



SENOU Melain Modeste (PhD)

Post-Doctoral Research Fellows (ACEIR-UCT & ISSER-University of Ghana)

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PROFILE & SKILLS

Dr Melain Modeste SENOU is currently a Post-doctoral Research fellow at the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic research (ISSER), University of Ghana. His research interests relate to poverty, inequalities, inclusive finance, gender, household and child well-being and health. He holds a PhD in Development Economics and Econometrics at Felix Houphouët Boigny University in Abidjan (Ivory Coast) within the Collaborative PhD program of the Africa Economic Research Consortium (AERC). He is proficient in managing successful impact evaluation surveys and particularly in designing and running randomized Control trials for which, he holds certificates from the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL/ MITx) and the department of Impact Evaluation (The World Bank). He also collaborates with several organizations including the international Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), the United Nation Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) as well as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). He teaches in many universities in Benin and Ivory Coast and has several publications in international indexed journals. I'm well comfortable with Stata, R, SPSS, DEAP, MATLAB, Latex, Word, Power Point.

EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING

- PhD in Development Economics and Econometrics. Thesis: **Essays on Digital finance, Financial Inclusion and Poverty Alleviation in WAEMU** defended with First class Honors at Felix Houphouët Boigny University (FHBU), UFR-SEG, Abidjan Under the African Economic research Consortium's (AERC) Collaborative PhD Program (CPP) with core PhD courses in Yaoundé (Cameroon) and Specialization in Nairobi (Kenya), [2016 – 2021]
- Master Research in Economics. University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC)/ Faculty of Economic and Management; Cotonou, Benin; [Oct 2013]
- Bachelor's degree in English studies. University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC)/ Faculty of Letters, Arts and Human sciences [Jan 2011 – Jul 2014]
- African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP): Strategic Foresight and Modeling with Systems Dynamics (Part 2) [Feb-March-2024]
- The World Bank's Development Impact Evaluation (DIME): Reproducible Research Fundamentals Courses [Nov-Dec-2024]
- African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP): Strategic foresight and modeling with the dynamics of (Part 1) [Nov-Dec-2024]
- The World Bank's Manage Successful Impact Evaluation Survey (MSIES) [June 06th – June 24th, 2022]
- Economic Commission for Africa -YEN/ IDEP: Macro econometrics modeling [07/12/2021 – date]
- COFEB- BCEAO- Training on research methodology [22-23 April 2021]
- MITx - JPAL102x - Designing and Running Randomized Evaluations [Feb – Apr 2020]
- MITx - 14.310x - Data Analysis for Social Scientists [Feb – Apr 2020]
- IITA- Statistics for social scientists [Nov 2020]
- IITA- Policy brief writing [Jan 2021]
- Luxembourg-Mali cooperation- Nonstandard data sources treatment [Dec 2020]

EXPERIENCES

- United Nations Development Program (UNDP): Statistical and econometrics specialist, Taskforce supporting the General Directorate of Development Policies (DGPD, MDC) for the construction of the Benin 2060 National vision.
- African Center of Excellence for Inequality Research (ACEIR) & University of Cape Town & University of Ghana: Post Doctorate Researchers: "Diagnosis of inequalities in Mali". [05/2022 – 04/2023]
- Ministry of Social Affairs and Microfinance (MASM): Consultant for updating the Microfinance Development policy document in line with the PAG 2021-2026 [2022]

- UNICEF, IMF & CEFORP: Associate Researcher on the study of the Impact of price increases on the living conditions of households and children [07-11 / 2022]
- INCLUDE PLATFORM, Netherlands: Consultant on the study “Digitalization of public services: case study of Benin” [10/2021 – 09/2022]
- International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) & International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD): Researchers associated with the project “Youth Researching Youths: Competitive Fellowships for Young African Scholars Researching Youth Engagement in Rural Economic Activities in Africa” [09/2020 – 01/2021]
- United Nations Capital Development Funds (UNCDF/UNDP, New York): Research assistant at the Digital Financing of the SDGs department [11/2018 – 04/2019]
- Benin Consulting Group (BEGC): Junior Consultant responsible for research, impact evaluation and cost-benefit analysis [01/2013 – 09/2015]
- CRDI (CRDI), Canada. Researcher associated with the study “Female middle class and demand for childcare services in West Africa: cases of Benin, Burkina Faso, the Ivory Coast and Senegal (TEAM 5 of the project) [05 / 2021- now]
- SETEM SA, Benin: Part-time research and training activities from [04/2021-present]
- National Water Institute -Abomey-Calavi, Benin: Associate researcher [04 -06/2021]
- Stephen-A.-Jarislowsky Chair, University of Montreal: Associate researcher [10-12/2020]
- Finance and Development Finance Research Laboratory, UAC, Benin: Associate researcher, responsible for carrying out research on digital finance and development and publishing the results of their research in peer-reviewed scientific journals. Participation in work and conferences organized by LARFFID [2018 - 2023]
- FASEG / University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC): Econometrics of Qualitative variables (Master1), Econometrics of Qualitative variables (LESA 2), Introduction to the Scientific Approach (License 3) [2013 - 2015 & 2018 - 2022]
- ED-FASEG: Teaching assistant for the Market Finance course [2018 -2022]
- Catholic University of West Africa (UCAO) of Cotonou, Benin: Lecturer: Econometrics (License 3), Introduction to Econometrics (License 2) [2019 -2022]
- Population Training and Research Center (CEFOPR): Lecturer: Economy and Population (Master2); Regional economy (License 2) [2020 -2022]

RECENT PUBLICATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

- Senou, M. M., & Houensou, D. A. (2024). From expanding financial services to tackling poverty in West African Economic and Monetary Union: The accelerating role of mobile money. *Journal of International Development*.
- Soro, K., & Senou, M. M. (2023). Digital financial inclusion and income inequality in WAEMU: What causality for what heterogeneity? *Cogent Economics & Finance*, 11(2), 2242662.
- Senou, M.M. & Julius Manda (2022). Access to finance and rural youth entrepreneurship in Benin: Is there a gender gap? *African Development Review*. DOI :1111/1467-8268.12623 Ed. Wiley online.
- Houensou, D. A., Hekponhoue, S., Soglo, M. A. G., & Senou, M. M. (2023). Does ICTs Usage Facilitate Access to Market? An Empirical Evidence of Market Gardeners in Benin. *Journal of African Business*, 1-20.
- Senou, M.M., Gbinlo, R. E & Acclassato Houensou, D. (2022). Youth’s Unemployment Duration in Benin. Is there a Gender Gap? *Journal of Development Areas*. 56(1), 93-106.
- Houeninvo, H. G., Quenum, V. C. C., & Senou, M. M. (2023). Out-Of-Pocket health expenditure and household consumption patterns in Benin: Is there a crowding out effect?. *Health Economics Review*, 13(1), 19.
- Senou, M.M., Goudjo, G.G. & Acclassato Houensou, D. (2021). Access to finance and difference in family farm productivity in Benin: Evidence from small farms. *Scientific African* 13 (2021) e00940. Ed. Elsevier
- Senou, M.M., Ouattara, W. & Acclassato Houensou, D. (2019). Financial inclusion dynamics in WAEMU: Was digital technology the missing piece? (2019). *Cogent Economics & Finance*, 7(1), 1665432. Ed by. Francis & Taylor.
- Senou, M.M., Ouattara, W. & Acclassato Houensou, D. (2019). Is there a bottleneck for mobile money adoption in WAEMU? (2019). *Transnational Corporations Review*, 11(2), 143-156. Ed by. Francis & Taylor.

- Senou, M.M. et Ichaou Mounirou. (2016). Agricultural Response to Investments and Credits in Benin. What Conclusions for the Cotton Sector. Journal of Agricultural Economics, Extension and Rural Development: ISSN-2360-798X, Vol. 4(5): pp 448-455.
- Biaou, F. C., Senou, M.M. et Medehouenou, O. M. S. (2014). Economic Analysis of the Investments in Public Infrastructure Impacts on Agricultural Production in Benin. International Journal of economics and finance. 11/2014; 6(12). DOI:10.5539/ijef.v6n12p219 (with Felix C. Biaou and Olivier M. S. Medehouenou).
- Senou, M.M. et Oloukoï, L. (2016). Intellectual Property Rights and Innovation: Implications for Added Value Creation in Africa. British Journal of Economics, Management & Trade 15(3): 1-8 , ISSN: 2278-098X.

In press

- Senou, M.M., Avocè Fanougbo & Houngbemè Jean Luc (2024). Renewable energies and environmental quality in WAEMU: Empirical evidence with the Fourier Bootstrap and Granger Causality in Quantile approach. Natural Resource Forum
- Senou, M.M. & Acclassato Houensou, D., Hèkponhoue, S., Assouto, A.B. (2021). Microfinance et innovation sociale au Benin : Vers un micro crédit entrepreneurial

RECENT CONFERENCES PROCEEDINGS

- International Conference of Agricultural Economist (August, 17-31, 2021, Online)
- International Conference for Development Economics (ICDE 2021, Bordeaux)
- Think tank WAEMU (RESEAU THINK TANK-WAEMU Lomé, 23 -25 November, 2020).
- Séminaires doctoraux thématiques en Economie. (Coopération Luxembourg-Mali, Dec, 2020)
- XIIIème journées Internationales de la microfinance. (AICFM ; December 2019, Benin;)
- Join Workshop organized by the university Heriot-Watt (UK) (Benin June, 2019),
- African economic research Consortium's (AERC) 49th Biannual Workshop (Dec 2018, Nairobi)
- Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth Network, PEG Net Conference (Benin Port, 2018)
- African economic research Consortium's (AERC) Biannual research Workshop (Louis 2018)
- Fourth European Research Conference on Microfinance (Geneva, June 2015)

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- ACEIR/ARUA Post-Doctoral Research fellowship [Mai 2022-Mars 2023]
- IFAD / IITA research grant [Jul 2020-Jan 2021]
- J-PAL scholarship to attend MITx - JPAL102x - Designing and Running Randomized Evaluations courses [Feb – April 2020]
- PhD's Full scholarship, African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), Nairobi, Kenya [2016 - 2020]
- Research Grant for Master Dissertation; scientific council of the University of Abomey Calavi (UAC), Benin [Mar 2013]
- Undergraduate Scholarship, University of Abomey Calavi [Oct 2007- Oct 2011]

REFERENCES

- Prof ACCLASSATO Denis, +229 97126420, denis.acclassato@yahoo.fr , Benin
- Dr Muna Shifa, SALDRU, University of Cape Town, +27 623436231 Muna.Shifa@uct.ac.za
- Dr Richmond Atta Ankomah, ISSER, University of Ghana, +233555500915, attasnr@gmail.com
- Prof MEDEDJI Damien, CEFORP, University of Abomey Calavi +22966046410; damienmededji@gmail.com
- Dr. Julius Manda, j.manda@cgiar.org International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA); Tanzania
- Prof OUATTARA Wautabouna, +22540797944, wautabouna@yahoo.ca , Côte d'Ivoire

I sincerely certify these information.

Issued in Cotonou, 20/05/2024

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'SENOU' with 'MAY' written below it, followed by a large, stylized flourish.

Melain Modeste SENOU (PhD)