

Poverty & Equity Brief

Sub-Saharan Africa

Togo

April 2020

Togo's economy regained momentum in 2019 at 5.3 percent from a growth rate of 4.7 percent in 2018. Growth is projected at around 4.9 percent in 2019-2022 instead of 5.3 percent as consequence of the negative COVID-19 effects. As a result, poverty reduction is expected to slow down over the medium term.

Poverty and vulnerability remain high and geographically concentrated in rural areas. The poverty rate (using the national poverty line of CFAF 943.58 per day) decreased from 58.7 percent in 2011 to 55.1 percent in 2015, and recent simulations suggest it has continued to fall since 2015, particularly in rural areas thanks to relatively strong agricultural production, mainly in the cotton sector. Extreme poverty (measured using 1.90 USD PPP international line) estimated at 47.8 percent in 2017 is projected to decline to 43.3 percent by 2022, assuming rise in unemployment and loss of income in households that draw their income from coronavirus affected sectors and declining remittances. An increase in prices of imported goods could also negatively impact household welfare and incomes.

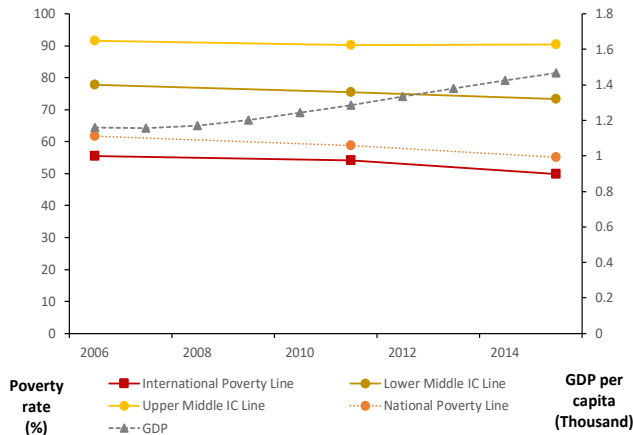
The real growth in the average consumption expenditure of the bottom 40 percent of the population was 2.6 percent per year between 2011 and 2015. This exceeded the growth in mean per capita consumption by 1.9 percentage points. Lower household size, higher educational attainment, improved access to basic facilities, and improved labor market indicators, all contributed to poverty reduction. But the pace of poverty reduction is still low due to moderate per capita GDP growth (2.8 percent in 2019 compared to 2.1 percent in 2018).

Between 2011 and 2015, the Gini Index declined slightly to 43.1, although it still exceeds its level in 2006. The World Bank Multidimensional Poverty Measure (MPM) that takes into account the multiple dimensions of deprivations is set at 61.2 percent for 2015 using the national household survey data (QUIBB 2015). This rate suggests that non-monetary poverty factors have been recently under constant improvement in Togo.

POVERTY	Number of Poor (million)	Rate (%)	Period
National Poverty Line	4.1	55.1	2015
International Poverty Line 473.7 in CFA franc (2015) or US\$1.90 (2011 PPP) per day per capita	3.6	49.8	2015
Lower Middle Income Class Poverty Line 797.7 in CFA franc (2015) or US\$3.20 (2011 PPP) per day per capita	5.4	73.4	2015
Upper Middle Income Class Poverty Line 1371.1 in CFA franc (2015) or US\$5.50 (2011 PPP) per day per capita	6.6	90.4	2015
Multidimensional Poverty Measure		61.2	2015
SHARED PROSPERITY			
Annualized Consumption Growth per capita of the bottom 40 percent		2.55	2011-2015
INEQUALITY			
Gini Index		43.1	2015
Shared Prosperity Premium = Growth of the bottom 40 - Average Growth		1.93	2011-2015
GROWTH			
Annualized GDP per capita growth		3.34	2011-2015
Annualized Consumption Growth per capita from Household Survey		0.62	2011-2015
MEDIAN INCOME			
Growth of the annual median income/consumption per capita		2.14	2011-2015

Sources: WDI for GDP, National Statistical Offices for national poverty rates, POVCALNET as of February 2020, and Global Monitoring Database for the rest.

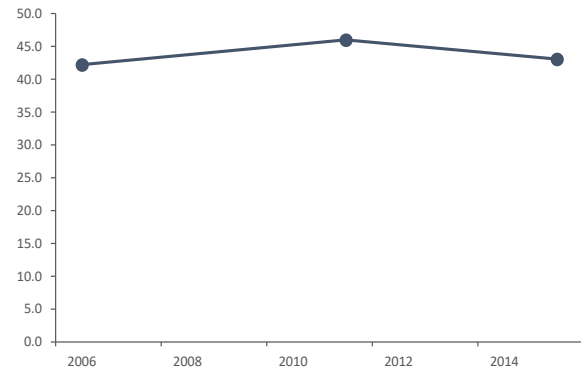
POVERTY HEADCOUNT RATE, 2006-2015



Source: World Bank using QUIBB/SSAPOV/GMD

INEQUALITY TRENDS, 2006-2015

Gini Index



Source: World Bank using QUIBB/SSAPOV/GMD

KEY INDICATORS

Distribution among groups: 2015	International Poverty Line(%)		Relative group (%)		Multidimensional Poverty Measures (% of people):	2015
	Non-Poor	Poor	Bottom 40	Top 60		
Urban population	77	23	16	84	Monetary poverty (Consumption)	
Rural population	31	69	57	43	Daily consumption less than US\$1.90 per person	49.9
Males	50	50	40	60	Education	
Females	50	50	40	60	At least one school-aged child is not enrolled in school	2.3
0 to 14 years old	43	57	46	54	No adult has completed primary education	26.7
15 to 64 years old	56	44	34	66	Access to basic infrastructure	
65 and older	49	51	39	61	No access to limited-standard drinking water	40.6
Without education (16+)	40	60	49	51	No access to limited-standard sanitation	51.8
Primary education (16+)	51	49	38	62	No access to electricity	N/A
Secondary education (16+)	70	30	22	78		
Tertiary/post-secondary education (16+)	94	N/A*	N/A*	96		

Source: World Bank using QUIBB/SSAPOV/GMD

Source: World Bank using QUIBB/SSAPOV/GMD

Notes: N/A missing value, N/A* value removed due to less than 30 observations

POVERTY DATA AND METHODOLOGY

Togo completed three Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire (CWIQ) surveys in 2006, 2011 and 2015 to calculate poverty numbers based on samples representative at the national level. The national poverty line is based on the cost of basic needs method and is updated for each new survey using inflation rates for the period. Per capita consumption is adjusted by the equivalent adult factors provided by the World Food Program. The international poverty line (1.90US\$ 2011 PPP) is used for international comparisons. National and international poverty measures do not show differences in trends. The last three surveys were funded by the main donors supporting official statistics in Togo. Togo as a WAEMU country is implementing the Harmonized households survey (field work completed by end-June 2019 and updates to poverty trends planned in November 2019 are expected in the first quarter 2020). With the open data initiative and National data archiving (NADA) financed by the Bank, access to microdata and data sharing has improved in Togo. Togo is among the beneficiaries of the West Africa regional statistical operation approved by the board on March 26, 2020.

The World Bank jointly with the NSO is launching a high frequency mobile phone survey to help the country and authorities in monitoring the impacts of the COVID-19 on the social aspects.

HARMONIZATION

The numbers presented in this brief are based on the SSAPOV database. SSAPOV is a database of harmonized nationally representative household surveys managed by Sub-Saharan Team for Statistical Development. It contains more than 100 surveys covering 45 out of the 48 countries in the SSA region. The four countries not covered in the database are Eritrea, Equatorial Guinea, and Somalia. Terms of use of the data adhere to agreements with the original data producers.