FANSA KONÉ

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SUMMARY

I'm a PhD candidate in Economics with a solid background in Statistics. I have more than 5 years of work and research experience. Since December 2022, I have served as a consultant at the World Bank Group, and from December 2023 to May 2024, I have held a consultant position at UNICEF. I'm a continuous learner with expertise in Macroeconomics and Applied Econometrics (quantitative and qualitative analyses, impact evaluation). I also have a strong interest in Machine Learning. Besides my technical strengths, I have excellent leadership and communication skills.

EXPERTISE

`Macroeconomics:` *DSGE Modeling, Public Finance, International Trade, Climate Change*

`Applied Econometrics:` *Causal Inference (IV, Events Studies, Synthetic Control, etc), Impact Evaluation, Economic Forecasting, Panel Data and Time Series Analysis*

`Machine Learning:` *Random Forests, Neural Networks, Lasso, Ridge, Textual Analysis (basics) etc.*

EDUCATION

University of Montreal, CIREQ   *2019-2025 (Expected)*
PhD candidate in Economics, Canada

Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Statistiques et d'Economie Appliquée (ENSEA) *2016-2019*
MSc in Statistics and Economics (ISE) 2016-2019, Côte d'Ivoire

Institut National Polytechnique Félix Houphouet Boigny   *2014-2016*
Mathematics and commercial studies, Intensive two-years BSc program 2014-2016, Côte d'Ivoire

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS

Econometric Society Workshop (AFTW2-2023)   *December 2023*
Training in Computational Macroeconomics with Jesús Fernández-Villaverde and Pablo Winant

IMF Debt Sustainability Framework Training   *July-November 2023*
Debt Sustainability for Low-Income Countries Course by IMF and World Bank

Career Plan and Professional Development   *November 2020*
Planning and Thinking about Professional Carrier; by EPSI, Université de Montréal

Certified in Impact Evaluation   *2019*
Quantitative and Qualitative Techniques for Evaluating Public Policies' Impact; Tany Vao, ENSEA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

World Bank consultant   *2022-present*
Poverty and Equity Global Practice, World Bank

- Analysing the impact of the Russian's invasion of Ukraine on the well-being of households in Guinea
- Contributing to the development of the Engendered Commitment to Equity (E-CEQ) for Guinea and Togo;
- Key Contributor in the writing of the reports and their presentation materials (Guinea and Togo)
- Contributing to the training of government officials in E-CEQ modeling (Guinea and Togo)

UNICEF consultant   *December 2023-May 2024*

- Key Contributor to the development of the first tax benefit model based on EUROMOD methodology tailored for Kazakhstan (KAZAMOD)
- Trained government officials on using the built model KAZAMOD
- Writing the country report and a policy brief of the tax benefit system, aimed at providing strategic guidance for the implementation of the nation's tax benefit system reform

Internship and research assistant   *2018-2019*

- Dynamic mean-variance portfolio for the regional stock exchange (BRVM), with Arsène Brou, ENSEA 2019, supervised by Nathaniel Gbenro
- Analysed monetary policy transmission channels in West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) countries, supervised by Amina Coulibaly
- Applied quantile regression to examine the determinants of maize yield using household survey in Cote d'Ivoire, Internship at ENSEA 2018, supervised by Jean Mark Kouadio
- Participated in the design of survey instruments, data collection, and data processing for household living conditions in Toumodi (Côte d'Ivoire), ENSEA 2018

Teaching (University of Montreal Montreal)   *2021-*

- Initiation to economics: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2021
- Economics data analysis: Winter 2023

Teaching assistant (University of Montreal Montreal)   *2020-*

- Advanced macroeconomics: Winter 2022, 2023, 2024 (PhD level) for professor Guillaume Sublet
- Special topics in money and banking: Fall 2022, 2023 (graduate level) for professor René Garcia
- North American economics: Winter 2021, for professor Vasia Panousi
- International Finance: Fall 2020, for professor Emanuela Cardia
- International trade: Fall 2020, for professor Abraham HOLLANDER
- Introduction to Microeconomics, Winter 2024
- Principles of economics: Winter, Summer, Fall 2022 (Online, undergraduate)
- Economics data analysis: Fall 2021 (Online, undergraduate)
- Introduction to macroeconomics: Fall 2020, Winter 2021

RESEARCH

Research in Progress and Working Papers

- Balanced Budget Rule and Economic Growth [Paper]

- Trade, Shocks Transmission, and Monetary Policy in a Regional Trade Agreement, with *Régis Kouassi*

- WAEMU facing AfCFTA: implications for trade and monetary policies, with *Régis Kouassi*

- Transition to Renewables and Public Debt Sustainability, with *Lucien Chaffa* and *Kodjo Koudakpo*

Policy papers/reports

- The effects of progressive personal income tax and targeted social assistance reforms on revenue collection, poverty, and occupations in Kazakhstan, with *Mohamed Coulibaly, policy brief, UNICEF May 2024*

- KAZAMOD (first microsimulation model in Kazakhstan) Country Report: 2022, with *Mohamed Coulibaly, Yersultan Tamabekov, and Arman Umerbayev Kazakhstan, UNICEF May 2024*

- Engendered Commitment to Equity (E-CEQ) in Guinea, *with Mohamed Coulibaly, Aissatou Ouedraogo, and Kadidia Koné, World Bank*

- Engendered Commitment to Equity (E-CEQ) in Togo, *with Mohamed Coulibaly, Aissatou Ouedraogo, and Kadidia Koné, World Bank*

RESEARCH GRANTS, AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Fonds de Recherche du Québec Science et Culture (FRQSC) fellowships, ranked 2nd, 2022-2024

- Ph.D. fellowships, Department of Economics, UdeM 2019-2023

- Canadian Economics Association students travel grant, Winnipeg 2023

- CIREQ students travel grant, SCSE conference in Quebec 2023

- Tuition-fee Waiver Scholarship of Graduate Studies, University of Montreal, Canada, 2019-2021

- Excellence Scolarship, Government of Côte d'Ivoire, high school and university scolarship (2011-2019)

- Winner Public Forum Debate, with a team ENSEA (2019)

- Awards "meilleure plume", Writing competition, ENSEA (2017)

- Awards of the best scientist at high school level, received from the minister of education at Journée National du Mérite et de l'Excellence (JNMEX), Côte d'Ivoire, 2015

- Awards of the best student of high school level at Lycée Mixte I de Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, 2014

ACADEMIC SEMINARS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society (AFES), Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, June 2024

- Canadian Economic Association, Winnipeg, June 2023

- 18th Ph.D. students CIREQ conference, Montreal, May 2023

- Société Canadienne de Science économique, Québec city, Québec, May 2023

- Quebec Social Sciences Ph.D. presentations group, Montreal-online, (September 2021, February 2022, October 2022, April 2023, January 2024)

- Macroeconomics Workshop, led by my advisor Guillaume Sublet (monthly presentations, since 2022-)

- International Conference of Statistics and Applied Economics (CISEA), July 2019, ENSEA, Abidjan Côte d'Ivoire

PROGRAMMING AND SOFTWARE SKILLS

Programming	Stata, Python, Matlab, Latex; R and Julia (basics)
Statistics and Econometrics	SPSS, Eviews
Microsoft	Excel, VBA, Powerpoint, Word

LANGUAGE AND OTHER INTERESTS

French (native), English (fluent), soccer, badminton, reading, writing

SELECTED TALKS AND VOLUNTEERING ACTIVITIES

Talk at ENSEA to MSc Students from many Universities in Abidjan *June 2024*
PhD in North America: Distinguishing Reality from Misconceptions

Economics PhD student's representative *Fall 2021-2023*
Defending and representing PhD students' interests at UdeM, Canada

UdeM ambassador, (Fall 2019, Winter 2020), Passerelle (2020) and Passerelle + (2021)
Helped new students integrate Université of Montréal in the context of the pandemic, Canada

ABSTRACT OF SOME SELECTED WORKING PAPERS

Balanced Budget Rule and Economic Growth
Fiscal rules, specifically Balanced Budget Rules (BBR), are gaining widespread usage. However, the primary economic objection to BBRs is that they overly restrict fiscal policy by preventing tax smoothing and impeding economic growth. This paper is the first to study the impact of a BBR over the business cycle on economic growth, as adopted in Switzerland's constitution in 2003. First, using a synthetic control method, I find that over the period 2003-2018, the BBR adoption has been associated with an average of 0.95% higher growth in Switzerland compared to a counterfactual scenario without BBR. Second, I conduct growth accounting with a neoclassical growth model, finding that the increase in Switzerland's growth is due to the increase in Total Factor Productivity (TFP), which includes institutions, rather than changes in labor or capital accumulation. Third, I build an endogenous growth model with a government making inefficient decisions for political reasons. I find that by reducing public debt, the BBR tempers the "crowding-out effect of debt" and frees up resources for private investment in R&D. Additionally, by reducing the service of the debt, it also frees up resources for public investment in R&D. These investments, in turn, foster economic growth through their effect on TFP. The model calibrated to Switzerland shows that the long-term yearly growth effect of the BBR is 1.27 basis points, which compounds to a 3% GDP gain after 30 years.

JEL Classification: E62, H63, O43, O47
Keywords: Balanced Budget Rule, Public debt, Economic growth

Trade, Shocks Transmission, and Monetary Policy in a Regional Trade Agreement, with *Régis Kouassi*
In this paper, we first document that climatic or political shocks in an origin country (or exporting country) affect inflation in the destination country (its importing partner) through trade among African countries. Second, we demonstrate that existing Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs) in Africa have significantly increased trade by 62 to 77 percent from 1995 to 2019. These figures are lower than most estimates in the literature. We address several issues related to estimating the effects of RTAs, namely the selection bias due to many zeros in trade data, their staggered adoption, and their heterogeneous effects across regions. To deal with these issues, we apply a structural gravity model, a Pseudo Poisson

Maximum Likelihood (PPML) method, and a state-of-the-art event study. Third, after showing evidence that trade transmits shocks across African countries and that RTAs significantly increase trade, we develop a theoretical model to discuss the broader implications of regional trade agreements for monetary policy. We use the model to explore how the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA), adopted in 2021, could affect countries' inflation and its implications for their monetary policy.

REFERENCES

Guillaume Sublet (Advisor), *Assistant Professor*, Department of Economics, Université de Montréal 3150, Jean-Brillant street Montréal, QC, H3C 3J7, Canada, Email: guillaume.sublet@umontreal.ca , Website

Emanuela Cardia, *Full Professor*, Department of Economics, Université de Montréal 3150, Jean-Brillant Street Montreal,QC, H3C 3J7, Canada Tel: + 1 514 343 6111 #42831, Email: emanuela.cardia@umontreal.ca, Google Scholar

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TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ME

Latest Version of my CV
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