category, and in addition to the book *Out of The Trap* (new edition in progress), which assesses the impact of belonging to the category on the various dimensions of LDC development, FERDI is questioning the logic of the category in the light of current issues, and is organising, and participating in, conferences on the relevance of the category and its future.

● **A study on the impact of LDC identification variables and their components** on the structural transformation of LDCs is underway.

● **Substantial contributions** to the Commonwealth Secretariat's report proposing a universal vulnerability index and to the UN report published for the development of a multidimensional vulnerability index, which is expected to be the subject of substantial discussion in 2022 and in which FERDI will be actively involved.

● **New Multi-Dimensional Vulnerability Index.** In 2022, FERDI is coordinating the UN High Panel (10 members) for the implementation of the Multi-Dimensional Vulnerability Index.

MULTIDIMENSIONAL VULNERABILITY INDEX

In 2022, FERDI is involved in the work of the UN High-Level Panel on the development of a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). On 17 March 2022, the President of the 76th session of the UN General Assembly, Abdulla Shahid, launched the work of the High-Level Panel on the development of a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) to be submitted to him before the end of the year. Patrick Guillaumont and Laurent Wagner opened the first session of the High-Level Panel on 28 March and presented the findings of the UN report *Possible Development and Uses of Multi-Dimensional Vulnerability Indices. Analysis and Recommendations*, of which they were the lead authors and which is to serve as a basis for the Panel's work. In his speech, Patrick Guillaumont stressed that, in order to be an instrument guiding international policy, the multidimensional vulnerability index must meet the following 3 criteria: 1. The index must be truly multidimensional (economic, environmental, and social), 2. It must be universal - if only to be able to compare the vulnerability of small island states to other countries, 3. It must make it possible to separate what is exogenous or structural from what depends on the current policy of the countries. Soso Feindouno and Laurent Wagner, research fellows at FERDI, were asked by the United Nations to coordinate the work of the High-Level Panel.

FURTHER READING:

- **United Nations (2021) v.** *Possible Development and Uses of Multi-Dimensional Vulnerability Indices. Analysis and Recommendations.* 66 p.
- **Guillaumont P., Wagner L. (2022)** Three criteria that a multidimensional vulnerability index should meet to be used effectively, FERDI Policy Brief B234, May.

Security and development

A poorly estimated essential link

In line with current events and the concerns of Sahel actors, FERDI's work analyses the sources and risks of conflict.

● **Identifying the sources of conflict.** FERDI's work measures the frequency of violent events, and seeks to identify the factors that determine them. In 2019, FERDI created an Internal Violence Index (IVI). The IVI aims to compare the level of internal violence for 130 developing countries. It is a composite indicator of 9 variables grouped into 4 dimensions - internal conflict, crime, terrorism, and political violence.

● **Identifying risks and preventing conflicts.** A conflict risk indicator was developed during 2019 and finalized in 2020 by FERDI (Sosso Feidouyou and Laurent Wagner) in collaboration with the Foundation Prospective & Innovation. This indicator is accompanied by an analysis of conflict factors and means of prevention.

BEYOND FOOD SECURITY - AGRICULTURAL MODERNISATION POLICIES IN AFRICA

FERDI is examining the importance of agriculture to the development of countries and ways to develop family farming.

- **Agricultural value chains and competitiveness.** FERDI is studying the different parameters that have a role to play (producer organisation, contracts, quality recognition, adoption of new technologies) for the inclusion of family farming in agricultural value chains. Studies of value chains and modernisation of agriculture in Africa, are continuing with a view to creating a FERDI Chair on these themes.

- **Models for financing and insuring natural risks.** Alain de Janvry and Elisabeth Sadoulet's work examines the obstacles to the implementation of financing and insurance strategies for natural disaster risks. The aim is to encourage the implementation of financial strategies at the State level, so that States can respond to shocks and publicise government initiatives and relief programmes to businesses and households.

Prospects:

- Creation of a Chair for the modernization of agriculture in Africa
- Study on the financing of agro-industrial SMEs

References:

- Gashaw A., Bernard T., de Janvry A., Sadoulet E., Trachtman C. (2021) Introducing quality certification in staple food markets in Sub-Saharan Africa: Four Conditions for Successful Implementation. *Food Policy*, vol. 105.
- De Janvry A., Sadoulet E. (2021) *Development Economics. Theory and Practice*, 2nd Edition, Routledge, 572p.

Media:

- Gravellini J-M., Ait Talb K. Sahel: et si le coton permettait de stabiliser la région ? (The Sahel: what if cotton could stabilise the region?) Tribune, Jeune Afrique, 2021
- Jing C., Carter M., de Janvry A., Sadoulet E. Sparking permanent adoption of resilience building agricultural technologies. Billet de blog, USAID Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Markets, Risk, and Resilience, 2021



SOME EVENTS

November 2021 • Seminar to present the results of a study on the impact of development policies in vulnerable Sahelian areas, organised by the Sahel Chair in Ouagadougou.

June 2021 • Workshop on the results of the study on security spending and its crowding-out effects on development spending, organised by the G5 Sahel Executive Secretariat in Bamako.

March 2021 • Regional validation workshop of the Methodological Guide of good practices for the management of development projects and programmes in the G5 Sahel countries and Côte d'Ivoire, organised by the Sahel Chair in Ouagadougou.



EDITORIAL

June 2021 • Editorial by Tertius Zongo: *The Sahel Chair, a Sahelian tool at the heart of the region's challenges.*



SOME PUBLICATIONS

June 2021 • Arcand J-L., Barro L. Projets de développement, conditions de vie et activité économique dans les pays du G5 Sahel. (Development projects, living conditions, and economic activity in the G5 Sahel countries), FERDI Working Paper P291.

March 2021 • FERDI Sahel Chair. *Guide méthodologique de bonnes pratiques pour la mise en œuvre des projets et programmes de développement dans les pays membres du G5 Sahel et de la Côte d'Ivoire (Methodological guide of good practices for the implementation of development projects and programmes in the G5 Sahel countries and Côte d'Ivoire).*

September 2020 • Feindouno S., Wagner L. *Les conflits internes dans le monde : Estimer les risques pour cibler la prévention (The determinants of internal conflict in the world: How to estimate the risks and better target prevention efforts?)* FERDI, Fondation Prospective et Innovation (FPI), 102 p.

Sahel Chair

In January 2018, FERDI set up a thematic chair dedicated to the Sahel and based in Ouagadougou. This initiative, which is original because it is Sahelian in its management and initiatives, aims to influence the decisions of public and private actors in their actions to overcome the crisis and for the sustainable development of the region.

The Chair's work examines the implementation of different plans and policies and their effects, to strengthen their impact on the populations and on the target sectors of activity (education, rural development, health, governance/institutions). It works closely with African administrations and their development partners.

Tertius Zongo, former Prime Minister of Burkina Faso and FERDI Senior Fellow, has agreed to take on the responsibility of the Chair in Ouagadougou and to lead the team of African experts mobilised for this purpose.

The partners

The purpose of the Sahel Chair is to involve and build partnerships with scientific institutions and policymakers.

It draws on international research and Sahelian policy analysis capacities while aiming to strengthen them. It conducts its work within a regional framework, and seeks to adapt its analytical methods to the fragile context of the region.

3 lines of thought

- **Analysis of financial flows for the development of the Sahel and their impact on the public finances of Sahelian countries:** after highlighting the significant differences between donors and Sahelian countries in the recording of these flows, the Sahel Chair is developing a platform to better monitor them.
- **Learn from the successes and failures of development actions:** analysing the effectiveness of different programmes and projects implemented in the Sahel.
- **Develop rapid assessment methods for policies, programmes, and projects suitable for vulnerable areas:** a first method for the agricultural sector in Burkina Faso has been published (see Some Publications). The ambition is to broaden it to all sectors and extend it to the whole Sahel.

Training courses are implemented based on this work, which is disseminated through the organisation of seminars and the publication of reports and books.

● **Dynamic relationship between conflict and Internal displaced persons (IDPs) in the Sahel.** FERDI is developing an IT programme concerning IDPs in the Central African Republic for the World Bank. Sosso Feindouno, FERDI Research Fellow, received the World Bank Group's DEC VPU Team Awards for FY21 (2021).

● **The Sahel Chair is associated with two studies:**

Fiscal Sustainability of the Security Sector in Countries in Situations of Fragility, Conflict, and Violence, Policy Note for the United Nations prepared by Matthieu Boussichas (FERDI), Vianney Dequiedt (FERDI/CERDI), Grégoire Rota-Graziosi (CERDI) and Tertius Zongo (forthcoming).

Comprehensive study on the impact of Covid-19 on the LDC category, Substantive contributions to the report of the Commission for Development Policy (CDP) edited by Roland Molerus, CDP Secretariat, 2021.

STUDY ON SECURITY SPENDING AND ITS CROWDING-OUT EFFECTS ON DEVELOPMENT SPENDING IN THE G5 SAHEL COUNTRIES

This study, commissioned by the G5 Sahel Executive Secretariat, aims to examine the extent to which increased security spending, caused by violence in the G5 Sahel countries, crowds out development spending. The report concludes that: i) security spending has a significant and negative impact on development spending, ii) an increase in unrest in a given country directly impacts the composition of that country's public finances, but also those of its regional neighbours, iii) the security situation in the Sahel makes budgetary programming difficult, iv) ODA plays a major role in cushioning these shocks. The study formulates recommendations and an action plan for their implementation. **FERDI Sahel Chair (2021) *Étude sur les dépenses de sécurité et leurs effets d'éviction sur le financement des dépenses de développement dans les pays du G5 Sahel (Study on security spending and its crowding-out effects on development spending in the G5 Sahel countries)*. 314p.**



TRAINING

The Institute for Advanced Studies in Sustainable Development (IHEDD)



The IHEDD, an institute for capacity building

The Institute for Advanced Studies in Sustainable Development (IHEDD) is the training institute of the IDGM+ laboratory of excellence (Labex) whose motto is "Designing new international development policies based on research results. Strengthening the initiative for development and global governance", implemented by FERDI with the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) and the Centre for Studies and Research on International Development (CERDI).

The training courses offered by the IHEDD are based on the results of the research carried out within the framework of the Labex IDGM+ and oriented by the themes of FERDI's programmes and chairs.

These training courses are long, for the GPE and MODEV Masters delivered by the Clermont Auvergne University (UCA), or short, from 2 days to 3 weeks, carried out face-to-face, at a distance, or in a hybrid formula depending on the circumstances. In addition to this offer, the IHEDD is open to any request for customised training.

THE GPE PROGRAMME QUALIFIED AS A "PARTNER PROGRAMME" BY THE WORLD BANK

In April 2020, the Economic Policy Management (GPE) programme was qualified as a "Partner Programme" by the World Bank, through the Joint Japan/World Bank Graduate Scholarship Programme (JJ/WBGSP). This label of excellence, granted for the period 2020-2024, translates into a guaranteed number of scholarships awarded annually by the JJ/WBGSP Programme for GPE students.

As a reminder, the GPE programme has also received support from the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE) since its inception through the allocation of French Government Scholarships (BGF) by the Ministry and French Embassies, particularly those located in sub-Saharan African countries.

MASTER'S DEGREE IN ECONOMIC POLICY MANAGEMENT (GPE)

The GPE training programme, launched in 1994 at the initiative of, and with the support of, the World Bank, is one of the main French and Francophone training programmes for capacity building of public economists from developing countries, in particular for students from Francophone countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

Excellence in public policy development training for policymakers

Dedicated to public development policies, the GPE programme is in response to a strong demand from the administrations of Southern countries for the training of their high-potential middle managers, technical managers who are close to political decision-makers, and technical financial partners.

The GPE programme leads to the award of a national diploma from the School of Economics of Clermont Auvergne University at Master 2 level. The programme lasts 9 months and is delivered entirely in person in Clermont-Ferrand. It is structured around approx. 15 modules on economic policy.

At the request of University of Auvergne and, since 2017, of Clermont Auvergne University, and in cooperation with the School of Economics and CERDI, FERDI is responsible for the administrative and logistical management of the programme and for designing the training. The GPE programme participates in the international action of French state schools and institutions.

Stakeholders: a local and international partnership approach

Around the permanent team of lecturers of the Clermont-Ferrand cluster (School of Economics of the Clermont Auvergne University, CERDI and FERDI), the GPE programme mobilises the best international experts, from the North and the South: academic researchers, executives from the French civil service, and executives from the major international and regional institutions that implement public development policies

FERDI's partnerships with countries of the South and in particular with African countries enrich the teaching team through interventions by associate professors and conferences of political personalities.

POLDEV Network

The network of former GPE auditors, the POLDEV network, is made up of nearly 800 auditors from some 60 different developing countries. Two-thirds of them are working in the administrations of sub-Saharan African countries.

MASTER'S DEGREE IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT (MODEV)

The Master's degree in Project Management for Development (Master Maîtrise d'Ouvrage pour le Développement – MODEV in French) is a professional Master's degree in project management, development economics, sectoral issues, and major transitions.

Co-organised by the French Development Agency (AFD) and Clermont Auvergne University (UCA), the 8-month MODEV Master's course alternates between distance learning and classroom teaching in Marseille and Clermont-Ferrand. FERDI is currently associated with the AFD Campus and UCA for the implementation of the Master's programme through support for the reception of students in France, the organisation of study trips, and the animation of the MODEV alumni community.

At the same time, FERDI is developing, also in collaboration with the AFD Campus, a distance learning course dedicated to project management to enable as many people as possible to acquire the essential skills for implementing and monitoring sustainable development projects.

Objectives of the Master's

This multidisciplinary training course combining economics, finance, and management aims to strengthen the knowledge and know-how of participants to make them actors for change, and enable them to contribute within their institutions to the achievement of the SDGs.

The MODEV Master's degree is aimed at managers and senior executives from Southern countries who wish to contribute within their institutions, public or private, to the achievement of the SDGs. Diversity of profiles and gender is encouraged.

A large network of alumni

This diploma course has made it possible to train 480 executives, who constitute a real network of former students with responsibilities in ministries, local authorities, companies, financial institutions, and NGOs in countries of the South, mainly in sub-Saharan Africa and the Indian Ocean.

The diversity of origins, West Africa, Maghreb, Indian Ocean, and Pacific, and profiles, engineers, researchers, analysts, programme managers, department heads in private companies or public structures, bring a great richness to this Master's programme where exchanges are unique and stimulating.



Achievements 2021-2022

- FERDI/IHEDD was selected for the *Financial Modelling for the Extractive Sector (FIMES) in transitional countries in Africa project, launched in 2021 by the African Development Bank (AfDB).*
- **Qualiopi label.** Accredited as a Private Higher Education Institution (EESP) and a Professional Training Organisation (OPF), FERDI is authorised to offer training courses leading to certification through the IHEDD. FERDI/IHEDD was awarded the Qualiopi label in 2022.



iHEDD | **Gouvernement Princier**
INSTITUT DES HAUTES ÉTUDES
DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE | PRINCIPAUTÉ DE MONACO

**FORMATIONS EN ÉCONOMIE DE LA SANTÉ
POUR LE RENFORCEMENT DES SYSTÈMES
DE SANTÉ ET DES POLITIQUES DE LUTTE
CONTRE LES MALADIES TRANSMISSIBLES
ET NON TRANSMISSIBLES**

DU 11/04/2022
AU 01/07/2022

→ **POUR PLUS D'INFORMATIONS**
IHEDD.FERDI.FR

FORMATIONS À LA CARTE

SHORT TRAINING COURSES

The IHEDD offers short courses based on IDGM+'s research work.

For each theme, these training courses mobilise the best international experts from the North and South, academic researchers or executives from the largest international, regional and national institutions working for sustainable development.

They lead to the award of a Certificate of Advanced Studies in Sustainable Development.

Training topics

The short courses cover a wide range of development-related topics: sharing mining rents, strengthening health systems, ecological transition, education, impact investment, mining taxation, etc.

Training on demand

The IHEDD offers training courses on demand, by responding to specific requests from administrations.



AFD | **iHEDD**
AFRIQUE DU DÉVELOPPEMENT | INSTITUT DES HAUTES ÉTUDES
DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

**IDENTIFIER ET MESURER LES VULNÉRABILITÉS
DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST EN VUE DE RÉPONSES
OPÉRATIONNELLES**

2021
ABIDJAN

En présence du 22 au 23 novembre

SOUS LE HAUT PATRONAGE DU
MINISTÈRE DU PLAN ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT
MINISTÈRE DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR ET DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE
MINISTÈRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE
DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE CÔTE D'IVOIRE



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DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

**COMPRENDRE
ET MODÉLISER LE PARTAGE
DE LA RENTE MINIÈRE
EN AFRIQUE**

DU 07/02/2022
AU 15/03/2022

Le débat public concernant le partage de la rente minière entre États et investisseurs est récurrent et resurgit à chaque inversion de tendance des cours mondiaux. Pour les pays africains riches en ressources naturelles, comprendre les enjeux du secteur minier et maîtriser les outils permettant une négociation équilibrée entre administration et entreprises est primordial pour mobiliser les ressources nécessaires à leur développement.

Prérequis
Aucun prérequis académique exigé.
Savoir utiliser les fonctions de base d'Excel.

Langue
Formation délivrée en français

Matériel nécessaire
Accès internet, Microsoft Excel

Nombre de places
30 participant.e.s maximum

Frais d'inscription
450€

Bourses et aides financières
Jusqu'à 100 % des frais d'inscription pris en charge par le Ministère français des Affaires Étrangères (MFAE), en fonction de la qualité des candidatures et des profils des candidats, afin d'assurer une diversité des profils et des origines géographiques.

Avec la participation de :
MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉTRANGER ET DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES
La Région Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes

PUBLIC CIBLE
ÉCONOMISTES, JURISTES, FISCALISTES, ADMINISTRATIONS FISCALES, MINISTÈRES DES MINES ET AUTRES ACTEURS PUBLICS OU PRIVÉS DU SECTEUR MINIER AFRICAIN

Durée estimée
25 heures d'enseignement à distance, avec un suivi personnalisé de chaque participant par les différents formateurs.trice.s.

Formateur.trice.s
Bertrand Laporte, Céline de Quatrebarbes, Yannick Bouterige



iHEDD
INSTITUT DES HAUTES ÉTUDES
DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

**DÉCOUVRIR
LA PROGRAMMATION
D'UN MODÈLE ÉCONOMIQUE
SUR LE LOGICIEL GAMS**

DU 23/06/2021
AU 23/09/2021

GAMS (General Algebraic Modeling System) est un environnement logiciel qui permet d'implémenter des modèles économiques nécessaires à l'analyse, l'évaluation et la formulation de politiques publiques. Il est notamment couramment utilisé pour programmer un modèle d'équilibre général calculable.

Prérequis
Des connaissances de base en macroéconomie sont requises pour cette formation (comptabilité nationale, matrice de comptabilité sociale, macroéconomie, microéconomie)

Langue
Formation délivrée en français

Matériel nécessaire
Accès internet, Microsoft Excel

Nombre de places
40 participant.e.s maximum afin d'assurer un tutorat pour chaque participant.e.s

Frais d'inscription
300 €

Bourses et aides financières
La Ferdi propose un tarif réduit de 50 % pour les étudiant.e.s sous justificatif d'une carte étudiant.e.s pour un nombre de place limité.

PUBLIC CIBLE
ÉTUDIANT.E.S., CHERCHEUR.EUSE.S., STATISTICIEN.N.E.S., ÉCONOMISTES

Durée estimée
14h

Formateur.trice.s
STÉPHANE CALIPEL Vice-président de l'université Clermont Auvergne, Enseignant-chercheur au Centre d'Études et de Recherches sur le Développement International (CERDI), Expert international en modélisation macroéconomique
CÉLINE DE QUATREBARBES Docteure en Économie, Chargée de recherche, Fondation pour les Études et Recherches sur le Développement International (Ferdi), Experte internationale en modélisation macroéconomique

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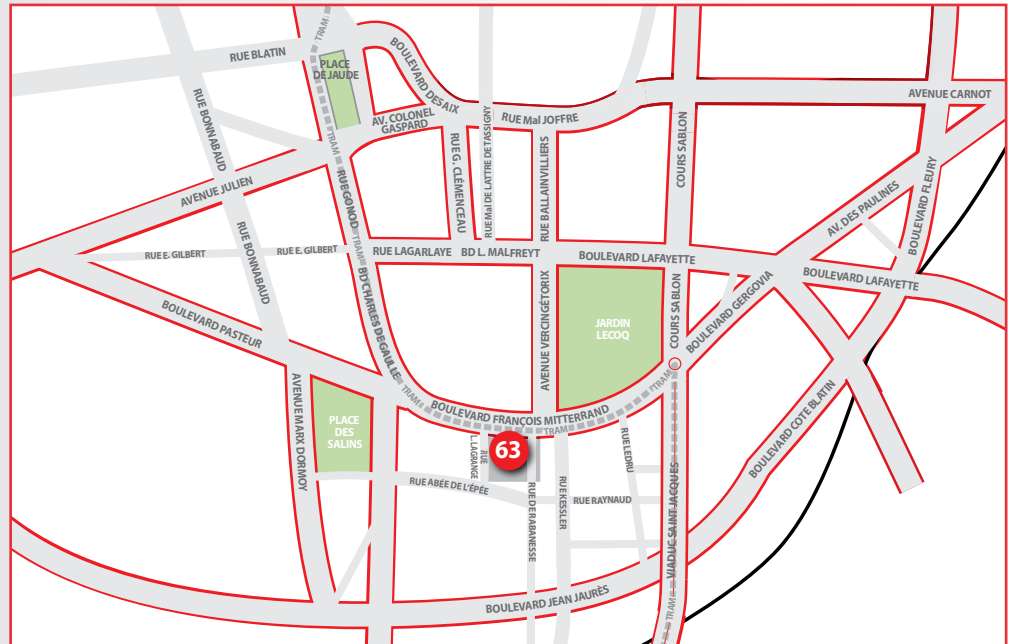
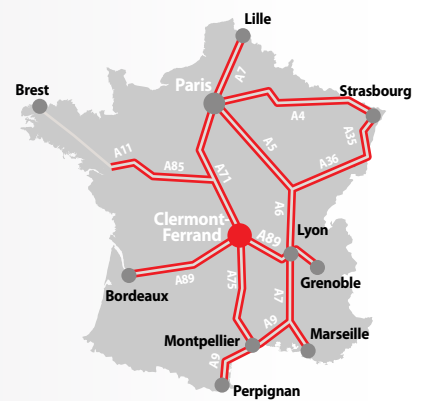
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