

# **Growth & Development:**

## **The Case of Intra-Regional Trade In Sub-Saharan Africa**

by

Juliet U. Elu, Ph.D. & Greg N. Price, Ph.D.  
Professors of Economics  
Department of Economics  
Division of Business & Economics  
Morehouse College  
830 Westview Drive, S.W.  
Atlanta, GA 30314-3773  
Phone: 404 653 7718  
Fax: 404 653 7907  
Email: [jelu@morehouse.edu](mailto:jelu@morehouse.edu)  
[gprice@morehouse.edu](mailto:gprice@morehouse.edu)

### **ABSTRACT**

*Regional Integration has been perceived as a mechanism for sustained growth & development for many small developing countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Despite the endogenous and exogenous shocks experienced in the Eurozone, small developing countries such as ECOWAS with marginal world market share see intra-trade as a mechanism to sustain growth and promote harmony among member countries. What can policy makers in West African countries do to empower and strengthen trade within its boarder? This paper explores the effect of intra-regional trade on growth and development in ECOWAS using the United Nations trade data and World Development Index data from 1998-2010. Our estimates will inform the extent to which intra-trade can contribute to trade and development within West African boarder.*

**JEL Classification:** C23, N17, O11, O47

---

Conference Organized by CREPO, WAIFEM, WAMA, and WAMI to be held in Ouagadougou, Burkina faso, July 4-6, 2012