

Research Group on African Development Perspectives Bremen/African Development Perspectives Yearbook

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A Synopsis - Volume 16 of the African Development Perspectives Yearbook with the title "Macroeconomic Policy Formation in Africa" considers five issues:

First, *new macroeconomic policy frameworks* for Africa are discussed. Emphasis is on macroeconomic policies focusing on sustainable and inclusive growth, especially by considering the employment targeting of macroeconomic policy frameworks in Africa. The responses of the macroeconomic policymakers to the Euro crisis and to the recent globalization trends are reviewed and analyzed. The role of macroeconomic policies for generating sustainable and inclusive growth is also discussed.

Second, the *economics of the "Arab Spring" countries* is analyzed, by focusing on the socioeconomic factors and the economic policy factors that have led to the so-called "Arab Spring" events. Highlighted are the cases of Egypt and Tunisia, and especially the new strategic and policy frameworks in these

countries after the uprisings and the democratic changes. An Agenda of comprehensive policy reforms for the Arab countries in North Africa is elaborated. The Agenda contains proposals for new macroeconomic policies, proposals for poverty alleviation, and proposals for structural transformation.

Third, *macroeconomic policies in the post-conflict countries* Sudan and South Sudan are considered, especially by reviewing the distinct phases of economic policy and the public finance strategies in the context of medium-term frameworks. Also the reconstruction of macroeconomic policy institutions at the level of the central state and at the level of the states and counties is considered. The strategic economic and political cooperation between Sudan and South Sudan is considered as very important to overcome the many sources of conflict inherited from the past. Especially the border-states region is of importance for a strategic cooperation.

Fourth, *macroeconomic policy formation in West Africa* is considered in the context of country case studies (especially Nigeria) and a conceptual study on the feasibility of a second monetary integration zone beside of the CFA Zone in West Africa. The feasibility and the prospects of a West African Monetary Zone (WAMZ) are evaluated. Included in this Unit is also a case study for the CFA Zone country Senegal; Nigeria is a case study for highlighting the issues of the second monetary integration zone WAMZ. For Nigeria, issues like public expenditure management in the context of macroeconomic policy formation and the impact of macroeconomic policies on economic sectors are discussed.

Fifth, the book will contain - as usual - in its *Book Reviews and Book Notes* Section new literature and new research documents on the theme and related issues. Many new reports are considered as well as new books and journal contributions. Reports on the economics of the "Arab Spring" countries are not easily accessible and such entries in this Unit will facilitate the work of policymakers, donors and researchers who are confronted with the events in the "Arab Spring" countries. Main reports on African development are also reviewed as usual.

Volume 16 is providing a systematic review and evidence-based evaluation of macroeconomic policy formation processes in Africa. The book is of interest to policymakers, donor organizations, the Africa research community, development economics lecturers and media people.

The book will appear in October 2013 and will have around 700 pages. Homepage: <u>www.iwim.uni-bremen.de</u>

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