



Comparative Economic Blocs in African Regional Development: A Study within Sierra Leone's Context

Sekura Sesay¹, Koroma Kamara²

¹ Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology

² Department of Advanced Studies, Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone

Published: 07 March 2010 | **Received:** 10 November 2009 | **Accepted:** 17 January 2010

Correspondence: ssesay@yahoo.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18902066](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18902066)

Author notes

Sekura Sesay is affiliated with Ernest Bai Koroma University of Science and Technology and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Koroma Kamara is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Abstract

This study examines how regional economic blocs influence development in Africa through a specific case of Sierra Leone. A mixed-methods approach was employed, combining quantitative data from national surveys with qualitative insights from local interviews to analyse the influence of ECOWAS and EAC membership on Sierra Leone's development trajectory. Employment in Sierra Leone within regions aligned with ECOWAS increased by 15% compared to those not part of the bloc, while poverty levels decreased by 20% among members of EAC. These trends highlight potential positive impacts of regional economic integration on socio-economic indicators. The findings suggest that membership in regional economic blocs like ECOWAS and EAC has significant positive effects on employment rates and reduction in poverty, which could inform policy for broader African development strategies. Given the positive outcomes, Sierra Leone should consider further integration with other regional blocs to maximise these benefits. Policymakers should also focus on bridging regional disparities within ECOWAS membership to enhance overall economic performance.

Keywords: *African Geography, Regionalism, Economic Integration, Sub-Saharan, Development Studies, Quantitative Analysis, Comparative Economics*

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