

NATIONAL DISSEMINATION AND POLICY WORKSHOP

ON

CAN TRADE FOSTER DEVELOPMENT? FIRM-LEVEL EVIDENCE FOR ENTERPRISES IN GHANA

Background

The purpose of this workshop is to discuss the results and implications of a recent study by the Kiel Centre for Globalization and the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research of the University of Ghana funded by German Development Cooperation on “Can trade foster development? Firm-level evidence for SMEs in Ghana”. The study produces new evidence on the benefits from exporting and importing on firms, not only firms that actively engage in such activities but also neighbouring non-trading firms. It specifically asks the questions as to whether firms improve their performance as a result of starting to export or import and what the implications are for employment and wages in the firms. The study also takes a broader viewpoint and investigates what the implications are for non-trading firms that operate in the vicinity of trading firms. Are there benefits from learning or are they harmed through increased competitive pressure?

The results of the study, as well as policy conclusions, will be presented at a national dissemination and policy workshop. The event will include a round table discussion to discuss the implications for policy and businesses in Ghana:

- + What do the study results mean for Ghana’s trade policy?
- + What are implications for related policies, such as SME development or employment policies?
- + Does the study give new leads for sectoral industrialization policies or the expected effects from trade facilitation?

These and other questions will provide an opportunity to also reflect on Ghana’s trajectory to the Sustainable Development Goals and what role *Aid for Trade* is expected to play.

Can Trade Foster Development? Firm-Level Evidence for Enterprises in Ghana

Swiss Spirit Hotel & Suites Alisa Accra

21 Dr. Isert Road - North Ridge, Accra, Ghana

21 May, 2019

Program

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| 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. | Registration |
| 9:00 – 9:10 a.m. | <p>Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Charles Ackah, University of Ghana, Legon - Mr. Benedikt Schöneck, Division for Trade policy, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development |
| 9:10 – 9:30 a.m. | <p>Introduction of Chairman and Special Guests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chairman's Remarks:
Nana Osei Bonsu, President, Private Enterprise Federation - Remarks by Special Guest – Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry |
| 09:30 – 10:10 a.m. | <p>Session 1: Presentation of Research Findings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Charles Ackah, Institute of Statistical, Social & Economic Research; & Centre for Social Policy Studies, University of Ghana, Legon - Prof. Holger Görg, Kiel Centre for Globalization; & Kiel Institute for the World Economy, Kiel, Germany |
| 10:10 – 10:40 a.m. | Open Forum |
| 10:40 – 11:00 a.m. | Cocoa/Tea Break |
| 11:00 – 12:40 p.m. | <p>Session 2: Roundtable Policy Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction of Discussants
Raymond Acquah, Senior Multimedia Journalist & Head of Fact-checking, Joy FM |
| 12:40 – 1:00 p.m. | Chairman's Closing Remarks |
| 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. | Lunch and Departure |