

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910464231603321
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Titolo	The macroeconomic impact of scaled-up aid [[electronic resource]] : the case of Niger / / Abdi Karim Farah, Emilio Sacerdoti, and Gonzalo Salinas
Pubbl/distr/stampa	[Washington, D.C.], : International Monetary Fund, 2009
ISBN	1-4623-6486-1 1-4527-2888-7 1-282-84258-7 9786612842580 1-4518-7183-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (35 p.)
Collana	IMF working paper ; ; WP/09/36
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Soggetti	Economic assistance - Niger Economic development - Niger Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; The Macroeconomic Impact of Scaled-Up Aid: The Case of Niger; I. Introduction; II. Aid and Growth-Literature Review; III. The Model; A. Supply Side; B. Aid Flows; C. Demand Side; D. Closing of the Model; E. Calibration and Simulation of the Model: the Niger Case; Tables; 1. Assumed Values of Key Parameters for General Equilibrium Simulation; 2. Composition of Assumed Increase in Foreign Aid from 2007 to 2008; Figures; 1. Economic Impact of AID (Scenario I); 3. Incidence of Poverty Under Different Aid Scenarios, 2007-13; F. Comparison to Other Estimates 4. Increase in GDP Growth Rate Caused by Higher Foreign Aid IV. Conclusions; 2. Aid Impact on Growth (% of GDP); References; Appendix; Effect of the Late Impact Aid on Human Capital Accumulation; Appendix Tables; 1. Scenario I-2007-15; 2. Projections Based on Econometric Findings in Clements, Radelet, and Bhavnani, 2004; 3. Alternative Estimates of the Impact of an Aid Increase by Five

**Sommario/riassunto**

We develop a simple macroeconomic model that assesses the effects of higher foreign aid on output growth and other macroeconomic variables, including the real exchange rate. The model is easily tractable and requires estimation of only a few basic parameters. It takes into account the impact of aid on physical and human capital accumulation, while recognizing that the impact of the latter is more protracted. Application of the model to Niger-one of the poorest countries in the world-suggests that if foreign aid as a share of GDP were to be permanently increased from the equivalent of 10 percent