

Soutenance de thèse de Carine Meyimdjui

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Essais sur les politiques publiques de crises alimentaires et l'amélioration des exportations dans les pays en développement

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RÉSUMÉ

The recent surges in food commodity prices have drawn attention on one of most severe sources of vulnerability for developing countries. In addition to financial constraints that these countries already face, (among these, the lack of insurance system to weather external shocks), their households also spend an outsized portion of their budgets on food consumption. Consequently, they experienced substantial increase in their import bills in the wake of surges in food prices. Our thesis presents several essays that examine on one hand the public policies taken in response to import food shocks. On the other hand, since trade-related policies as well as exports concentration may also heighten countries' vulnerability, relevant

aspects of international trade are also discussed. The first half of our dissertation examines the link between import food price shocks and fiscal policy. Chapter 1 describes the effect of food price shocks on governments' expenditure structure, while Chapters 2 and 3 turn to how governments' use of discretionary fiscal policy and fiscal stimulus during food price shocks affect household consumption and socio-political instability. The second half of our thesis consists of two chapters addressing agricultural price distortion and exports concentration. Chapter 4 lays out the impact of climatic variability on agricultural price distortions, while Chapter 5 focuses on how exports concentration and exports quality upgrading affect household consumption volatility.

MOTS-CLÉS

food price, vulnerability, government consumption expenditure, discretionary policy, price distortions, exports concentration, exports quality, household consumption, socio-political instability

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