Introduction

African farmers and agricultural businesses are the major drivers of the continent's economic growth and development (Kehinde, 2017). Agriculture accounts for more than 32% of GDP and employs 65% of the labour force in Africa (Sennhauser & Janane, 2015). In some countries, it contributes over 80% of trade volume and more than 50% of raw materials to industries (Sennhauser & Janane, 2015). Despite being a crucial sector, agricultural productivity in Africa has declined in recent years.

Insights from the Literature

- Todd et al. (2010); IEG (2011); Gertler et al. (2012) show that social protection leads to a significant increase in agricultural production and investment as evidenced under cash transfers schemes in Latin America.
- Andersson et al. (2009) support Devereux et al. (2008) that social protection increases agricultural employment and production in Ethiopia; while Andersson et al. (2009) found that social protection did not increase employment due to its failure to target the most vulnerable.
- Asfaw et al. (2012), on the other hand, found that social protection simply leads to a modest increase in agricultural participation in Kenya. Handa et al. (2013) proved that social protection has no significant impact on employment in Ghana.

Objective

- To examine how agricultural sector will be made attractive through social protection policies/programmes for employment in Africa.

Production, Family income and Food security

Conclusion

- Agricultural transformation should focus on the enhancement of rural households access to mechanization services, quality and affordable agricultural inputs.
- Agriculture should be made attractive through social protection policies/programmes for employment.

Data Analysis

- GMM was employed on 37 African countries
- Data was sourced from CPIA and WDI (2005 – 2017)

Model

\[ \ln(\text{agricemp})_t = \phi \ln(\text{agricemp})_{t-1} + \beta_1 \text{SOP}_t + \beta_2 \text{CAP}_t + \beta_3 \ln(\text{POP})_t + \beta X'_{it} + \delta_t + \epsilon_{it} \]

Where: \( \ln(\text{agricemp})_t \) is the log of the dependent variable (agriculture employment), \( \phi \) is constant, \( \beta, \) are parameters; \( \delta_t \) controls for time dimension; \( \epsilon_{it} \) is error term.