

# 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.

## New Peer Review

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

#### **Main comment:**

The paper lacks the analytical evidence that was promised when I accepted to review this work.

Since this will be published in English, if this paper is considered for publication, the journal editor may want to send it for English editorial support.

#### **Specific comments:**

1. Introduction: Agriculture is a strategic sector for economic and social development in developing countries (Otsuka, 2013).
  - a. Comment: Not all countries. Maybe, you should say in many developing countries of Africa.
  - b. Paragraph 2: This starts well, and the paper could as well start with paragraph 2 of the introduction. This paragraph makes better reading and sense. Consider deleting paragraph 1.
2. The paper does not provide a better analysis of the policies. It is more of a copy and paste from previous reviews. A better review should have considered, at each policy, how many people were affected, government funding supporting each policy period, what crops did each policy target, and what were the main reasons for the failure.
  - a. A better analytical review of the policies could have highlighted the following:
    - Target population by the policy

- Target crops
- Target regions
- Main reasons for the failure.

For example, in the

- *From 2016 to the present: the era of rationalization of the agricultural sector*

The author writes:

*In October 2016, due to the failure of cashew nut, mango, orange juice, pineapple juice, cashew juice, tomato puree, peanut shelling workshop, and mini rice mills, the government decided to transfer them to private operators.*

**It would have been better to review the number of farmers targeted by each crop, how much money government and donors put into the programs, and how the failure came about: of cashew nut, mango, orange juice, pineapple juice, cashew juice, tomato puree, peanut shelling workshop, and mini rice mills, the government decided to transfer them to private operators.**

**Conclusion:** The paper should not be published in its current form.