



# ACTIVITY REPORT 2022

F&Di

FONDATION POUR LES ÉTUDES  
ET RECHERCHES  
SUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT  
INTERNATIONAL



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ET RECHERCHES  
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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 mobilises 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.

FERDI's publications are supported by the French government as part of the France 2030 Investment Plan under the reference ANR-16-IDEX-001.



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# The year 2022 at Ferdi

*Beginning with the hope of declaring an end to the Covid-19 pandemic and the health and economic crises it caused, the year 2022 witnessed significant worldwide price inflation, particularly in food prices, and the consequences of the war in Ukraine. These phenomena had critical effects on the populations of vulnerable countries. For FERDI, 2022 was also marked by the COP 27 climate conference in Sharm-El-Sheikh, preparations for the 5th International Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and initiatives to reform the international architecture for financing development.*

*The year 2022 highlighted FERDI's core theme which has been central to its mission since its establishment: International financing for sustainable development and vulnerability. In line with this, FERDI contributed to the work of the High-Level Panel mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to develop a multidimensional vulnerability index, emphasising the importance of considering vulnerability in the allocation of concessional financing.*

*Furthermore, FERDI launched two Chairs in 2022 to address critical issues of major political importance and foster collaboration between researchers, policymakers, and private sector leaders. These Chairs, namely the Impact Investing Chair and the Chair of Agricultural Modernisation Policies in Africa, are destined to become major tools for communication, and for strengthening FERDI's external support.*

*The launch of these Chairs was accompanied by a review of scientific strategy for the next five years, resulting in a redefinition of FERDI's research programmes. The revised nomenclature, outlined in this report, was designed to better highlight FERDI's distinctive features in the think tank landscape and enhance its visibility.*

*Also, in 2022, FERDI renewed its key partnerships, including multi-year collaborations with the West African Economic and Monetary Union and the Central African Economic and Monetary Community. FERDI also reinforced its connections with the Université Clermont Auvergne (UCA), the Centre d'études et de recherches sur le développement international (CERDI), and the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) through the Labex IDGM+ initiative. With the support of the French Treasury and the Agence française de développement – AFD (French Agency for Development), this collaboration led to the establishment of the Clermont-Ferrand International Development Hub, which facilitated the presence of the Global Development Network in Clermont-Ferrand, fostering fruitful cooperation.*

*Today, the disastrous evolution of the situation in the Sahel more than ever justifies FERDI's efforts to support the Sahel Chair in order to strengthen Sahelian expertise in policy analysis. Indeed, these developments highlight the importance of one of FERDI's key missions as an independent think tank: to build the capacity of developing countries to design and implement sustainable development policies.*

*The aforementioned crises have accelerated international initiatives and meetings. In response to this new agenda, FERDI began 2023 by engaging in an in-depth reflection on the international financing architecture in the run-up to the Summit for a Global Financial Pact scheduled for the end of June. Beyond that date, the debates will undoubtedly continue apace, and their broad scope will remain a priority for FERDI.*

**Patrick Guillaumont**  
President of FERDI



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# MISSIONS

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The Foundation for Studies and Research on International Development (FERDI) is a think tank that is actively engaged in international discussions on development, and possesses a significant capacity to exert influence.

To support its work, the foundation mobilises a network of approximately 100 distinguished researchers from various regions, including professors from prestigious universities such as Oxford, Geneva, Paris, and Berkeley, as well as esteemed individuals recognised for their expertise.

Through the organisation of events, seminars, and training courses, the issuing of publications, and the development of innovative indicators, FERDI contributes to the advancement of ideas on a wide range of important subjects. These include the establishment of criteria for the geographical allocation of aid, addressing economic vulnerability and state fragility, evaluating the effectiveness of international policies for the least developed countries, and finding ways to reconcile trade policies with climate and environmental protection.

## **FERDI'S ACTIVITIES ARE GUIDED BY THREE CORE AMBITIONS:**

- To promote excellence in French-language research focused on the economics of international development.
- To provide valuable insights for the decision-making processes of both public and private stakeholders in the realm of development.
- To actively contribute to the training and capacity-building of managers and civil servants in developing countries.

## SCIENTIFIC TOOLS



### PUBLICATIONS

Since its creation in 2003, FERDI has published over **624** books, working papers and policy briefs:

**26 books**  
(published or co-edited by FERDI)

**345 working papers**

**253 policy briefs**

**92** In 2022 there were publications edited by FERDI

### REVUE D'ÉCONOMIE DU DÉVELOPPEMENT

In collaboration with CERDI, FERDI publishes the *Revue d'économie du développement*. This journal offers economic analysis applied to development and international relations, and provides a forum for scientific exchange on key economic issues. Launched in 1993, it has been published by Éditions de Boeck Supérieur since 2002, with four issues per year. The *Revue d'économie du développement* is supported by the CNRS and the Agence française de développement (AFD).



### 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>

# COMMUNICATION TOOLS



## CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS

Since 2003, FERDI has organised more than **600 regional conferences, international conferences, and research workshops.**

In 2022, the foundation organised, or participated in, **52 conferences.**



## RELATED WEBSITES

► **Observatory of sustainable competitiveness**  
<https://competitivite.ferdi.fr/>

► Database on the **sharing of mining rent:**  
<https://fiscalite-miniere.ferdi.fr/>

## ONLINE COMMUNICATION



**FERDI WEBSITE**  
[www.ferdi.fr](http://www.ferdi.fr)

**80,000  
to 100,000** visits per year



## SOCIAL MEDIA

► **LinkedIn**  
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ferdi-fondation-pour-les-etudes-et-recherches-sur-le-developpement-international/>

► **Twitter**  
<https://twitter.com/FondationFERDI>



## BLOGS

► **FERDI blog - FERDI Fellows**  
contribute 3 or 4 blog posts per month.  
<https://ferdi.fr/medias>

► Entrepreneur blog - dedicated to **entrepreneurship in Africa** (An I&P, FERDI, Club des entrepreneurs africains project).  
[www.entrepreneanteafrique.com/](http://www.entrepreneanteafrique.com/)

# THE INITIATIVE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

## IDGM ET IDGM+



The Initiative for Development and Global Governance (IDGM) was launched in 2008 with the support of the French Development Agency (AFD). Its main objective was to establish an independent and prominent think tank focused on sustainable development, facilitated through the collaboration of FERDI and the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI).

Since 2011, the IDGM Labex has undergone expansion and consolidation through the creation of Labex IDGM+. This initiative is supported by the Agence Nationale de la Recherche and brings together CERDI, FERDI, and IDDRI. The aim of IDGM+ is to design new international development policies based on research findings.

By combining the expertise of two think tanks and a renowned research center which specialises in sustainable international development issues, this initiative

aims to promote the dissemination of rigorous research results. Additionally, IDGM+ works closely with its partners' training activities to enhance the capacity of public and private decision-makers.

The IDGM+ is a stakeholder in the CAP 20-25 I-Site, a project of excellence led by the University of Clermont Auvergne and supported by France 2030 with the aim of creating a research university with a high international profile and making a major contribution to the scientific, technological, environmental, and behavioural changes needed to design sustainable living and production models.

**The year 2022 was a turning point for IDGM+, whose future growth is now envisaged through the Pôle Clermontois de Développement International and takes into account the institutional changes at the Université Clermont Auvergne, which has the status of a public research establishment.**





# CLERMONT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT HUB



The Clermont International Development Hub (Pôle Clermontois de Développement International – PCDI in French) is being implemented by FERDI and the Global Development Network (GDN) in collaboration with the Université Clermont Auvergne.

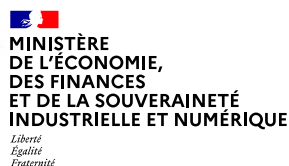
It has two strategic objectives:

- to increase the influence and influence of players with a similar vision of development at European and international level,
- to consolidate an internationally-focused centre of expertise in the Auvergne Rhone Alpes region and enhance the influence and attractiveness of the Clermont-Auvergne metropole.

The project is funded by the French Ministry of the Economy, Finance, Industry and Digital Sovereignty through the Agence Française de Développement and runs until 2027. The PCDI has three complementary components:

- a «capacity-building» component, including support for the Global Development Network to set up GDN-Europe in Clermont-Ferrand in premises in the immediate vicinity of FERDI,
- a «research» component to strengthen FERDI's think tank activities and enable it to achieve the critical mass it needs to become an international player in debates on sustainable development policies,
- a 'training' component implemented by FERDI's Institut des Hautes Études du Développement Durable, to enable it to expand its activities in France and Africa.

To mark its arrival in Clermont-Ferrand, the Global Development Network (GDN) organised its 2022 Annual Conference in partnership with FERDI and CERDI in Clermont Ferrand. It took place from 2 to 4 November 2022, on the theme of Tax Policy for Sustainable Development. Held in a hybrid format, it brought together over 900 participants from all over the world, including 250 in Clermont-Ferrand.



# FERDI'S PROGRAMMES



# INTERNATIONAL FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT

## *In search of consistency*

In the past three years, international development financing has encountered several global crises, such as the far-reaching impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine. These crises have worsened the existing challenges faced by numerous countries in securing sustainable financing for their development, particularly those that are most vulnerable.

Since its early days, FERDI has contributed to the analysis of the international community's support for developing countries, and over the last three years has examined how this support can be adapted to crisis contexts. These crises have revealed the need for a profound renewal of the International Architecture of Development Finance. To engage in reflection and make recommendations, FERDI established a chair dedicated to this topic in 2022. The chair is supported by a group of independent individuals who are widely recognised for their extensive expertise and ability to formulate proposals.

### OBJECTIVES

- Identify, measure, and differentiate financing flows for development
- Ensure that international financing considers the vulnerabilities of countries.
- Assess the effectiveness of external financing for development

### ACHIEVEMENTS 2022

- Continued support for the establishment of a multidimensional vulnerability index within the United Nations. This index can be used to allocate concessional funds between countries.
- Participation in the international debate on the modalities and implications of the reallocation of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), highlighting the challenges it poses (papers B221, P298, B223), its impact on the evolution of IMF instruments (B227), and how to take vulnerabilities into account in this reallocation (P299, B229).
- Evaluation of the evolution of conditionality in Sweden's international development aid, commissioned by the Swedish Aid Evaluation Board (EBA).
- Establishment of the Chair in International Architecture of Development Finance to contribute to development of the desired global system of financing for development in the current international context, drawing on lessons learned from the last 75 years.
- Contributions to the Summit on a new global financial pact scheduled for June 22 and 23, 2023 in Paris, with a focus on financing vulnerable countries. These contributions were prepared with the support of the Ministries of Europe and Foreign Affairs and Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty (see sidebar).
- Continuation of studies on public development banks (see box)



### 2022 CONFERENCES AND PUBLICATIONS ON SDRs

Continuation of a series of conferences on the reallocation of Special Drawing Rights where economists and policy-makers meet and exchange views on the opportunities and challenges ahead for an effective reallocation of SDRs to help vulnerable countries.

**February 2-3, 2022.** Exploiting the full potential of SDRs.

**January 18, 2022.** IMF intervention in poor countries: the reform of the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT).

**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.



## THE ROLE OF PUBLIC DEVELOPMENT BANKS

As part of the Finance in Common Summit (FICS), FERDI supported by AFD, has developed a research programme on public development banks (BPD). A study on the countercyclicality of West African public banks highlighted the role of BPDs in stimulating economic recovery after a crisis. The results of this study were published in *Études et Documents* (FERDI and AFD) and presented at FICS 2022 in Abidjan on October 18, 2022.

**To read:** Léon F. (2022) «Public bank lending in Africa in times of crisis», FERDI Working Paper P311, October.

FERDI and AFD are collaborating on a project to study how BPDs are financed around the world, with a focus on African public banks. The study is intended to provide a better understanding of the difficulties faced by development banks in raising long-term funds.

At AFD's request, FERDI was asked to participate in the international collection of data on BPDs. Based on this data, FERDI aims to propose an analysis of the behavior of BPDs, both in terms of countercyclicality, as mentioned above, and their response to situations of poverty and vulnerability.

## CHAIR IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE OF DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

In 2022, FERDI established the Chair in International Architecture of Development Finance with Philippe le Houérou, Chairman of the Board of Directors of AFD and former Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the IFC, leading the initiative. The chair involves a distinguished group of French personalities who possess extensive experience in the field and share a common desire for reform. They participate in their personal capacities. The purpose of the group is to reflect independently on what the global development financing system should become, in the light of the current international situation and the lessons learned from the experience of the last 75 years.

The French President's announcement of a summit in June 2023 to establish a new global financial agreement has prompted the IADF Chair to enhance its efforts. The chair will now focus on producing publications and organising events throughout 2023, centred around 6 key themes essential to the summit:

- ▶ Objectives and beneficiaries of public development financing: How to reach vulnerable countries? Recommended reading: Guillaumont P. (2023) «Financing global policies: but for whom? Taking into account countries vulnerability», FERDI Working Paper P319, March. • Guillaumont P. (2023) «Taking vulnerability into account in the global distribution of concessional financing», FERDI Policy brief B246, April. • Severino, J-M., Guillaumont Jeanneney S. (2023) «Financing global policies: but why on earth?» FERDI Working Paper P317, March.
- ▶ Access to climate and environment funds: The role of multilateral development banks. Recommended reading: Arezki, R., Le Houérou P. (2022) «Opinion: The World Bank should become the 'IMF of climate'» Devex News. • Le Houérou, P. (2023) «Climate funds: time to clean up», FERDI Working Paper P 320.

## SUMMARY OF THE 10 FERDI RECOMMENDATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE SUMMIT FOR A GLOBAL FINANCIAL PACT

- ▶ Diversification and fragmentation of public financing for development: Restoring coherence. Recommended reading: Dama A-A., Dequiedt V., de Ubeda A-A., Rota-Graziosi G. (2023) «Civil aviation fuel taxation as a source of financing for vulnerable countries», FERDI Working Paper P318, March. • Le Roy A., Severino J-M (2023) «Diversification and fragmentation of public financing for development. Reducing the opacity and rationalising the fragmented structure of development financing», FERDI Working Paper P321.
- ▶ Avoiding another debt crisis. Financial engineering or development dynamics? Recommended reading: Cabrillac B., Fabre C., Jacolin L. (2023) «Debt sustainability and climate change» FERDI policy brief B249, May.
- ▶ Public support for private financing. What legitimisation through impact? What risk mitigation methods? What specificity for agriculture? Recommended reading: Le Houérou, P., Lankes H.P. (2023) «Mustering the private sector for development and climate in the Global South: is it realistic? », FERDI Working Paper 323, May • Severino, J.-M. (2023) «Millions for billions: Accelerating African entrepreneurial emergence for accelerated, sustainable and job-rich growth», FERDI Working Paper 325, May • De Janvry, A., Sadoulet E. (2023) «Seven propositions to support and finance the agricultural sector in sub-Saharan Africa in the context of climate change», FERDI Working Paper P324, May.
- ▶ How can conditionality and procedures be reformed to increase the effectiveness of public funding? Recommended reading: Lafourcade, O. (2023) «The effectiveness of development financing», FERDI policy brief, May.

- ▶ Take account of vulnerability in its various dimensions - economic, climatic, and socio-political - in the allocation of concessional funds from multilateral development banks.
- ▶ Promote private investment on a massive scale, with public support where necessary and according to its impact, giving priority to investment in local entrepreneurship and agricultural sectors in poor and vulnerable countries.
- ▶ Develop contingent financial instruments enabling poor and vulnerable countries, whether indebted or not, to benefit from automatic financing in the event of a major crisis, in order to avoid their collapse.
- ▶ Set up an inclusive body to monitor financial flows to countries in the South, to ensure that they comply with the objectives of the international community (development and global public goods), and in particular that they are directed towards poor and vulnerable countries.



June 22, 2023: Side event at the Summit «Taking multidimensional vulnerability into account in the allocation of new development funding». Organizers: OIF, Commonwealth, FERDI. Speakers: The Hon. Kerrie D. SYMMONDS, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Barbados, H.E. Ms Erna SOLBERG, Co-Chair of the High Level Panel on the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI), former Prime Minister, Kingdom of Norway, The Rt. Hon. Patricia SCOTLAND, Secretary General of the Commonwealth, H.E. Mrs. Louise MUSHIKIWABO, Secretary General of La Francophonie, H.E. Mr. Assoumani AZALI, President of the Union of Comoros, current Chairman of the African Union, H.E. Mr. Abdoulaye DIOP, President of the Commission of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU), ©photo FERDI.

# TAXATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

## *Informing and supporting reforms*

**FERDI is a renowned organisation with significant expertise in matters pertaining to the mobilisation and effective utilisation of domestic resources in developing economies. Our work aligns with the objectives set forth in the 2030 Agenda, particularly Objective 17.1 “Strengthen domestic resource mobilisation, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection”.**

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Support Decision-making: FERDI provides support to tax and customs administrations in developing countries, assisting them in making informed decisions that align with their national priorities.
- Collaborative Efforts: FERDI collaborates with partners such as CERDI, Credaf, ICTD, and others to compile and make available joint research on digital taxation, telecoms taxation, and taxation of mining industries. This valuable information is disseminated online, ensuring easy access for relevant stakeholders.
- Publication of Practical Guides and In-Depth Studies: FERDI publishes practical guides and conducts in-depth studies on specific subjects crucial to economic development. Examples include studies on tax expenditure and the role of tax policies in the regional integration process, which provide valuable insights for policymakers and practitioners.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS 2022**

- FERDI conducted a case study for the Platform for Collaboration on Tax (PCT) comparing the tax treatment of project aid in Benin, Cameroon and Kenya. The authors Caldeira É., Geourjon A-M., Rota-Graziosi G., published an article in 2019 entitled «Taxing aid: the end of a paradox», which was cited by the United Nations in its guide on the taxation of aid (2021). Their participation in the OECD's Tax and Development Days in February 2022 also helped to promote this idea.
- Update of the legal and tax database on the taxation of mining industries for 2020.
- Running the French platform for inter-ministerial exchange and coordination on the Mobilisation of Internal Public Resources (MRIP), including a call for contributions on taxation and the environment. The MRIP platform provides information and coordination for French operators as part of the implementation of the French Strategic Investment Plan for Development (PISD).
- Publication of a methodological guide to assessing the economic and social effects of tax expenditure (P310) Authors: Caldeira E., Geourjon A-M., Laporte B.
- Collaboration with the Datafid project (Data in tax and customs administrations) for the creation of a complete and suitable training offer (axis 2 of the project: «Reinforcing the capacities of tax and customs administrations through a better use of data science»). FERDI is collaborating on the project through the Institut des hautes études du développement durable (IHEDD). The Datafid project is funded by the DG Treasury and implemented by Expertise France.



## CONFERENCES

2-4 Nov. 2022. Global Development Network international conference

FERDI collaborated with CERDI and Université Clermont Auvergne for the annual international conference of the Global Development Network, which in 2022 took place in Clermont-Ferrand. The conference focused on the theme of «Tax Policy for Sustainable Development». FERDI played a significant role in organising three sessions: one on tax expenditure and its contribution to mobilising internal public resources; a second on the connection between fragility, conflict, and taxation; and a third on mining taxation. The hybrid conference consisted of more than 900 participants from various parts of the world, including 250 attendees in Clermont-Ferrand.



## PUBLICATIONS

Bouterige Y., Pafadnam N-R. (2023) «L'Initiative pour la Transparence dans les Industries Extractives (ITIE) : une mine d'informations à exploiter ?» [Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI): a mine of information to be exploited?] FERDI Working paper P313.

Caldeira E., Geourjon A-M., Laporte B. (2022) «L'évaluation des effets économiques et sociaux des dépenses fiscales : les grands principes méthodologiques» [Assessing the economic and social effects of tax expenditure: the main methodological principles. Methodological guide], Guide méthodologique. FERDI Working paper P310, septembre.

Caldeira E., Geourjon A-M., Rota-Graziosi G. (2022) *Country Practices in Project Aid Taxation: Benin, Cameroon and Kenya. Study for the Platform for Collaboration on Tax - PCT*, 67p. (also FERDI report)

Yohou H.D. (2023, forthcoming) "Corruption, tax reform and fiscal space in emerging and developing economies", *The World Economy*.

## MEDIA

23 May 2022. Togo Breaking News. Datafid, ces données fiscales et douanières. [DATAFID, tax and customs data].



## **IS MINING INVESTMENT MEETING GOVERNMENTS' DEVELOPMENT FINANCING NEEDS?**

Until the 1990s, the African continent, despite being rich in mineral resources, attracted little mining investment. Since then, African governments, encouraged by the World Bank and other development partners, have carried out major political, regulatory, and institutional reforms to open up the extractive sector to foreign investors. Today, multinational companies are the main operators in the extraction of mineral resources. But do these mining investments meet the development financing needs of governments?

To answer this question, FERDI provides a legal and tax database that lists the tax regimes that have applied to industrial gold mines in 22 African producer countries since the 1980s. This database is accompanied by a simulation tool that can be used to estimate and compare the sharing of mining rents between governments and investors.

Researchers involved in this initiative include Bertrand Laporte from UCA, CNRS, IRD, CERDI; Céline de Quatrebarbes from FERDI; and Yannick Bouterige from FERDI. The project is conducted in partnership with the Centre d'Études et de Recherches sur le Développement International (CERDI), the International Centre for Tax and Development (ICTD), the École Normale Supérieure de Lyon (ENS Lyon), and the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE).

For further information, please visit the following website: <https://fiscalite-miniere.ferdi.fr/>

BLOG on [entreprenanteafrique.com](http://entreprenanteafrique.com): Tax legislation in question: the role of Mining Agreements in the African gold sector. Mamadou Ciré Diallo, Bertrand Laporte (2022)

## **ARE MOBILE PHONE OPERATORS OVER-TAXED IN AFRICA?**

The telecommunications sector in Africa is a highly dynamic economic sector with immense growth potential. Telecommunications contribute to the economic development of countries by reducing transaction costs and enhancing market efficiency. However, what is the right balance between encouraging economic activity through tax incentives and generating tax revenue for public spending?

In 2022, Grégoire Rota-Graziosi and Fayçal Sawadogo published the results of their analysis «The tax burden of mobile network operators in Africa». The study examined the tax and parafiscal burdens on mobile operators in 25 African countries in 2020. Generally, mobile operators face a tax and parafiscal burden specific to the telecommunications sector, which tends to be higher than the general tax burden imposed on all companies. Surprisingly, the telecoms sector is even subjected to more taxes than gold mining in 15 African countries. The analysis includes an original, open-access database available at <https://data.cerdi.uca.fr/telecom/> that facilitates replication and further analysis of the findings.

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

BLOG on [entreprenanteafrique.com](http://entreprenanteafrique.com): Are mobile phone operators overtaxed in Africa? Grégoire Rota-Graziosi G., Fayçal Sawadogo (2021).



# REGIONAL INTEGRATION, TRADE, AND COMPETITIVENESS

## Deepen or broaden

10 years after its diagnosis on the state of integration in its various aspects, FERDI continues to be 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 the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC), the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU), and other regional African institutions.

In particular, the foundation examines the competitiveness and development in international trade within regional unions and free-trade zones.

### OBJECTIVES

- Analyse the sustainable competitiveness and capacity of African countries to integrate into the global economy.
- Contribute to the analyses of the WAEMU and CEMAC Commissions.
- Analyse the impact of measures affecting trade in goods from developing countries (trade facilitation measures and non-tariff protection measures) and their link with the environment

### ACHIEVEMENTS 2022

- Renewal of partnerships with African regional institutions WAEMU and CEMAC for a three-year period. These partnerships highlight the theme of regional integration and, trade and its links with climate issues.
- Publication of a series of studies on the sustainable competitiveness of economies in the WAEMU zone, edited by Patrick Plane. These studies analyse non-price competitiveness in the WAEMU zone and the performance of WAEMU economies in exporting traditional agricultural products and manufactured goods.
- Confirmation of support from CEMAC and the French Treasury for the establishment of the Observatoire du climat régional des affaires en zone CEMAC.
- Publication of several contributions by Jaime de Melo into the analysis of factors influencing trade and regional integration in Africa.



### PUBLICATIONS

**Avom D. (2022)** «Intégration régionale : un levier pour une insertion réussie de l'Afrique centrale dans les chaînes de valeur mondiales» [Regional integration: A lever for Central Africa's successful integration into global value chains], FERDI policy brief B236, July.

**Da Piedade C., Jacolin L., Plane P. (2022)** «Sous-évaluation du taux de change et poussées d'exportations africaines: que nous apprend une analyse par produits ? « [Exchange rate undervaluation and African export surges: what does a product-by-product analysis tell us?], Banque de France WP #879.

**de Melo J., Kniahin D. (2022)** «A Primer on Rules of Origin as Non-Tariff Barriers», *Journal of Risk and Financial Management*, vol. 15(7), p. 286.

**Sorgho Z. (2022)** «Cameroon, Trade Costs and Trade Facilitation: Progress and Challenges for Regional integration», Chap 14 in Celestin Monga (Ed.). *Handbook of the Economy of Cameroon*. Harvard University/Oxford University Press.



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# REGIONAL INTEGRATION, TRADE, AND COMPETITIVENESS

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## **CHALLENGES AND INSTRUMENTS OF REGIONAL INTEGRATION IN CENTRAL AFRICA.**

On April 28 to 29, 2022, FERDI and the CEMAC Commission jointly organized an international conference in Libreville, Gabon, dedicated to exploring the challenges and instruments of regional integration. The conference, inaugurated by Daniel Ona Ondo, President of CEMAC, and Patrick Guillaumont, witnessed the convergence of academics, scientists, and public and private decision-makers.

The aim of the event was to pursue reflection on regional integration in Central Africa and to support African academic research on the subject. Each of the three conference sessions involved a renowned expert from the CEMAC zone. FERDI presentations focused on the measurement and monitoring of regional integration in CEMAC, on macroeconomic policies, on multilateral surveillance in the face of shocks, and on the capacity of regional integration to be a tool for facilitating the structural transformation of the zone's economies.

FERDI supports the idea that regional integration is a factor in reducing the vulnerabilities faced by many developing economies. In particular, it is a pro-security factor, while insecurity is a major threat to regional integration.

### **IN THE PRESS**

**April 28, 2022.** AFRIQUE-ECO FINANCES. In Libreville, the CEMAC Commission and FERDI continue to reflect on the regional integration process in Central Africa.

**April 28, 2022.** GABON ACTU. «Regional integration is a genuine instrument of economic resilience and a tool for effective growth» (Pr Daniel Ona Ondo, President of the CEMAC Commission).

**April 27, 2022.** GABON REVIEW. CEMAC: «Free movement is a real fact today», according to Pr Daniel Ona Ondo.



# ENERGY TRANSITION, RESOURCES, AND ENVIRONMENT

## *At the heart of trade-offs*

**In all its programmes, FERDI integrates environmental issues, particularly those related to climate. This specific programme presents FERDI's work focused more specifically on the energy transition. The national and international management of natural resources will be the subject of a chair led by Rabah Arezki, to be launched in 2023.**

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Design a concerted policy to reduce barriers (tariff and non-tariff) to trade in environmental goods.
- Assess the impact of mini-grids and decentralised electrification on development.
- Advocate at COP meetings that commitments to mitigation and adaptation, and not just mitigation, be met for and by poor and vulnerable countries.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS 2022**

- Organisation of conferences and sessions before, during and after COP27 (see box).
- Publication of a special issue of the *Revue d'économie du développement* on «l'Afrique face au changement climatique: quels choix financiers?» following the Banque de France-FERDI-AFD Conference in 2021.
- Publication of several articles and blogs by Jaime de Melo and Jean-Marc Solleder (University of Geneva) on the African continent's contribution to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The authors highlight the urgent need to help these countries not only to adapt, but also to reduce their carbon footprint, which is high in relation to GDP.
- Analysis, in connection with the previous programme, of the correlation between competitiveness and sustainability, with in particular an article illustrating the impact of the depreciation of the real effective exchange rate on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in poor countries.
- Analysis of climate-oriented financing, in connection with the «International development financing» programme.
- Development of a method for assessing the impact of decentralised electrification projects, based on NTL (night time lights) data obtained from satellite observations and coordinated by Jean-Claude Berthelemy and Mathilde Maurel (Université Paris 1 and FERDI). The results of this work will help build capacity for monitoring/evaluating mini grid projects and planning investment programmes for the electrification of the African continent.
- Partnership with CLUB-ER to assess the impact of mini grids in Burkina Faso and Madagascar.
- Collaboration with *Electriciens sans frontières* to assess the impact of Madagascar's Cafés-lumière project. The project launched in 2019, just before the cafés were installed, should conclude in 2023 with the first «post-project» survey results.



# ENERGY TRANSITION, RESOURCES, AND ENVIRONMENT



## PUBLICATIONS

**Arcand J-L, Guillaumont P., Guillaumont Jeanne-ney S. (2022)** «Les politiques de change africaines face au changement climatique: existe-t-il un risque de compétitivité polluante?» [African foreign exchange policies in the face of climate change: is there a risk of polluting competitiveness?], *Revue d'économie du développement*, 2022/4.

**Berthelemy J-C., Maurel M. (2022, forthcoming)** A Sky View Evaluation of Mini-Grid Projects on Rural Economic Development, SSRN.

**De Melo J. et al. (2022)** «How trade policy can support the climate agenda» in Jakob M. (ed, corresponding author), Science. *Special Section: Our Climate Future*, vol. 376, n° 6600, pp. 1401-1403.

**de Melo J., Solleder J-M, (2022)** «Le paysage des émissions de CO<sub>2</sub> à Travers l'Afrique : Une Perspective Comparative» [The Landscape of CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Across Africa: A Comparative Perspective], *Global Value Chain Working Papers*, CGV-003, African Economic Research Consortium.

**Severino J-M. (2022)** «Climate finance to Africa: burden or opportunity?» *Politique étrangère* 2022/1 (Spring), pp.43-54.

## CONFERENCES

**November 14, 2022** COP27 | Climate Justice Finance: From Global Perspectives to Local Solutions. Side event organised by FERDI, the École supérieure Sainte-Anne de Pise, and the Indian Youth Climate Network (IYCN)

**November 11, 2022.** COP27 | Monitoring and measuring adaptation in the context of a climate emergency. Event at the French Pavilion organised by Agence française de développement (AFD), Expertise France, Foundation for Studies and Research on International Development (FERDI) and Institut du développement durable et des relations internationales (IDDRI).

## FROM GLASGOW TO CHARM EL-CHEIKH, THE GHOSTS OF COP

FERDI took an active role in COP 27, co-organising two parallel sessions that highlighted its work on the physical vulnerability to climate change indicator (PVCCI) and the potential use of this indicator to guide the international allocation of resources for adaptation.

After the conference, FERDI aimed to highlight the potential risk associated with establishing a fund to compensate for loss and damage linked to climate change. The concern was that such a fund might end up being less advantageous for countries vulnerable to climate change. Instead, FERDI believed that these countries could have better influenced the discussion by advocating for increased mobilisation to achieve the 100 billion dollars target (or a higher target) and prioritising the allocation of resources to adaptation efforts.

## TO READ

The ghosts of the COPs, from Glasgow to Sharm El-Sheikh by Patrick Guillaumont available on the FERDI website <https://ferdi.fr>

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# HUMAN CAPITAL

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## *Health, education, and digital technology: cornerstones of development*

FERDI considers human capital, particularly in the realms of health and education, as indispensable for addressing the challenges of sustainable development. Additionally, it recognises the potential of digital technologies as a powerful ally in this endeavor.

### IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY OF HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

FERDI advocates that enhancing the efficiency of healthcare systems should become a priority in countries' healthcare policies, and should also find a place on the agenda of their international partners.

According to a Lancet study from September 2017, it is estimated that low- and middle-income countries require approximately \$110 per person (with around \$75 from government spending through domestic resources) to make substantial progress towards achieving the health-related MDG 3 target. However, many countries fall significantly short of this funding goal and face numerous constraints that hinder them from increasing health spending sustainably. Moreover, various studies, including some conducted by FERDI, have examined healthcare system efficiency and structures, and have revealed that significant improvements in efficiency would create ample opportunities for manoeuvre within the healthcare sector.

### OBJECTIVES

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- To provide governments and their partners with research-based information that contributes to economically viable, socially and politically acceptable decision-making.
- With regard to the health Sustainable Development Goal, contribute to strengthening human capital in health: FERDI develops training programmes in health economics specially designed for public and private players occupying positions of responsibility in health systems or in related fields such as finance and social affairs.

### ACHIEVEMENTS 2022

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- Launch of new programmes to analyse the efficiency of healthcare structures in Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mongolia. These programmes focus on capacity building and decision-making processes. They will continue into 2023.
- Studies analysing the efficiency of healthcare structures, with recommendations for decision-makers, have been carried out in six African and Asian countries (Burkina Faso, Niger, Zimbabwe, Cambodia, China and Mongolia). They were carried out at the request of, and/or in collaboration with, ministries of health and their external partners.
- Cooperation agreement with the University of Botswana for a series of training courses and seminars to build the capacity of the Ministry of Health in health economics issues of importance to the definition, implementation, and evaluation of health policies.





## THE IMPACT OF COVID

Since the emergence of Covid, FERDI has paid particular attention to ways of combating the pandemic and mitigating its effects. Our research has delved into various aspects, including the impact on mortality, the efficiency of healthcare structures, household perceptions of the pandemic, attitudes towards vaccination, strategies to improve vaccine accessibility in developing countries (especially in Africa), and China's role in supporting healthcare initiatives in Africa.

## ACHIEVEMENTS 2022

- A programme in partnership with AFD and in collaboration with FERDI's Sahel Chair was launched to study the impact of Covid on mortality in Africa and on the efficiency of healthcare structures in Burkina Faso and Niger.
- In a document entitled «Mortality due to Covid-19 in Africa: the predominance of indirect effects» and several articles, Jean-Louis Arcand, Sosso Feindouno, Michel Garrenne and Patrick Guillaumont provide a critical review of data sources relating to mortality in Africa, present an overview of the spread of the epidemic on the continent and the factors that could explain differences in trajectories, and estimate the elasticity of mortality (general and infant/child) in relation to recessions in developing countries and in Africa, in order to deduce the likely impact of recessions on mortality.

## THE ROLE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY IN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Activities carried out within the framework of the «Digital Trust» Chair

## ACHIEVEMENTS 2022

- Study on the digital divide in the French-speaking world.
- Study of internet use and perceptions of democracy in Africa.
- Analysis of the impact of the process of digital interconnection by submarine cables of developing countries on the increase in exports and the performance of African countries.
- Analysis of the impact of telecommunication cable deployment on fixed and mobile Internet prices, and the mediating role of competition and regulation.
- Highlighting the significant and positive spillover effects of local email usage on sales and productivity of manufacturing companies, based on a sample of 44,073 firms located in 109 developing countries.



## PUBLICATIONS

**Guillaumont P. (2022)** «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*, vol. 29(1), pp. 5-16.

**Guillon M., Mathonnat J., Narantuya B., Dorjmyagmar B., Enkhtsetseg E. (2022)** Exploring the efficiency of primary health care provision in rural and sparsely populated areas: a case study from Mongolia. *Health Policy and Planning*, vol. 37(7), August, pp. 822-835.

## SUPPORT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNIVERSITY OF EXCELLENCE IN THE CEMAC ZONE

The CEMAC Commission's vision entails establishing a regional university of excellence in Equatorial Guinea, situated on the Djibloho campus, alongside a network of satellite institutes and centers of excellence in each of the CEMAC countries. To implement this ambitious plan, the Commission sought the assistance of FERDI to carry out an inventory of existing higher education programmes of excellence in the six countries of the zone, and a feasibility study for such a university of excellence.

FERDI's work resulted in the mapping of higher education and research training programmes across the six CEMAC countries. Subsequently, a critical analysis of the university of excellence and its satellite institutes project was conducted. The study initially presented aspects concerning the overall organisation of the university and the governance of the project. It then provided a reference framework to guide the Commission's actions in ensuring excellence in areas such as training, research, and international engagement.

The findings of this study were presented to the Commission during a workshop held in Douala on April 7 and 8, 2022.

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ISSUES RELATING TO VACCINES.

In 2022, FERDI continued its work on intellectual property issues relating to vaccines and treatments in the context of health crises. Its researchers argued that the international community should exploit the potential offered by the *Medicines Patent Pool* to give vulnerable countries access to the latest technological developments in the healthcare field. This work resulted in the publication of the article «Mieux qu'un compromis, une troisième voie: le panier de brevets pour accélérer l'accès aux vaccins et traitements contre la Covid-19» [Better than a compromise, a third way: the patent pool to accelerate access to vaccines and treatments against Covid-19] in the *Revue d'économie du développement*.



### Better than a compromise, a third way: the patent pool to accelerate access to vaccines and treatments against Covid-19.

In this article in the *Revue d'économie du développement* (vol. 29-1), the authors de Villemeur E., Dequiedt V., Versaevel B. (2022) propose a model to analyse the consequences of setting up a patent pool whose mission is to improve access to products on the market, since vaccines and treatments call on multiple technologies patented by several distinct entities. The analysis highlights the positive role that a non-profit organisation such as the Medicines Patent Pool can play in the global governance of the response to the pandemic.

# MACROECONOMIC POLICY

## What are the specific characteristics in low-income countries?

FERDI's research focuses on studying the role of economic and monetary integration on development, investigating the effects of monetary and exchange rate policies on competitiveness, and examining the contribution of the financial system to development. FERDI closely collaborates with CERDI, Banque de France, WAEMU, and CEMAC in exploring these topics.

### MONETARY UNIONS, EXCHANGE RATE REGIMES, AND THE IMPACT OF INFLATION ON DEVELOPMENT

For several years, FERDI has been analysing the impact of exchange rate policies on the competitiveness of African economies, in partnership with CEMAC and WAEMU.

### ACHIEVEMENTS 2022

- In an article published in 2022 in the *Revue d'économie du développement*, authors Sosso Feindouno, Samuel Guérineau, Patrick Guillaumont, Sylviane Guillaumont Jeanneney and Patrick Plane show that economic growth is more inclusive in the WAEMU and CEMAC monetary unions.
- FERDI tracks and analyses how the global rise in commodity prices affects consumers in African countries, and the ability of countries in a monetary union to slow this inflation. In the Covid period, it shows that African countries with fixed exchange rates are more resilient, not only in terms of inflation, but also in terms of economic growth.



### EVENTS

June 29, 2022 Petits-déjeuners « Emergences ». *L'Afrique face à la flambée des prix : quelles réponses ?* ["Emergence" breakfasts. Africa's responses to soaring prices]. As part of the «Emergence» breakfasts, FERDI and the Fondation Prospective et Innovation invited a number of personalities to speak alongside Rabah Arezki.

June 17, 2022. Conference: *How to deal with sharp price increases?* As part of a joint project, FERDI and the International University of Côte d'Ivoire (UICI) have launched the «Policies for Development» conferences, the first of which was held on June 17 in Abidjan on the theme «How to deal with sharp price increases? «

### PUBLICATIONS

Derreumaux P. (2022) «Les systèmes financiers de l'UEMOA en 2021 : croissance, consolidation et restructurations» [The WAEMU financial systems in 2021: growth, consolidation, and restructuring], FERDI policy brief B242, November.

Feindouno S., Guérineau S., Guillaumont P., Guillaumont Jeanneney S., Plane P. (2022) National or regional currencies and poverty reduction in Africa, *Revue d'économie du développement* 2021 / 4 (Vol. 29), De Boeck Supérieur, 128p.

Gourdon J., De Ubéda A., (2022) «Conflit Russie - Ukraine : quelles conséquences sur les économies africaines ?» [Russia-Ukraine conflict: what impact on African economies?], FERDI policy brief, B233.



## BANKING SECTOR, FINANCIAL STRUCTURES, AND DEVELOPMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH BANQUE DE FRANCE

These research themes are developed in partnership with the Banque de France.

### ACHIEVEMENTS 2022

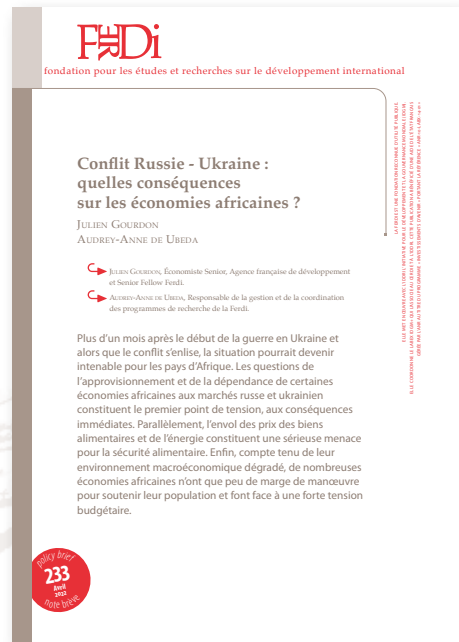
→ Organisation of research seminars enabling the Banque de France and FERDI to present their research work in relation to the partnership themes: structural transformation and modes of development, economic and financial digitisation, monetary and exchange rate policy, finance and climate, development and stability of financial systems, economic and financial integration, and innovative statistical tools for decision-making purposes.

### MACRO HELPDESK FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

In December 2021, FERDI experts joined with the Budget Support Division of Directorate-General for International Partnerships (INTPA) to provide macroeconomic analysis support for the year 2022. This support, called Macro Help-Desk, consisted of participating in the development of a budget risk analysis model, a macroeconomic database platform, 12 macroeconomic policy notes and 14 responses to requests for information from the Commission's country delegations. The themes addressed in this support covered sustainability of debt, inflation of food prices, digitalisation of money, special economic zones, and monetary financing.

## SOARING COMMODITY PRICES - AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

In 2022, the question of soaring raw material prices unfortunately became a pressing issue., as a direct consequence of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the war that has now been going on for over a year. Rabah Arezki, former World Bank Chief Economist for the Middle East and North Africa region and a Fellow of FERDI, has published numerous articles highlighting the consequences and risks of inflation for countries on the African continent, including the risks of food insecurity and social unrest. As part of a joint project, FERDI and the International University of Côte d'Ivoire (UICI) organised the «How to deal with sharp price increases?» conference in Abidjan on June 17, 2022. This discussion between researchers and decision-makers emphasised the need for better coordination of food trade in the region.



FERDI's policy brief on the Russia-Ukraine conflict and its repercussions for African economies delves into the matters of supply and dependence of African economies on the Russian and Ukrainian markets, soaring prices, and the macroeconomic consequences of this crisis. FERDI's work on this subject will continue in 2023.

# VULNERABILITIES AND SECURITY

## *The basis for giving priority to the least developed and most vulnerable countries*

Since its creation, FERDI has undertaken numerous studies on country vulnerability, exploring its various forms, measurement, and how it has been, or could be, considered in international development financing. FERDI is internationally acknowledged for its expertise on issues relating to country vulnerability and its links with financing.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Develop and enrich research on vulnerability indicators.
- Support the inclusion of vulnerabilities in international development financing.
- Enrich work on the category of Least Developed Countries, in particular by improving their identification and the effectiveness of measures taken in their favor.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS 2022**

- FERDI is involved in the work of the High-Level Panel responsible for developing a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI).
- Preparations for the 5th United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in Doha, held in March 2023. FERDI supports the plea of vulnerable countries to adopt a universal, multidimensional and structural vulnerability index.
- FERDI published several documents on how vulnerability can and should be taken into account in development financing.
- Update of the book *Out of the Trap. Supporting the Least Developed Countries* (in progress).
- Update of the Physical Vulnerability to Climate Change Index (PVCCI) and development of the indicator at sub-national level. This indicator measures the main structural or physical consequences of climate change likely to affect the well-being and activity of populations.

### ***FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY OF SECURITY SPENDING IN COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING FRAGILITY, CONFLICT, AND VIOLENCE (FCV COUNTRIES).***

In collaboration with UNOPS, FERDI researchers have examined the fiscal sustainability of security spending in countries experiencing fragility, conflict, and violence (FCV countries). In the study's recommendations, submitted to the United Nations in March 2022,

they propose a set of variables to monitor that are related to security issues in FCV countries and that may have an impact on their current and future fiscal balance, suggesting a framework for monitoring fiscal sustainability in insecurity-prone contexts.

## SAHEL CHAIR

Sahelian in its management and initiatives, FERDI's Sahel Chair aims to influence the decisions of public and private players in their efforts to overcome the Sahel Crisis and promote sustainable development in the region. The Sahel Chair works closely with African administrations and development partners. Tertius Zongo, former Prime Minister of Burkina Faso and Senior Fellow at FERDI, is the Chair's director, and leads the team of African experts mobilised for this purpose.

## OBJECTIVES

- Assess the implementation of plans and policies and their effects in order to enhance their impact on populations and in target sectors (education, rural development, health, governance/institutions).
- Establish and forge partnerships with both scientific institutions and decision-makers.
- Conduct work within a regional framework and adapt methods of analysis to the fragile context of the area.

## ACHIEVEMENTS 2022

- Set up a regional platform for monitoring financing flows in the Sahel.
- Development of rapid assessment methods for policies, programmes and projects.
- Collaboration with Groupe URD to analyse the challenges of pastoralism in the Sahel, in particular its link with the evolution of insecurity.
- The Chair has been asked by the United Nations to draw up a study on the budgetary sustainability of security spending in countries in situations of fragility, conflict or violence (FCV), focusing on the Sahel and in particular on the G5 Sahel member countries.



## WORK ON LEAST-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON LDCs

With the fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries due to be held in Doha in January 2022 having been moved to March 2023, FERDI has in the meantime been able to finalise a series of documents and events that took place in Doha and are reported in the FERDI editorial dated May 9, 2023. Among the work by FERDI in this perspective are a reflection on the logic of the category after 50 years and the origination with the OECD Development Centre and UNU WIDER of the «LDC 5 Monitor», a monitoring and evaluation device, in collaboration with think tanks from the South, whose aim is to examine the evolution of vulnerabilities in relation to the structural transformation of LDCs.

## FERDI INVOLVED IN THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH-LEVEL PANEL TO DEFINE A MULTIDIMENSIONAL VULNERABILITY INDEX

In March 2022, a High-Level Panel was convened by the President of the United Nations General Assembly to develop a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI). FERDI is playing a substantial role in this process. Patrick Guillaumont and Laurent Wagner were the lead authors of the UN OHRLLS report entitled Possible Development and Uses of Multi-Dimensional Vulnerability Indices. Analysis and Recommendations, which serves as the basis for the panel's work. In addition, Laurent Wagner and Sosso Feindouno, FERDI research fellows, were seconded to the UN Secretariat to support the panel's work.

The panel's interim report was published in August 2022. It lays the foundations for the construction of an index based on a comparison of countries' vulnerability to external shocks with their resilience to these shocks. The final version of the index is expected in mid-2023.



In parallel, in 2022 and 2023, Patrick Guillaumont authored 6 individual short articles compiled into a booklet. These articles discuss key aspects addressed by the panel, building upon FERDI's previous research and expanding on the conclusions presented in the OHRLLS report. Guillaumont P. (2023) *Towards a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index: Six supporting notes*, FERDI, 38 p.



## PUBLICATIONS

Guillaumont P. (2022) «Least Developed Countries, France, and the European Union» FERDI Policy Brief B231, March.

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

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.un.org/ohrrls/sites/www.un.org.ohrrls/files/mvi\\_interim\\_report.pdf](https://www.un.org/ohrrls/sites/www.un.org.ohrrls/files/mvi_interim_report.pdf)

## EVENTS

June 14-15, 2022. **Sahel Chair: Methodological seminar to set up an Infocenter on the external financing flows of Sahelian countries.**

The Sahel Chair organised a methodological seminar to enable Sahelian administrations to define in detail, and in a collaborative manner, the elements to be considered by this infocenter, as well as its implementation.

March 28, 2022. **First session of the United Nations High-Level Panel.** Patrick Guillaumont and Laurent Wagner opened the first session of the High-Level Panel to present the findings of the report UN OHRRLLS Possible Development and Uses of Multi-Dimensional Vulnerability Indices. Analysis and Recommendations, of which they were lead authors. Their contribution is included in FERDI Brief 234 «Three criteria that a multidimensional vulnerability index should meet to be used effectively».

### 5 five events scheduled for the Doha Conference:

March 6, 2023. **Fifty years of Least Developed Countries. Logic, impact and prospects of the category. This event, organised by FERDI and opened by UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the UN-OHRRLLS, Rabab Fatima, argued on the basis of FERDI's work that the category, which still includes 46 member countries, still retains its logic, but that its coherence could be enhanced by modernising the criteria used to identify LDCs and strengthening the role played by vulnerability.**

March 7, 2023. **Achieving a fair and comprehensive measure of vulnerability: perspectives from Small Island Developing States (SIDS) on the Vulnerability Index.** This event, organised by the President of the Republic of Seychelles, Wavel Ramkalawan, in his capacity as Chairman of the Group of Island States, the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), and the Commonwealth Secretariat, was moderated by Patrick Guillaumont. Its aim was to express the wish to see a universal, multidimensional, structural (or exogenous, i.e. independent of current policy) vulnerability index adopted, and as such able to justify a higher level of overseas development aid (ODA).

March 7, 2023. **Multidimensional vulnerability indicator and graduation.** Patrick Guillaumont, invited to this panel, introduced the idea that for the replacement of the EVI by the MVI to have an impact on the graduation of vulnerable countries, the rules of graduation would have to be changed, by aggregating the indicators of weak human capital and vulnerability into an indicator of structural handicap, or even these two indicators with low per capita income.

March 9, 2023. **Reducing vulnerability through production transformation. Launch of the LDC 5 Monitor.** This event organised by FERDI, the OECD Development Centre, and UNU WIDER launched the «LDC 5 Monitor», a follow-up to the LDC 4 Monitor.

March 9, 2023. **Covid-19 crisis and risks of widening digital divide: Strengthening digital inclusion and sovereignty for greater LDC resilience.** This round table, organised by the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) and to which FERDI was invited, was cut short for agenda reasons, but the exchanges initiated on this occasion were the starting point for a new phase of collaboration between IOF and FERDI in the field of digital vulnerability.

# PRIVATE SECTOR AND DEVELOPMENT

## Contribution of FERDI Chairs

FERDI has been collaborating with Investisseurs & Partenaires (I&P) for several years, emphasising the importance of fostering private enterprise development. These efforts have shed light on the significant social and economic impact of small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Sub-Saharan Africa, and emphasised their role in the overall economic progress of nations. Concurrently, FERDI has established several Chairs dedicated to advancing private sector development - the Impact Investing Chair, the Digital Confidence Chair, and the Chair of Agricultural modernisation policies in Africa.

The Chairs are a tool for influencing and supporting decision-making in both the public and private sectors. Their work is geared towards practical implementation.

### ACHIEVEMENTS 2022

- Publication in scientific journals on the dynamics and behavior of companies in risky environments.
- Conducted a study for the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) on growth entrepreneurship. This study aims to gain a better understanding of the obstacles faced by companies wishing to scale up once they have passed the threshold of creation and initial success.
- Launch of the Impact Investing Chair.
- Launch of the Chair of Agricultural Modernisation Policies in Africa.

### DIGITAL TRUST CHAIR

Created in 2018, the aim of the Digital Trust Chair is to develop technological solutions that can be implemented to meet the needs, expectations, and economic interests of African countries.

### ACHIEVEMENTS 2022

- Feasibility study (in progress) and structuring of the Wi-Agri project. With the support of Orange Lab, this project aims to study the impact of adopting the services offered by the WiAgri multiservice platform for cashew nut producers.
- The achievements listed under the heading “the role of digital technology in growth and development” in the «Human Capital» programme.



### IMPACT INVESTING CHAIR

Faced with the rapid development of the impact investing sector, particularly in Africa, the aim of the Chair is to provide a reflection on this sector that can be of service to practitioners and financiers. In this context, the primary aim of the Chair is to enhance comprehension of the impact investing sector in Africa. It seeks to facilitate the standardisation of this concept, as well as to foster a deeper understanding of the capabilities and limitations of impact investing. Additionally, the Chair proposes a reflection on the current questions surrounding the sustainable development of this sector. One of the Chair's main activities

in 2023 will be to produce and disseminate a map of impact investing in Africa, identifying funds that claim to be impact funds in Africa and gaining a better understanding of their practices.

The Impact Chair is a FERDI initiative launched in May 2022. It is headed by a triumverate consisting of two practitioners: Mariam Djibo (Managing Director of Advans Côte d'Ivoire) and Jean-Michel Severino (Chairman of Investisseurs et Partenaires); and an internationally recognized researcher in the field: Jean-Louis Arcand (Professor at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva).



## **CHAIR IN AGRICULTURAL MODERNISATION POLICIES IN AFRICA**

The aim of the Chair of Agricultural Modernisation Policies in Africa is to verify the feasibility and anticipate the impacts of a strategy in favour of strengthening agricultural entrepreneurship, from village farmers and livestock breeders to agro-industries for processing and marketing, while also including international players and stakeholders in public/private partnerships.

The Chair produces discussion papers addressing the following issues in particular: 1/ How can we develop new technical solutions to increase volumes and quality, and promote strong value chains? 2/ What

are the best ways to decarbonise agricultural production? 3/ How can we strengthen the action of each of the players in the value chains? 4/ How can we professionalise and increase the expertise of producers to meet the challenge of a transition to a more efficient and resilient food system? 5/ Why and how can we finance African agriculture and livestock farming more, especially its private players?

The Chair of Agricultural Modernisation Policies in Africa is headed by Jean-Marc Gravelini, former Director of the Alliance Sahel and former Executive Director of Operations at AFD. Catherine Araujo, researcher at CERDI - CNRS - UCA, is the scientific advisor, and Bagoré Bathily, Director of Laiterie du Berger, is the Africa focal point.

## **PUBLICATIONS**



**Cariolle J. (2020)** «The Use of Digital for Public Service Provision in Sub-Saharan Africa», with research assistance from David A. Carroll, FERDI Report, 82p, updated August 2022.



**Cazals A., Léon F. (2022, forthcoming)** Perception of political instability in election periods: Evidence from African firms, *Journal of Comparative Economics*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jce.2022.09.003>

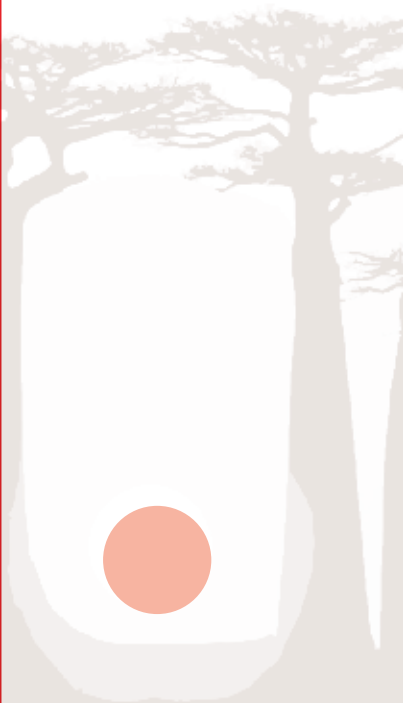
**Léon F., Dosso, I (2022)** Civil conflict and firm recovery: Evidence from Côte d'Ivoire, *Journal of Development Studies*. 58(11), pages 2263-2289. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2022.2094255>

**Severino, J-M. (2022)** «Lost in impact: une nouvelle cartographie pour les aventuriers du sens» [Lost in impact: a new cartography for adventurers of meaning], FERDI Working Paper P302, March.

## **EVENTS**

**October 3, 2022. The role of dairies in the development of livestock sectors in the Sahel.** First round table organised by FERDI's Chair of Agricultural modernisation policies in Africa at the Sommet de l'élevage in Cournon (France).

# TRAINING



# THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (IHEDD)

*The IHEDD, an institute dedicated to building capacity*

Capacity building and knowledge transmission are integral and significant undertakings of FERDI. The IHEDD serves as an internal entity within FERDI and collaborates with IDDRI, CERDI, and the UCA School of Economics under the Labex IDGM+ framework. It benefits from FERDI's three accreditations: «Private higher education establishment» (EESP) granted in 2016, «Professional training organisation» (OFP) granted in 2017, and «Qualiopi» obtained in 2022.

The IHEDD's training programmes draw on the findings of the Labex IDGM+ research and FERDI chairs. These courses come in two formats: long-term programmes for the GPE and MODEV Masters degrees offered by Clermont Auvergne University (UCA), and short-term programmes ranging from 2 days to 3 weeks. The delivery methods can be in-person, remote, or hybrid, depending on the prevailing circumstances. Additionally, the IHEDD is receptive to specific training requests.

The IHEDD maintains close partnerships with the French Development Agency, various international institutions such as the African Development Bank, the World Customs Organisation, and higher education institutions across the African continent.

## ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2022

- Expansion of IHEDD activities through the implementation of the training component of the Pôle Clermontois de Développement International (PCDI).
- Attainment of Qualiopi certification by the Institute. This certification is crucial for training organisations as it enables learners to access funding from Skills Operators (Opco) and the Personal Training Account.

## MASTERS IN ECONOMIC POLICY MANAGEMENT (GPE)

The Economic Policy Management (GPE) training programme, established in 1994 with the support and collaboration of the World Bank, is a prominent French, French-speaking, capacity-building course for public economists in developing countries, particularly those in sub-Saharan Africa.

Dedicated to enhancing public development policies, the GPE programme addresses the strong demand from administrations in Southern countries for training their high-potential middle managers, technical managers working closely with decision-makers, and financial technical partners.

Successful completion of the GPE programme leads to the award of a national diploma at the Master 2 level from the School of Economics at Clermont Auvergne University.

## ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2022

- The GPE programme has been designated as a «Participating Programme» by the World Bank under the Joint Japan/World Bank Graduate Scholarship Programme (JJ/WBGS Programme). This recognition of excellence, valid for the period 2023-2025, ensures a guaranteed number of scholarships for GPE cycles through the JJ/WBGS Programme.
- The Agence Française de Développement (French Development Agency) is a sponsor of this programme, and provides scholarships through the Pôle Clermontois de Développement International, further complementing their longstanding collaboration with the MODEV master.
- The 2022-2023 cohort (GPE 29) has 24 participants of 13 nationalities.



## MASTERS IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT (MODEV)

The Masters in Project Management for Development (MODEV) is a professionally oriented programme that focuses on project management, development economics, sectoral issues, and major transitions. Co-organised by FERDI, AFD, and Clermont Auvergne University (UCA), this 8-month Masters programme combines distance learning with face-to-face teaching in both Marseille and Clermont-Ferrand.

→ The 2022-2023 session has 24 participants from 13 nationalities.

## SHORT TRAINING PROGRAMMES

In addition to the two long courses offered as UCA Masters, the IHEDD also provides short training programmes that focus on current issues related to public development policies, drawing upon research outcomes. These training courses are predominantly developed in collaboration with specialised institutions and international partners, and often involve counterparts from countries in the Global South.

### ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2022

→ Several short training programmes were conducted as part of structuring projects. For instance, the FIMES (Financial Modeling for the Extractive Sector) project, supported by the African Development Bank, included training sessions tailored to this theme. Additionally, training sessions were organised on oil revenue in collaboration with CEMAC.

→ In total, 22 short training cycles or seminars were successfully organised during 2022.



### SHORT TRAINING COURSES IN 2022

- ▶ **November 14-18, 2022:** Seminars on health economics in partnership with the School of Public Health at the University of Botswana.
- ▶ **October 17 - November 4, 2022:** Analysing the challenges of education in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- ▶ **October 3-23, 2022:** Understanding Tax Policy in the African Extractive Sector.
- ▶ **September 12 - October 7, 2022:** Economic and financial analysis of a decentralised electrification project.
- ▶ **September 12-30, 2022:** Utilising Financial Models in the African Extractive Sector.
- ▶ **April - November 2022:** Health economics training - Session 2022.
- ▶ **June 27-30, 2022:** Refresher course for MODEV participants.
- ▶ **June 20-28, 2022:** Analysing, financing, and executing development projects.

- ▶ **June 6-14, 2022:** Being an actor in the ecological transition in Africa: supporting adaptation and mitigation in a complex world.
- ▶ **April 24 - May 22, 2022:** Mastering tax policy issues in the extractive sector (April 11 - July 1, 2022).
- ▶ **Health economics training - Session 2022:** Six customised training courses on strengthening health systems and infectious disease control policies (see box).
- ▶ **April 11-15, 2022:** Tax audit for the oil sector in CEMAC countries.
- ▶ **March 21-25, 2022:** Understanding and modeling oil rent sharing in Africa.
- ▶ **March 7-25, 2022:** Economic and financial analysis of a decentralised electrification project.
- ▶ **February 21 - April 14, 2022:** Understanding and modeling the sharing of mining and oil rents in Africa.
- ▶ **February 7 - March 15, 2022:** Understanding and modeling the sharing of mining rent in Africa (session 2).

# L'INSTITUT DES HAUTES ÉTUDES DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE (IHEDD)



## **HEALTH TRAINING COURSES**

In 2022, IHEDD-FERDI, in collaboration with the Department of International Cooperation of the Government of Monaco, is offering customised health training courses aimed at strengthening the healthcare systems of sub-Saharan African countries and Madagascar. These courses are designed to be flexible, with durations ranging from 10 to 60 hours of distance learning, tailored to the individual needs and preferences of participants. The partners involved in this initiative are the Government of Monaco and AFD (Agence Française de Développement).

1. Components of a strategy for strengthening health systems and their resilience. Leader: Jacky Mathonnat. Duration: April 11 to 22, 2022.
2. Impact of communicable and non-communicable diseases on development factors: problem and method. Leader: Laëtitia Duval. Duration: April 25 to May 6, 2022.
3. Economics of health prevention policies. Leader: Aurore Pélissier. Duration: May 9 to 20, 2022.
4. Efficiency of health interventions in a context of limited resources. Leader: Martine Audibert. Duration: May 23 to June 3, 2022.
5. Evaluate to strengthen: the process of evaluating health interventions. Leader: Martine Audibert. Duration: June 6 to June 17, 2022.
6. Health financing, systems strengthening, and universal health coverage. Duration: July 4 to 18, 2022.

Distance learning followed by face-to-face training in October in Clermont-Ferrand.

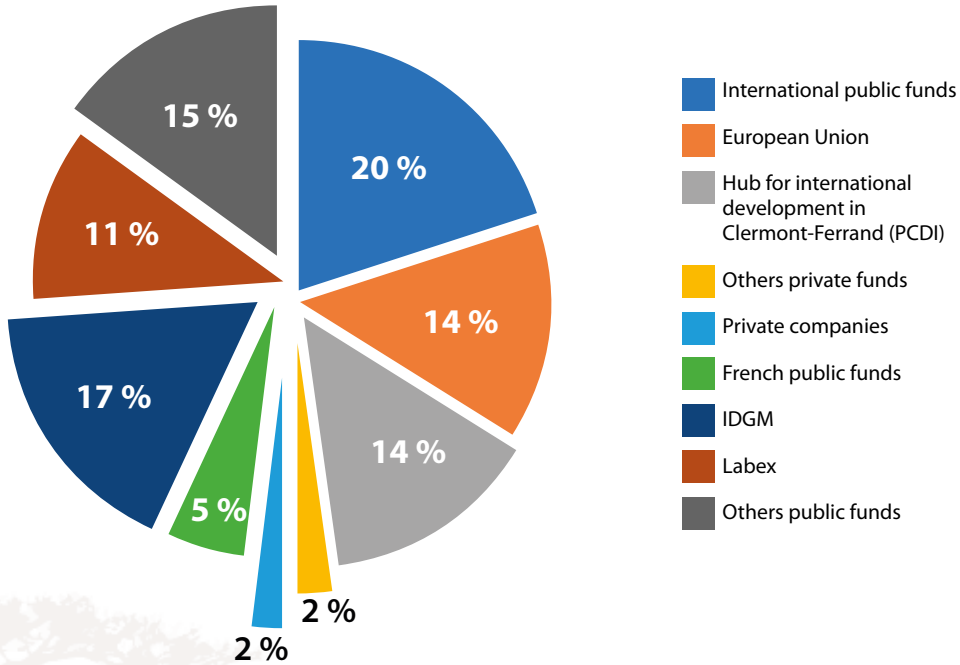
## **NOVEMBER 24-26, 2022: HIGH-LEVEL SEMINAR IN ABIDJAN - GLOBAL INTEGRATION AND SUSTAINABLE COMPETITIVENESS**

A High-Level seminar took place in Abidjan focused on the integration of economies into the global market and the essential aspects of sustainable competitiveness. This event is organised at the International University of Côte d'Ivoire and was designed and led by Patrick Plane, a research director at CNRS-CERDI and the head of FERDI's Observatory of Sustainable Competitiveness (OCD), and Alban Houré, a professor at Félix-Houphouët-Boigny University (UFHB) and the director of the CIRES Economic Policy Analysis Unit (CAPEC). The seminar addressed the crucial matter of competitiveness, as it relates to the structural transformation and inclusive growth outlined in the development plans of numerous African countries. Balancing the requirements of competitiveness with sustainability becomes vital, especially in a context characterised by a slowdown of trade flows and the emergence of new players, including emerging powers. Partners involved in this seminar included the AFD (Agence Française de Développement) and the International University of Côte d'Ivoire (UICI).

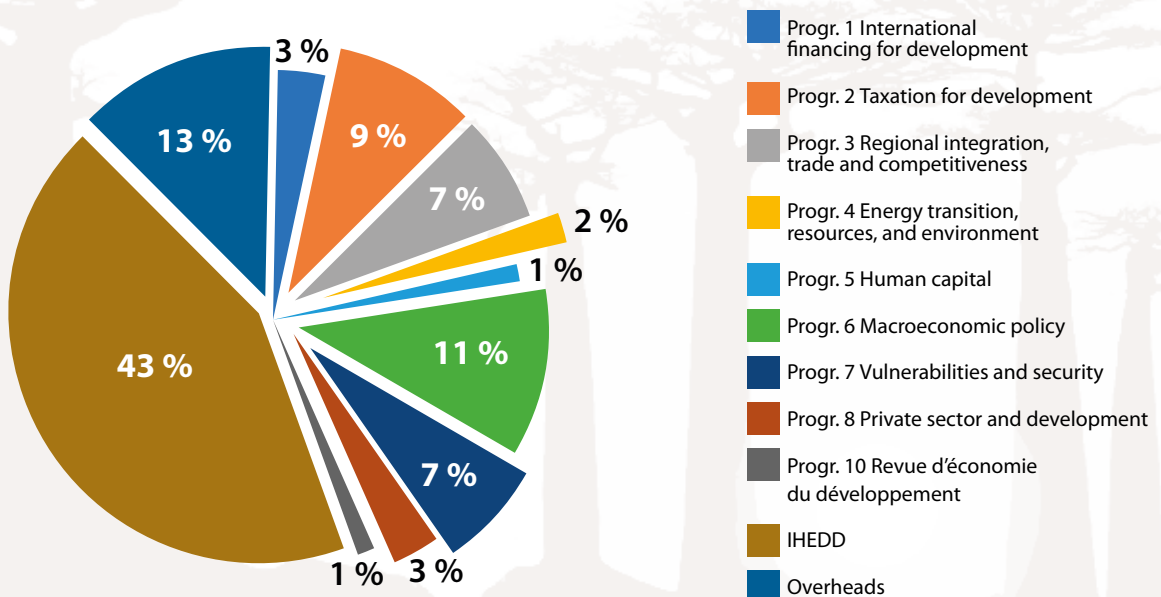
# ACCOUNTS

2022 FERDI Actual Expenditure : 3,473,900 €  
 2021 FERDI Actual Expenditure : 3,351,600 €

## 2022 FUNDING



## EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME



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**F&Di**

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ET RECHERCHES  
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