

# Review of: "A Socio-Historical Look at Agricultural Policy Reform in Benin (West Africa) since 1960: A Literature Review"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This article provides a comprehensive historical overview of agricultural policies and interventions in Benin from its independence in 1960 up to the present. The analysis is structured around five distinct phases, each characterized by specific policy orientations, ideologies, and outcomes.

## Strengths:

**Chronological Overview:** The article effectively organizes the information chronologically, allowing the reader to follow the evolution of agricultural policies in Benin over time.

**In-depth Analysis:** The analysis goes beyond a mere chronological account, delving into the ideological underpinnings of each phase and evaluating the outcomes of various interventions. This adds depth to the understanding of the agricultural landscape in Benin.

**Reference to Various Sources:** The inclusion of multiple references adds credibility to the analysis and allows readers to explore specific aspects in more detail.

**Identification of Challenges:** The write-up identifies challenges and shortcomings in the implementation of agricultural policies, providing a basis for critical reflection.

## Areas for Improvement:

**Clarity in Presentation:** The article is dense, and some paragraphs are lengthy, which may make it challenging for readers to digest the information. Breaking down complex information into more concise sections with clear headings could enhance readability.

**Balance in Evaluation:** While the article highlights failures and challenges, it could benefit from a more balanced perspective by also acknowledging successful interventions or positive outcomes, if any.

**Policy Recommendations:** The article lacks explicit policy recommendations or considerations for future interventions. Including suggestions for improvement or alternative approaches would enhance the practical value of the analysis.

**Update on Recent Developments:** The knowledge cutoff date is mentioned as January 2022, and the write-up concludes with the period up to 2016. Considering the dynamic nature of policy changes, it would be valuable to include any

significant developments or changes that have occurred since 2016.

In conclusion, this article provides a rich historical context for understanding the trajectory of agricultural policies in Benin. Addressing the areas for improvement would further enhance its value for policymakers, researchers, and practitioners interested in the agricultural development of the region.