

Impact of Agricultural Trade on Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa: New Evidence

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Abstract: This paper examines the impact of agricultural trade on food security in 31 Sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries, covering the period 2000 to 2021. While the effects of agricultural trade on food security remain controversial in the literature, the research stands out for its multidimensional assessment of the impacts of agricultural trade, including the construction of a composite food security index, and a disaggregated approach distinguishing between types of trade flows. The results suggest that agricultural trade openness and agricultural imports have a negative impact on food security, while exports have a positive effect on food security. These results are robust using the 2SLS and CUE estimators. The study calls for the diversification of agricultural economies and greater support for agro-industry, especially food crops, which is an essential lever for increasing food security while reducing dependence on international agricultural trade.

Keywords: Agricultural Trade, Food Security, Sub-Saharan Africa, 2SLS, GMM System

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