

Demographic Dividend and National Transfer Accounts

Interim Status Report

Project Summary

- Fertility decline produces a demographic dividend by reducing the number of children relative to the number in the working ages.
- The size of the dividend and its contribution to national development are uncertain and dependent on the policy environment.
- Previous research has shown that the dividend had very important and lasting effects in East Asia, but the experience for Africa is yet to be written.
- Two broad issues will be explored by this project.
 - First, how can countries that have not completed the fertility transition realize a substantial demographic dividend;
 - Second, how can those countries use that dividend to achieve higher rates of economic growth.

Overview of Analysis

- Analyze detailed country-specific NTA data to assess current situation;
- Compare against benchmarks based on other countries' experience;
- Identify social and economic features relevant to realizing DD;
- Suggest policies to improve development benefits from fertility decline.

Scope of work for each country team

- Complete National Transfer Accounts; evaluate these data to insure their accuracy and completeness;
- Provide information necessary to construct a policy brief
- Participate in 2013 Joint Conference for Ministers of Finance, Economic Planning and Development sponsored by the ECA and AU.
- Prepare and present a research paper on the demographic dividend and present it at the NTA Workshop on the Demographic Dividend held in conjunction with the Global NTA meeting to be held in Barcelona in June.
- Revise and submit their paper to the NTA Working Papers Series and for publication in a peer-reviewed journal or similar outlet.

Status

Work completed	Work remaining
New estimates submitted for many but not all countries	Some questions about the data need to be answered for almost every country
Four page reports : Kenya, Nigeria, SA; Two page reports: Mozambique and Senegal; no report for Ethiopia.	Very well received in Abidjan. No further work anticipated.
2013 Joint Conference for Ministers of Finance, Economic Planning and Development sponsored by ECA and AU.	No further work anticipated;
Country papers on demographic dividend?	To be considered at this workshop.

Conclusions

- Excellent and positive impact in Abidjan
- Urgent work remains
 - Revisions and corrections of NTA for each African country (except South Africa)
 - Country papers on the demographic dividend
 - Comparative report (Sidney with lots of help from Mason and Lee)