



Informal Economy Contributions to GDP in Côte d'Ivoire: An Ethnographic Inquiry

Sawoui Diabré¹, Dagbignon NDiakpé^{1,2}

¹ Côte d'Ivoire Institute of Energy Research

² Côte d'Ivoire Research Institute

Published: 03 July 2000 | **Received:** 01 April 2000 | **Accepted:** 05 June 2000

Correspondence: sdiabr@hotmail.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18721680](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18721680)

Author notes

Sawoui Diabré is affiliated with Côte d'Ivoire Institute of Energy Research and focuses on Business research in Africa.

Dagbignon NDiakpé is affiliated with Côte d'Ivoire Institute of Energy Research and focuses on Business research in Africa.

Abstract

Côte d'Ivoire's economy is predominantly driven by its formal sector, with a significant informal economy contributing to GDP but often underreported and understudied. An ethnographic study employing participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and focus group discussions among various stakeholders in Côte d'Ivoire's urban centers. The informal economy contributes approximately 40% to GDP, with a notable presence of small-scale trading, artisanal activities, and home-based enterprises. Regulatory challenges include inconsistent enforcement and lack of formal recognition for these businesses. Despite contributing significantly to the national economy, the Ivorian informal sector faces substantial barriers in accessing formal markets and resources due to regulatory and systemic limitations. Policy recommendations include enhancing legal protections, improving access to finance, and developing inclusive economic policies that recognise and support informal sector activities.

Keywords: *Côte d'Ivoire, Informal Economy, Anthropology, Mercantile System, Subsistence Agriculture, Rural Communities, Microfinance Institutions*

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ **REQUEST FULL PAPER**

Email: info@parj.africa

Request your copy of the full paper today!

SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

Submit at: app.parj.africa



Scan to visit app.parj.africa

Open Access Scholarship from PARJ

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge