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STRATEGIC APPROACHES TO ENHANCING TOGO'S STRENGTHS AND OVERCOMING CHALLENGES IN THE CURRENT GEOPOLITICAL LANDSCAPE FOR NATIONAL GROWTH

By

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DISSERTATION

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DEDICATION

To Almighty God, Whose infinite grace and wisdom have supported me throughout this journey of discovery and knowledge.

To the memory of my beloved parents, the late EFAVI Kwadjo Georges Edina and the late YAKPO AMA, Your sacrifices, love, and dedication to our education are etched in my heart. May this work be a testament to your invaluable legacy. REST IN PEACE.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, ACRONYMS, AND INITIALISMS

- AfCFTA: African Continental Free Trade Area
- AfDB: African Development Bank
- AIDS: Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
- AFD: French Development Agency
- ASEAN: Association of Southeast Asian Nations
- BCE: European Central Bank
- CPIB: Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau
- CSR: Corporate Social Responsibility
- DALF: Advanced Diploma in French Language
- DBA: Doctorate of Business Administration
- DELF: Diploma in French Language Studies
- ECOWAS: Economic Community of West African States
- EDB: Economic Development Board
- EEA: European Economic Area
- EMS: European Monetary System
- EPP: Essential Pharmaceutical Products
- FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization
- FDI: Foreign Direct Investment
- FMI: Fonds Monétaire International (International Monetary Fund)
- HIV: Human Immunodeficiency Virus
- ICC: International Criminal Court
- ICT: Information and Communication Technology
- ILO: International Labour Organization
- IMF: International Monetary Fund
- INSEED: Institut National de la Statistique et des Études Économiques et Démographiques
- ITU: International Telecommunication Union
- MoU: Memorandum of Understanding
- NGO: Non-Governmental Organization
- OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- OPEC: Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries

- PIA: Plateforme Industrielle d'Adétikopé
- PPP: Public-Private Partnership
- SDGs: Sustainable Development Goals
- SEZ: Special Economic Zones
- UHC: Universal Health Coverage
- UN: United Nations
- UNCTAD: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- UNDP: United Nations Development Programme
- UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- UNICEF: United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
- UNIDO: United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- UNWTO: United Nations World Tourism Organization
- USAID: United States Agency for International Development
- USTR: United States Trade Representative
- WAEMU: West African Economic and Monetary Union
- WB: World Bank
- WHO: World Health Organization
- WIPO: World Intellectual Property Organization
- WTO: World Trade Organization

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to explore how Togo can leverage its comparative strengths and address its institutional weaknesses to achieve sustainable national development within the current geopolitical context. It seeks to identify actionable strategies to enhance economic resilience, foster inclusive growth, strengthen governance structures, and improve political stability.

The methodology of this doctoral research employs a mixed-methods approach, integrating qualitative and quantitative techniques to comprehensively analyze Togo's national development strategies within its geopolitical and socio-economic context. Quantitative data was collected through surveys targeting a total of 110 respondents, including citizens, stakeholders, businesses, NGOs, diplomats, and government officials, while qualitative data was gathered through in-depth interviews with thirty (30) face-to-face and forty (40) telephone-based, key stakeholders. Additional methods included focus groups, direct observations, case studies of successful development models from countries like Singapore, Rwanda, Ghana, Malaysia, Estonia, Finland, and Djibouti, and document analysis of official reports, legislative texts, and international agreements.

Quantitative analysis revealed statistical trends and correlation between GDP growth rates, FDI inflows, employment rates, trade balances, inflation rates, political stability, economic challenges, and governance inefficiencies, while qualitative insights highlighted underlying mechanisms, stakeholder perceptions, contextual nuances, institutional reforms, the impact of international partnerships, and the importance of citizen engagement in shaping development strategies.

However, challenges such as economic inequalities, corruption, security threats, governance inefficiencies, infrastructure gaps, trade imbalances, high poverty rates, political instability, environmental issues, and limited access to quality education and healthcare emerged as notable drawbacks. These findings suggest that while leveraging strategic initiatives, government policies, and geographical advantages enhance economic growth and social development, Togo should implement targeted reforms to address governance inefficiencies, corruption, infrastructure gaps, security threats, and social inequalities for sustainable progress.

Keywords: Geopolitical Context, National Development, Geopolitical Strategy, Institutional Reforms, Economic Diversification, Strategic Partnerships, Model Countries, Sustainable Growth.

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GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Togo, a country in West Africa, is situated between Ghana to the west, Benin to the east, and Burkina Faso to the north, with a coastline along the Gulf of Guinea to the south. (Heilbrunn, J. R., 1993). This strategic geographical position provides Togo with privileged access to regional and international markets, but it also places the country at the heart of complex geopolitical dynamics. A strategically located West African nation, Togo possesses remarkable potential for economic expansion, trade facilitation, and regional integration due to its unique geographical position along the Gulf of Guinea. Home to the Autonomous Port of Lomé, the only deep-water port in the region capable of accommodating large-scale commercial vessels, Togo serves as a critical gateway for international trade (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). Additionally, its proximity to landlocked nations such as Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali enhances its status as a key transit hub, allowing these countries to overcome logistical barriers and access global markets (AfDB, 2022, p. 18). Togo is a member of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union (AU)[1].

Despite these strategic advantages, persistent economic and governance challenges impede Togo's ability to fully capitalize on its assets. The nation struggles with economic disparity, weak institutional frameworks, corruption, and security threats, which stem in part from regional instability and growing unrest in the Sahel (Transparency International, 2024, p. 112). These challenges, coupled with structural inefficiencies in trade and investment policies, restrict sustainable development and hinder Togo's aspirations to become a leading economic hub in West Africa. Addressing these complex issues requires well-designed institutional reforms, foreign direct investment (FDI) incentives, and strengthened governance mechanisms to ensure equitable growth and stability (IMF, 2023, p. 78).

One of the most significant geopolitical developments in recent years is the withdrawal of Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) (Sow, 2024, p. 76). These nations exited ECOWAS following sanctions imposed by the bloc, which they deemed disproportionate and politically motivated. This withdrawal led to the formation of the Alliance of Sahel States (AES), an alternative framework aimed at fostering regional autonomy and security cooperation. As landlocked nations, these countries rely heavily on access to ports for international trade, and Togo, with its deep-water Autonomous Port of Lomé, offers a vital solution to their logistical needs (UNCTAD, 2023, p. 51).

The current geopolitical landscape presents both opportunities and risks for Togo. Regional trade agreements like the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) offer avenues for economic diversification and integration into global markets, while regional instability and governance

[1] ECOWAS. (2022). *Annual Report on Regional Integration*. Retrieved from https://www.ecowas.int/annual-report.

inefficiencies pose significant barriers to progress. While initiatives such us the Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion (SCAPE) 2013-2017, the National Development Plan (PND) 2018-20222, the Government Roadmap 2020-20253, the Adétikopé Industrial Platform (PIA) seek to modernize production and attract investors, their long-term sustainability and impact on job creation remain unclear (OECD, 2024, p. 88). Unless Togo enhances its regulatory environment and streamlines economic policies, the country risks missing critical growth opportunities within AfCFTA. Despite these challenges, Togo has demonstrated resilience through initiatives such as the Adétikopé Industrial Platform (PIA) and investments in infrastructure aimed at modernizing the economy and attracting foreign investments. However, the effectiveness of these initiatives remains uncertain, necessitating a deeper exploration of how Togo can leverage its comparative strengths and address its weaknesses to achieve robust national development.

This study seeks to answer the central research question: ***How can Togo leverage its comparative advantages and address its weaknesses to achieve sustainable national development in the current geopolitical context***? It is crucial for identifying growth levers and necessary reforms to enhance the country's economic and political resilience.

To address this research problem, the following research sub-questions are proposed:

- How can Togo leverage its geographical advantages for trade and logistics to enhance economic growth?

Togo's strategic location provides significant opportunities for trade and logistics. Understanding how to maximize these advantages can enhance economic growth (Heilbrunn, 1993, p. 112).

- What impact does political stability have on attracting foreign investments in Togo?

Political stability is crucial for creating a favorable investment climate. Evaluating its impact can help in formulating policies to attract more foreign investments (Oxford Business Group, 2022).

- What institutional reforms and strategic partnerships are needed to strengthen Togo's development prospects?

Proposing institutional reforms and identifying strategic partnerships can help in building stronger governance structures, improving investor confidence, and diversifying investment sources (Pellegatta, 2020; UNESCO, 2023).

Drawing inspiration from successful development models such as Singapore, Rwanda, Ghana, and Finland, the research emphasizes the importance of institutional reforms, infrastructure

[2] Government of Togo. (2018). *National Development Plan (PND) 2018-2022*. Retrieved from https://www.togopnd.tg

[3] United Nations. (2023). *Framework for Cooperation for Sustainable Development 2023-2026*. United Nations. P.13

modernization, economic diversification, and fostering innovation and entrepreneurship. By synthesizing lessons from global models and tailoring them to Togo's unique socio-economic and political context, this study aims to provide policymakers with actionable strategies for fostering inclusive and sustainable growth. Ultimately, the findings contribute to the broader discourse on development strategies for emerging economies, emphasizing the importance of leveraging comparative strengths and addressing structural weaknesses to navigate complex geopolitical challenges.

Although numerous studies have examined the political, economic, and social dynamics shaping the country's trajectory, critical gaps persist that warrant further scholarly inquiry. The originality of this study lies in its holistic and integrated approach, incorporating geopolitical, security, economic, and social dimensions to offer comprehensive solutions for Togo's future development.

Our study unfolds in three interconnected parts, each composed of two chapters, meticulously designed to provide a comprehensive exploration of our research theme.

Part I: Historical Context and Theoretical Foundations This initial section establishes the intellectual framework necessary to grasp the essence of our research problem. Chapter 1 delves into the historical and political landscape of Togo, contextualizing the broader dynamics that shape our study. Chapter 2 then articulates the problem statement, research questions, objectives, and hypotheses, laying the groundwork for the subsequent inquiry.

Part II: Theoretical Framework and Research Methodology Building upon the foundations laid in Part I, this segment integrates both theoretical perspectives and methodological considerations. Chapter 3 offers an extensive literature review, examining the key scholarly contributions that inform our study. Chapter 4 then details the research methodology, emphasizing the analytical approaches and techniques employed to ensure the rigor and validity of our findings.

Part III: Findings, Analysis, and Discussions In the final section, we present and critically examine the results of our research. Chapter 5 systematically organizes the empirical data derived from surveys, interviews, and case studies, offering a structured and insightful presentation. Chapter 6 then engages in an in-depth analytical discussion, interpreting the findings in light of our hypotheses and research objectives, culminating in key recommendations that contribute to both academic discourse and practical applications.

Table 1 below provides a clear and structured overview of the thesis, summarizing its organization and the content of each part and chapter. It is serving as a roadmap for the rest of the thesis.

Table 1: Structure of the Thesis

Parts	Chapters	Content
Part I: Historical Context and Theoretical Framework of the Research	**Chapter 1: Historical and Political Context of Togo**	Analysis of key historical events and the political framework shaping Togo's development.
	Chapter 2: Problem Statement, Objectives, and Hypotheses	Identification of the research problem, formulation of objectives, research questions, and hypotheses.
Part II: Theoretical Framework and Research Methodology	**Chapter 3: Literature Review**	Synthesis of existing academic works, highlighting gaps relevant to the research themes.
	Chapter 4: Research Methodology	Presentation of research methods and tools, including surveys, interviews, and case studies.
Part III: Results, Comments, and Discussions	**Chapter 5: Presentation of Results**	Organization and presentation of empirical findings from surveys, interviews, and data analysis.
	Chapter 6: Discussions, and Recommendations	Interpretation of results, evaluation of hypotheses, and development of recommendations for Togo's national development.

(Source: personal creation)

PART I: HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF TOGO AND STUDY PROBLEM

Part I of this thesis is dedicated to establishing a robust theoretical framework. The Chapter 1 titled Historical and political context of Togo, delves into the historical and political context of Togo, exploring its journey through colonial rule, the quest for independence, and its ongoing efforts to navigate the complexities of modern governance and regional integration. In Chapter 2 titled Problem Statement, Research Questions, Research Objectives, Research Hypotheses, we will clearly define the central problem of our study and the research questions arising from it. We will present the objectives of our research and the hypotheses we aim to test. This step is crucial for guiding our analysis and directing our investigations towards precise and actionable answers.

CHAPTER 1: HISTORICAL AND POLITICAL CONTEXT OF TOGO

The history of Togo is a rich tapestry woven from a blend of indigenous traditions, colonial legacies, and post-independence transformations. Located strategically along the Gulf of Guinea, Togo has been a crossroads of cultures and a focal point of geopolitical interests for centuries. The intricate historical evolution of Togo from pre-colonial migrations and early civilizations to its pivotal roles in regional and continental affairs reflects the resilience and dynamism of its people. This chapter delves into the historical and political context of Togo, exploring its journey through colonial rule, the quest for independence, and its ongoing efforts to navigate the complexities of modern governance and regional integration.

Beginning with the migration of various ethnic groups in the 11th century, including the Ewé, Togo's early history is marked by the establishment of influential kingdoms such as Tado. The arrival of European explorers in the 15th century heralded an era of trade and later colonial domination, with Germany establishing the colony of Togoland in 1884. The aftermath of World War I saw Togoland divided between France and Britain, leading to the eventual independence of French Togo in 1960. This chapter also examines the post-independence development policies and the impact of structural adjustment programs in shaping Togo's economic landscape. The current political context and geopolitical challenges, as well as Togo's strategic role within regional organizations like the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)[4] and the African Economic Community (AEC)[5], are analyzed to provide a comprehensive understanding of Togo's historical and political trajectory.

1.1. Historical Evolution of Togo

The history of Togo dates to the 11th century when various ethnic groups, including the Ewé, migrated to the region. The coastal area was first explored by the Portuguese in the 15th century and later became part of the transatlantic slave trade under various European powers. In 1884, Togo was colonized by Germany and became known as Togoland. After World War I, the territory

[4] The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS; also known as CEDEAO in French and Portuguese) is a regional political and economic union of fifteen countries of West Africa. Collectively, the countries comprise an area of 5,114,162 km2 (1,974,589 sq mi) and have an estimated population of over 424.34 million. The union was established on 28 May 1975, with the signing of the Treaty of Lagos,[7] with its stated mission to promote economic integration across the region. A revised version of the treaty was agreed and signed on 24 July 1993 in Cotonou, the largest city in Benin. Consulted on https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ECOWAS, January10, 2025.

[5] The African Economic Community (AEC) is an organization of African Union states establishing grounds for mutual economic development among the majority of African states. The stated goals of the organization include the creation of free trade areas, customs unions, a single market, a central bank, and a common currency thus establishing an economic and monetary union., Consulted on https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/African_Economic_Community, January10, 2025.

was divided between France and Britain under League of Nations mandates. French Togo gained independence in 1960, becoming the Republic of Togo.

Migrations and Early Civilizations The migrations of the Ewé and other ethnic groups, such as the Kabiyé and the Mina, played a crucial role in the formation of the early Togolese civilizations. The Kingdom of Tado, one of the early kingdoms in the region, became a significant center of power and culture. These migrations are also responsible for the linguistic and cultural diversity of present-day Togo (Kedem, 1999).

European Exploration and Colonization The exploration of the Togolese coast by the Portuguese in the 15th century paved the way for the establishment of trade relations with Europeans. By the 18th century, the Danes and the Dutch had established trade posts along the coast. However, it was Germany that, in 1884, turned Togo into a protectorate with the signing of the Treaty of Togoville between Gustav Nachtigal and King Mlapa III (Asiedu, 2013). This German colonial period left a legacy of infrastructure and institutions that influenced the country's subsequent development (Kuba, 2006).

The colonization of Togo by the Germans commenced in 1884 when the German Empire established Togoland as a German colony. In 1883, the German chancellor, Otto von Bismarck, decided to impose a protectorate on the area now known as Togo. Togoville, on the northern shore of Lake Togo in what is now the southern part of the country, came to German attention when Gustav Nachtigal[6], the German consul general in West Africa signed a protectorate treaty with local Chief Mlapa III of Togoville[7], on 5 July 1884. So it was that Germany claimed overlordship over the territory. History has it that Plakou, the king's "stick-bearer" signed the treaty that gave Togo away to Germany. Consequently, Togoland was placed under German protection. This colonization period lasted until 1914, when Germany lost control of the territory during World War I[8].

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[6] Gustav Nachtigal (born Feb. 23, 1834, Eichstedt, Brandenburg—died April 19, 1885, at sea, off Cape Palmas, Liberia) was an explorer of the Sahara who helped Germany obtain protectorates in western equatorial Africa. After spending several years as a military surgeon, he went to Tunisia as physician to the bey (ruler) and took part in several expeditions to the interior. Nachtigal, G. (n.d.). In *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. Retrieved from https://www.britannica.com/biography/Gustav-Nachtigal

[7] Mlapa III was the last ruling king of the Togo-Bè Kingdom, a precolonial state located in what is now southern Togo. He reigned during the late 19th century and played a significant role in the history of the region. In 1884, Mlapa III signed a treaty with German explorer Gustav Nachtigal, which established a German protectorate over the territory. This treaty marked the beginning of German colonial rule in Togo1. Mlapa III's true name was Plakoo, and he was known for his invulnerability to firearms and knives, which is reflected in his nickname. Retrieved from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Togo-B%C3%A8_Kingdom?form=MG0AV3

[8] Ekoue, B. (2020). *The West African kingdom that became a country*. Good Governance Africa. https://gga.org/the-west-african-kingdom-that-became-a-country/

The Germans set up infrastructures and administrative systems, and they encouraged the settlement of German colonists in the region. However, the colonization was also marked by exploitative practices and tensions with local populations.

Togo, having been a German colony since 1884, was occupied during the Great War by French and British forces. It was subsequently divided between the two Powers and placed under mandate control by the League of Nations (LoN)[9]. Following the surrender of German troops on August 27, 1914, an agreement was signed in Lomé between the governor of Dahomey (now Benin) and the governor of the Gold Coast (now Ghana) to share the territory based on the advancement of their troops. This agreement, signed on September 7, 1914, by the French and British governments, aimed to organize both civil and military occupation. On February 2, 1915, France established a territorial military command in Petit-Popo, and on September 4, 1916, a commissioner of the Republic was appointed to administer the occupied territories.

Following the Treaty of Versailles on June 28, 1919, Germany was mandated to renounce its colonies. Consequently, France and the United Kingdom divided Togo according to the Milner-Simon Declaration on July 10, 1919, which extended the French zone to Lomé and certain railway lines. The British-occupied Togoland (30,000 km²), later annexed to the Gold Coast and independent as Ghana in 1957, and the French-occupied Togoland (56,000 km²), which became an independent Republic in 1960, were permanently separated.

The formal transfer of the territories occurred on September 30, 1920. The first issue of the Official Journal of the Occupied Territories of Former Togoland was published in October. This division was confirmed by the League of Nations Council, which on July 20, 1922, assigned each country a type B mandate over their respective territories[10].

In 1946, the French government agreed to submit the territories of Togo and Cameroon to an international trusteeship regime, as per an agreement approved by the UN General Assembly on December 13, 1946. The administering Powers were urged by the UN to evolve the status of these territories. Thus, in British Togoland, a referendum was held on May 9, 1956: 93,095 votes (58%) favored union with the Gold Coast, soon to become independent as Ghana, while 67,492 votes

[9] The League of Nations (LoN), founded on January 10, 1920, by the Treaty of Versailles, aimed to maintain world peace and prevent future conflicts by providing a platform for peaceful resolution of disputes. With goals such as disarmament, improving working conditions, and protecting minorities, the LoN had up to 58 members. Despite some successes, it failed to prevent the aggressions of the 1930s, leading to its dissolution in 1946 and the creation of the United Nations. Retrieved from, League of Nations. (1938). *The Covenant of the League of Nations, including amendments in force, February 1, 1938*. London: H.M. Stationery Office.

[10] League of Nations, C. 449 (1) d. M. 345 (d) 1922. VI. Official Journal of the Occupied Territories of Former Togoland, no. 1, October 1, 1920. The official journals can be consulted at legitogo, http://legitogo.gouv.tg/journaux-officiels.

(42%) opposed it, with opponents being the majority in the southern districts of Ho and Kpandu, where the Ewe people sought unity.

In French Togoland, a representative assembly elected by universal suffrage was established by decree no. 46-2378 on October 25, 1946. The law of February 6, 1952, replaced it with a territorial assembly elected by a single electoral college. Subsequently, the law of April 16, 1955, instituted a government council. The law of June 23, 1956 (Defferre law) authorized the French government to implement new reforms and take measures to ensure the development of overseas territories. Its title II, relating to trust territories, allowed the definition of a status for Togo. This was the subject of a draft decree, whose first article stipulated that Togo would become an autonomous Republic, with domestic affairs managed by a legislative assembly and a council of ministers led by a prime minister accountable to the assembly.

The new status was to be subjected to a referendum under UN supervision. However, on August 13, the UN Trusteeship Council criticized the French proposal and refused to supervise the referendum. Nevertheless, after consulting the Togo Territorial Assembly, the decree was published on August 24, 1956 (French Official Journal of August 26, 1956, pp. 8173-8176), and promulgated in Togo by an order of August 29 (Togolese Official Journal of August 30, no. 888, p. 1). Thus, on August 30, 1956, the autonomous Republic of Togo was established. It was proclaimed on September 4, 1956, by the French High Commissioner, and officially inaugurated on September 21, 1956, by the Minister of Overseas France, Gaston Defferre[11]. Nicolas Grunitzky[12] became the first Prime Minister on September 10. The 1956 Statute was soon amended by decree no. 57-359 of March 22, 1957, which expanded the Prime Minister's powers. However, it was decree no. 58-187 of February 22, 1958, that officially established the Republic of Togo and paved the way for independence. Although it appeared to be a simple amendment to the 1956 Statute, it created a status that functioned as the first constitution for the new state. Under this, while Togo remained under trusteeship, only currency, defense, and foreign affairs remained under French jurisdiction. The April 1958 elections were won by Sylvanus Olympio[13] (Grunitzky's brother-in-law), an Ewe spokesperson educated in England and hostile to France, who became Prime Minister on May 16. However, to better pave the way towards independence, a new status

[11] Gaston Defferre (September 14, 1910 – May 7, 1986): Gaston Defferre was a French politician who played a key role in the decolonization of French overseas territories. As the Minister of Overseas France, he passed the framework law of 1956, which allowed territories under trusteeship, like Togo, to progress towards autonomy and independence.

[12]Nicolas Grunitzky (April 5, 1913 – September 27, 1969): Nicolas Grunitzky was the second president of Togo, serving from 1963 to 1967. Before that, he was the first Prime Minister of the Autonomous Republic of Togo from 1956 to 1958. Grunitzky was chosen as president after the 1963 coup that led to the assassination of his political rival and brother-in-law, Sylvanus Olympio.

[13] Sylvanus Olympio (September 6, 1902 – January 13, 1963): Sylvanus Olympio was the first president of Togo, serving from 1961 until his assassination in 1963. He played a crucial role in the struggle for Togo's independence from France. Olympio was a successful businessman and an influential politician who led the country to independence on April 27, 1960.

was promulgated on December 30, 1958, with UN approval. To establish the new independent state, the French High Commissioner would simply be replaced by a head of state, mostly in charge of international relations.

Located on Africa's west coast, Togo is bordered by Ghana in West, Benin in the East, and Burkina in the North. In the south Togo is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean.

Togo gained independence on April 27, 1960, and became a member of the UN on September 20, along with 17 other countries, 14 of which were former French possessions. The regime was significantly altered by the adoption of a new Constitution on April 9, which greatly increased the powers of the President of the Republic[14]. Since gaining independence in 1960, Togo had a first Constitution in 1961, and a second in 1963 following a military coup[15].

The regime in Togo remained stable after Colonel Eyadéma[16] seized power in 1967, despite some violence and multiple coup attempts. The III Republic's Constitution, however, was only adopted in 1979. The IV Republic's Constitution was enacted in 1992 after a prolonged transition process, during which President Eyadéma[17] regained power he had agreed to share. This Constitution has been amended several times, notably by law no. 2002-029 on December 31, 2002. A significant new revision was made in 2019, affecting 29 articles.

Under Eyadéma's rule, Togo experienced periods of relative stability but also political tensions and human rights violations (Amnesty International, 2005).

Since independence, Togo has faced economic and social challenges, including cycles of growth and recession, structural adjustment programs imposed by the IMF, and efforts to diversify the economy beyond agriculture and mining (Brown, 1995).

Education and public health policies have also evolved, with efforts to improve access and quality of services, although inequalities still persist today (World Bank, 2018).

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[14] *Journal officiel de la République togolaise*, 25 avril 1960, p. 1. Site du Journal officiel, http://www.jo.gouv.tg

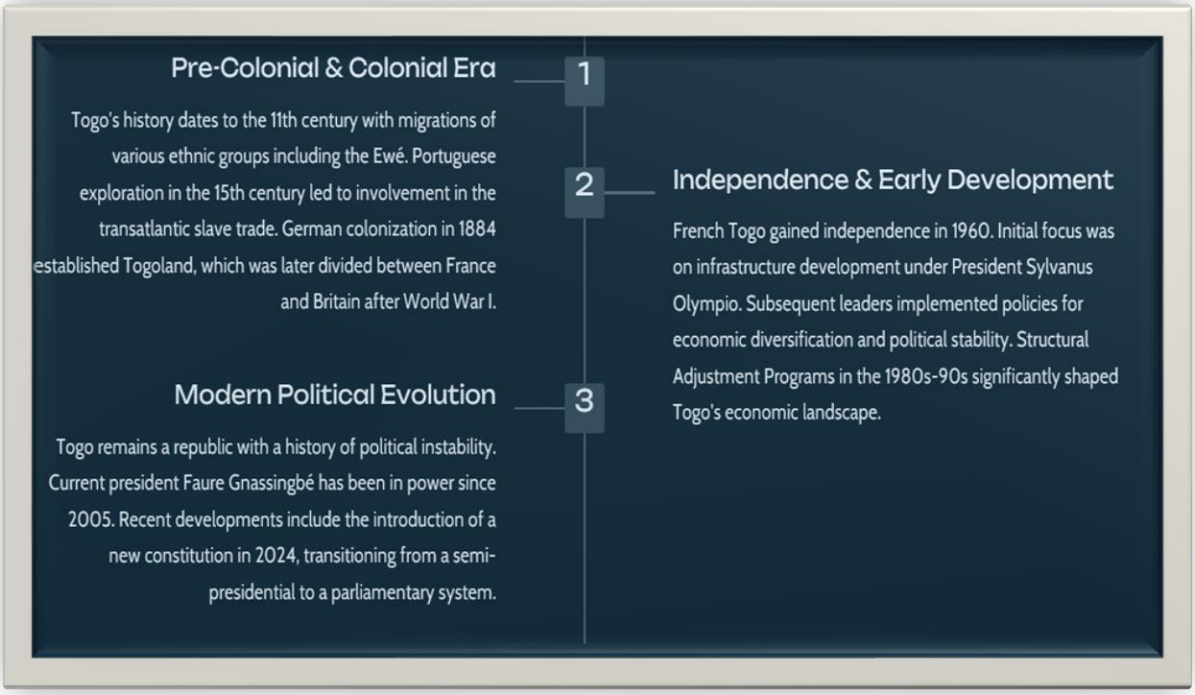
[15] https://mjp.univ-perp.fr/constit/tg.htm

[16] Gnassingbé Eyadéma (December 26, 1935 – February 5, 2005): Gnassingbé Eyadéma was the president of Togo from 1967 until his death in 2005. He took power after a military coup in 1967 and ruled the country for nearly four decades. His regime was marked by political repression and power consolidation, but also by attempts at economic modernization.

Togo's post-independence history is also marked by efforts to strengthen democracy and governance, including constitutional and electoral reforms, although the country still faces challenges in terms of transparency and political participation (Freedom House, 2021).

This graph 1, titled "Historical Context of Togo," presents a detailed timeline of significant events that have shaped Togo's history over the centuries. Divided into three primary phases—"Pre-Colonial & Colonial Era," "Independence & Early Development," and "Modern Political Evolution"—the graph captures the most critical moments, from early migrations of ethnic groups to contemporary political changes. It serves as a vital reference for understanding Togo's transformative journey, highlighting key socio-political milestones that contribute to its identity today.

Figure 1: Historical Context of Togo



(Source: personal creation)

The graph 1 is an effective tool for tracing Togo's historical progression, offering viewers a concise yet comprehensive look at the events that have impacted its development. It is particularly useful for scholars, policymakers, and anyone interested in African history and Togo's role in global contexts.

The graph 2 below titled Colonial Legacy and Transition to Independence offers a comprehensive timeline capturing the evolution of Togo's governance and societal transformations between 1884 and 1967. Presented in four distinct phases—German Colonial Period (1884-1914), Franco-British Division (1914-1922), Path to Autonomy (1946-1956), and Independence and Early Republic (1960-1967)—the graph encapsulates key historical milestones, including the establishment of colonial governance, transitions after World War I, movements toward autonomy, and eventual independence. It underscores Togo's perseverance through political challenges and its progress toward becoming an independent state.

Figure 2: Colonial Legacy and Transition to Independence



(Source: personal creation)

The graph provides an invaluable resource for those interested in understanding Togo's colonial legacy and its journey to sovereignty. By highlighting the influence of both European powers and domestic efforts, this timeline reveals how pivotal moments have shaped the nation's identity and positioned it within a broader global context.

1.2. Analysis of Past Development Policies

Post-independence, Togo adopted various development policies, often influenced by its colonial legacy and geopolitical context. The country's initial focus was on infrastructure development and modernization under President Sylvanus Olympio. Subsequent leaders, like Gnassingbé Eyadéma, implemented policies aimed at economic diversification and political stability. The impact of Structural Adjustment Programs in the 1980s and 1990s, promoted by the IMF and World Bank, also significantly shaped Togo’s economic landscape, with mixed results.

Infrastructure Development and Modernization Following independence in 1960, Sylvanus Olympio's administration prioritized the development of infrastructure, including transportation networks, education, and healthcare systems, to modernize the nation. Efforts were made to reduce dependency on foreign aid and to promote self-sufficiency (Lawson, 2008). Olympio initiated ambitious projects such as the construction of roads and bridges, the improvement of ports, and the establishment of educational institutions. Unfortunately, his term was interrupted by a coup in 1963 (Thompson, 1969).

Economic Diversification under Eyadéma Gnassingbé Eyadéma, who seized power in a 1967 coup, focused on diversifying the economy beyond agriculture. He promoted the development of phosphate mining, which became a significant source of revenue for the country. However, Eyadéma's policies were often criticized for centralizing power and benefiting a small elite (Gingrich, 2007). Under his regime, industrial development projects were also launched, but many failed due to mismanagement and corruption (Decalo, 1996).

Togo underwent significant economic changes due to Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPs) imposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank in the 1980s and 1990s. These programs aimed to stabilize the economy through austerity measures, trade liberalization, and the privatization of state-owned enterprises. While some economic indicators improved, these policies also led to increased unemployment, social unrest, and a reduction in public services (Brown, 1995). The SAPs also generated social tensions, as many Togolese felt the negative effects of reduced public spending and economic reforms (World Bank, 2000).

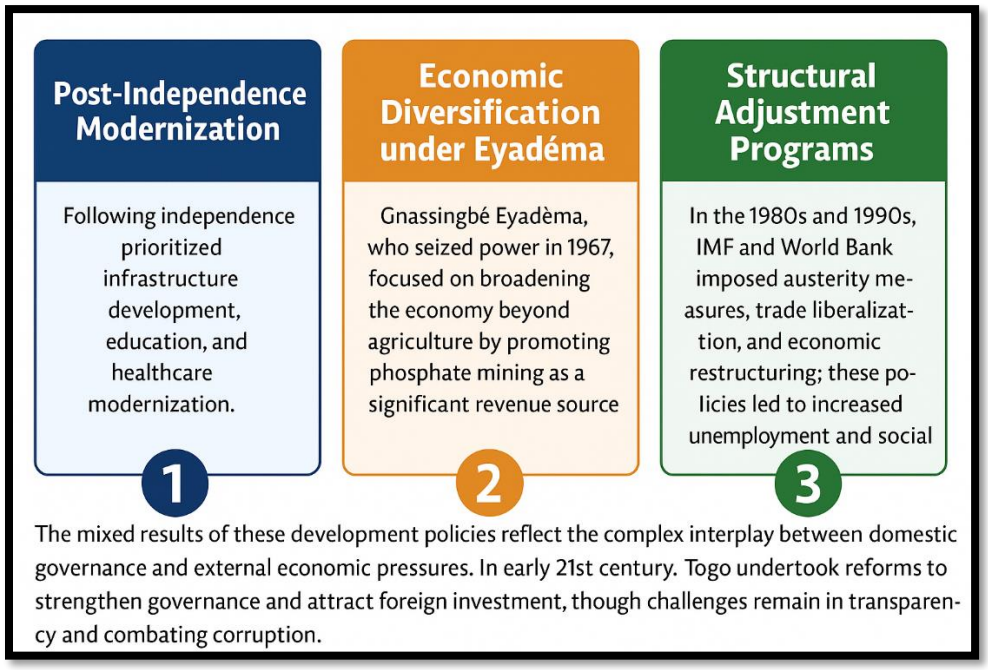
The mixed results of these development policies reflect the complex interplay between domestic governance and external economic pressures. While infrastructure development and economic diversification brought some benefits, the socio-economic impact of SAPs highlighted the challenges of implementing externally-driven economic reforms in a developing country context (Smith, 2003). Togo's economy experienced periods of growth, but also phases of recession and stagnation, illustrating the economy's vulnerability to external shocks (Amouzou, 2015).

In the early 21st century, Togo undertook economic and institutional reforms to strengthen governance and attract foreign investment. The country implemented measures to improve the

business climate and promote the private sector (Kouassi, 2018). Additionally, efforts were made to diversify income sources, notably through the development of tourism and agro-industry sectors. However, challenges remain in terms of transparency, combating corruption, and strengthening democratic institutions (Freedom House, 2021).

The graph 3 below titled "Analysis of Past Development Policies" offers a structured examination of Togo's historical development strategies over distinct periods. It highlights key phases such as the Post-Independence Modernization led by Sylvanus Olympio, emphasizing infrastructure, education, and healthcare improvements to reduce dependency on foreign aid. It then transitions to Economic Diversification under Gnassingbé Eyadéma, focusing on expanding revenue sources through phosphate mining. Finally, it delves into the Structural Adjustment Programs of the 1980s-90s, which introduced austerity measures and privatization, yielding mixed results in economic stability and social unrest.

Figure 3: Analysis of Past Development Policies



(Source: personal creation)

This graph 3 serves as a valuable resource for understanding the multifaceted evolution of Togo's development policies. It underscores the complex interplay between governance and external economic pressures while providing critical insights for scholars, policymakers, and development practitioners. The closing note highlights ongoing challenges such as transparency and combating corruption, which remain pivotal to sustaining future progress.

1.3. Current Political Context

Togo remains a republic with a history of political instability and human rights challenges. The current president, Faure Gnassingbé, has been in power since 2005, succeeding his father. Key issues include the struggle for democratic reforms.

Regarding the Struggle for Democratic Reforms, Civil society and opposition parties in Togo advocate for democratic reforms, including presidential term limits and electoral transparency.

A new Constitution establishing a Fifth Republic was adopted by the National Assembly on March 25, 2024, on the eve of the general elections. In response to widespread opposition, President Faure Essozimna Gnassingbé[18], who succeeded President Eyadéma, called for a review of the text. Following some modifications, the project was approved on April 19 and enacted on May 6 by law no. 2024-005. The new Constitution formally establishes a parliamentary regime. The President of the Council of Ministers is elected by and accountable to the Assembly and holds the most significant state powers. The President of the Republic, elected by Parliament convened in Congress, serves a four-year term with limited powers.

For several years, Togo's political landscape has been dominated by the ruling Union pour la République (UNIR) party. A significant change occurred with the adoption of a new constitution on March 25, 2024, enacted by the President of the Republic (PR) on May 6, 2024, marking Togo's entry into its fifth republic, transitioning the country from a semi-presidential to a parliamentary system. Under the new system, the PR will hold ceremonial powers, while the President of the Council with a 6-year renewable term and chosen from the majority party in Parliament, will govern with full decision-making and civil and military appointment authority. The new National Assembly was inaugurated on May 21, 2024, following elections largely won by UNIR, raking 108 seats against 5 for the opposition (in the legislatives), and 137 seats against 42 for the opposition (in regional elections).

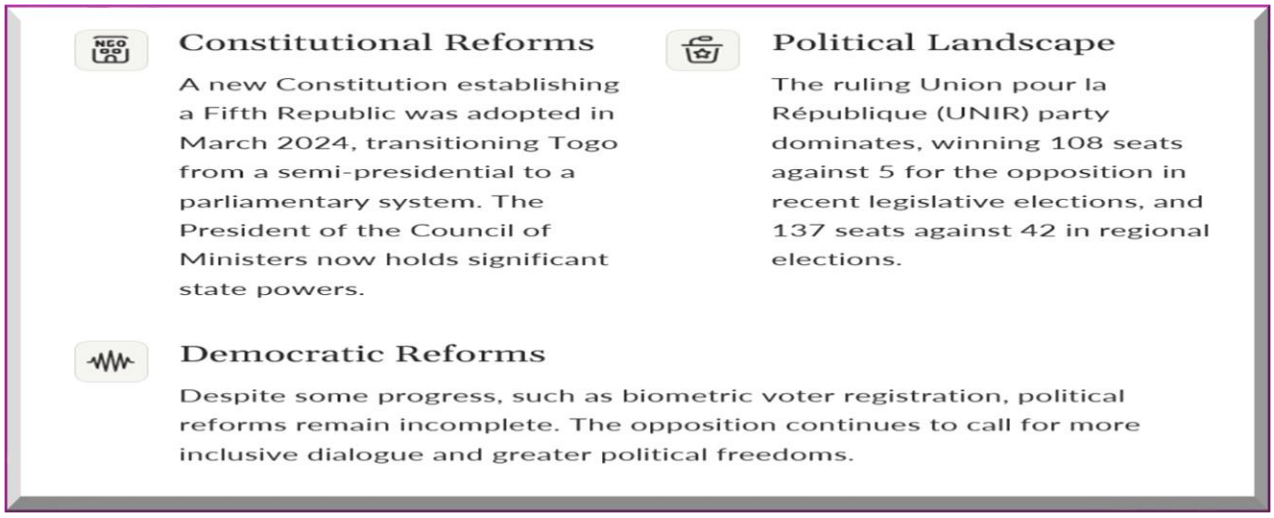
[18] Faure Essozimna Gnassingbé (born June 6, 1966) is a Togolese politician who has been the fourth president of Togo since 2005. Before assuming the presidency, he was appointed by his father, President Gnassingbé Eyadéma, as Minister of Equipment, Mines, Posts, and Telecommunications, serving from 2003 to 2005. After President Eyadéma's death in 2005, Faure Gnassingbé was immediately installed as president with the support of the military. Concerns about the constitutional legitimacy of his succession led to significant regional pressure on Gnassingbé, and he subsequently resigned on February 25, 2005. He then won a presidential election on April 24, 2005, and was inaugurated as president. Gnassingbé was re-elected for a second term in 2010, a third term in 2015, and a fourth term in 2020. Faure Gnassingbé was born in Afagnan, in the Lacs Prefecture, and is of Kabye origin. He received his secondary education in Lomé before studying in Paris at the University of Paris-Dauphine, where he earned a degree in financial business management. He later obtained a Master of Business Administration from George Washington University in the United States.

On August 21, 2024, a new 35-member caretaker government was appointed, led by Prime Minister Victoire Dogbe[19]. This government will oversee the transition until the full installation of institutions of the fifth republic.

Despite some progress, such as the introduction of biometric voter registration, these reforms remain incomplete, and political tensions persist (Freedom House, 2021). The opposition has called for more inclusive dialogue and greater political freedoms, but the government has been slow to implement meaningful changes (International Crisis Group, 2019).

This graph, titled "Current Political Context in Togo," provides a comprehensive overview of the nation's recent political developments. It is divided into three key sections: Constitutional Reforms, Political Landscape, and Democratic Reforms. The graph highlights pivotal changes such as the adoption of a new constitution establishing the Fifth Republic, the dominance of the ruling Union pour la République (UNIR) party in elections, and the progress and challenges in implementing democratic reforms.

Figure 4: Current Political Context in Togo



(Source: personal creation)

[19] Victoire Tomegah Dogbé is a Togolese politician born on December 23, 1959, in Lomé. She has been serving as the Prime Minister of Togo since September 28, 2020, becoming the first woman to hold this position. Before her appointment, she was the Minister of Grassroots Development, Handicrafts, Youth, and Youth Employment, as well as the Director of Cabinet for President Faure Gnassingbé. She also worked for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as the Operations Director and led several restructuring missions in offices in West Africa. Retrieved from https://primature.gouv.tg/en/premier_ministre/victoire-sidemeho-tomegah-dogbe/?form=MG0AV3

The graph 4 serves as a valuable resource for understanding the intricate dynamics of Togo's political evolution. It underscores the interplay between institutional restructuring, electoral outcomes, and the ongoing efforts to enhance democratic governance. This visual representation is particularly insightful for policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders interested in Togo's political trajectory and its implications for governance and development.

1.4. Current Socioeconomic and Geopolitical Challenges

Togo has made economic progress in recent years, with growth driven by the agriculture, services, and infrastructure sectors. However, social inequalities remain a significant challenge, with a large portion of the population still living in poverty. The government has launched several initiatives to improve access to education, healthcare, and social services (World Bank, 2019). Programs such as the National Development Plan aim to boost economic growth and reduce poverty, but implementation has been uneven (African Development Bank, 2020).

The last General Population and Housing Census (RGPH) in Togo, known as RGPH-5, took place in 2022. The final results were presented on April 4, 2023. According to these results, Togo's population is 8,095,498, with 4,150,988 women and 3,944,510 men. Poverty rate is significantly higher in rural areas (58.8%) compared to urban areas (26.5%).

This is largely due to concentrated economic growth in the modern sectors and limited access to quality services. Poverty is higher in female-headed households (45.7%) than in male-headed households (45.2%). Women remain more vulnerable, as they have less access to economic opportunities, education, health, and other basic socioeconomic facilities.

Togo’s score on the human capital index (HCI) is 0.43. This means that children born in Togo today will be only 43% as productive when they grow up as they could be if they had access to good healthcare, education, and nutrition[20].

Despite the persistent shocks since the COVID-19 pandemic, the Togolese economy has shown remarkable resilience, with an average growth rate of 6.1% between 2021 and 2023, thanks in part to fiscal stimulus measures. However, high inflation and disparities in economic opportunities between rural and urban areas continue to hinder progress in reducing poverty and inequality. The government has now embarked on a fiscal consolidation strategy to bring the deficit down to 3% of GDP by 2025, while continuing structural reforms aimed at boosting private investment and job creation, particularly by adopting climate-smart agricultural practices[21].

[20] World Bank. (2024). *Togo - Overview*. World Bank. https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/togo/overview

[21] World Bank. (2024). Idem.

The budget deficit will decrease to 6.1% of GDP in 2024 (4.5% excluding the recapitalization of the Togolese Union Bank [UTB]), thanks to a reduction in public spending, particularly investment spending, and revenue mobilization efforts. The impact of fiscal consolidation measures on activity should be partially offset by a recovery in consumption, supported by lower inflation, while private investment is boosted by the development of the Adétikopé Industrial Platform (PIA). On the supply side, although industrial activity shows signs of slowing due to lower external demand, a robust agricultural season and sustained activity in the service sector have helped sustain economic activity.

Growth is expected to strengthen gradually to reach 5.4% in 2025 and 5.8% in 2026. This modest acceleration will be supported by ongoing and planned private investment projects, as well as a recovery in consumption with decreasing inflationary pressures. The poverty rate is expected to gradually decline to 23.5% by 2026 (international definition), supported by an increase in per capita GDP and a reduction in inflation.

The government's current development policy is defined in its national vision for sustainable development which aims to lay the political, economic, and social foundations for a peaceful Togo, a modern nation with inclusive and sustainable growth[22]. This vision is outlined in several programmatic frameworks, including the Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion (SCAPE) 2013-2017, the National Development Plan (PND) 2018-2022, and the Government Roadmap 2020-2025[23]. In Togo, the construction of a deep-water port and a new airport, along with the implementation of the Togo 2025 government roadmap and the construction of the Adétikopé Industrial Platform (PIA), aims to create a favorable environment for investment, industrialization, and economic development.

To remain competitive, it is necessary to revise certain laws and policies. The Government Roadmap 2020-2025, which is largely inspired by the PND 2018-2022, is the strategic and programmatic framework of government priorities until 2025 and thus constitutes the current reference source for all development partners in their cooperation frameworks[24]. The orientations of the Government Roadmap 2020-2025 stem from the new integrated national vision, which is articulated around three strategic axes: Strengthening social inclusion and harmony and consolidating peace; Boosting job creation by leveraging the strengths of the economy; Modernizing the country and strengthening its structures (United Nations, 2023).

[22] United Nations. (2023). *Framework for Cooperation for Sustainable Development 2023-2026*. United Nations. P.9
[23] United Nations. (2023). *Framework for Cooperation for Sustainable Development 2023-2026*. United Nations. P.13
[24] United Nations. (2023). *Framework for Cooperation for Sustainable Development 2023-2026*. United Nations

The overall objective is to structurally transform the economy to promote growth, social inclusion, job creation, and institutional modernization, particularly through digital means.

In response to the increasing insecurity in its northern region, Togo adopted the "Emergency Plan for Strengthening Resilience in the Savanes" (PURS) in 2022. This plan aims to: (i) improve communities' access to basic social services; (ii) enhance income generation capacity; and (iii) strengthen security forces and territorial administration. In 2023, the plan was expanded nationwide to address fragility factors for multidimensional resilience, supported by the preventive and resilience allocation of the International Development Association (IDA), constituting 75% of Togo's performance-based allocation.

The new World Bank Country Partnership Framework (CPF) with Togo aligns with ongoing national strategies and focuses on three main objectives:

- Enhancing the quality of employment in the private sector;
- Improving human capital;
- Promoting inclusive and resilient territorial development.

The International Finance Corporation (IFC)[25] has established itself as a key partner for Togo, contributing to landmark investments such as the Lomé Container Terminal, the largest transshipment port in West Africa, ContourGlobal IPP, the country's first independent power plant, and Ecobank Transnational Incorporated, thereby facilitating SME access to financing.

As outlined in the World Bank Group (WBG) Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for the 2025-2029 fiscal years, the IFC's strategy in Togo will focus on four priority areas: (i) enhancing agricultural productivity and selected agri-food value chains, including access to irrigation, mechanization, and financial services; (ii) improving transport and logistics infrastructure to position the country as a regional business hub, through direct financing and public-private partnerships (PPP); (iii) restructuring the energy sector to ensure reliable and sustainable access to electricity for all; (iv) digitization and development of the digital economy to stimulate growth, create jobs, and increase economic resilience[26].

[25] The International Finance Corporation (IFC) is a global development institution that focuses on the private sector. It is a part of the World Bank Group and works in more than 100 countries to promote economic development by investing in private enterprises and facilitating access to finance.

[26] International Finance Corporation. (2024). *About IFC*. International Finance Corporation. https://www.ifc.org/en/about

In line with the government's priorities, the IFC and the World Bank have jointly completed the Private Sector Diagnostic (CPSD) for Togo. This diagnostic aims to identify opportunities and outline the path for reforms to unlock private investments and "build back better" following the COVID-19 pandemic. The diagnostic primarily focuses on two critical sectors: agriculture, and transport and logistics. The CPSD has laid the foundation for the development of the IFC's country strategy and the new Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for 2025-2029, which was approved in May 2024 (World Bank. (2024).

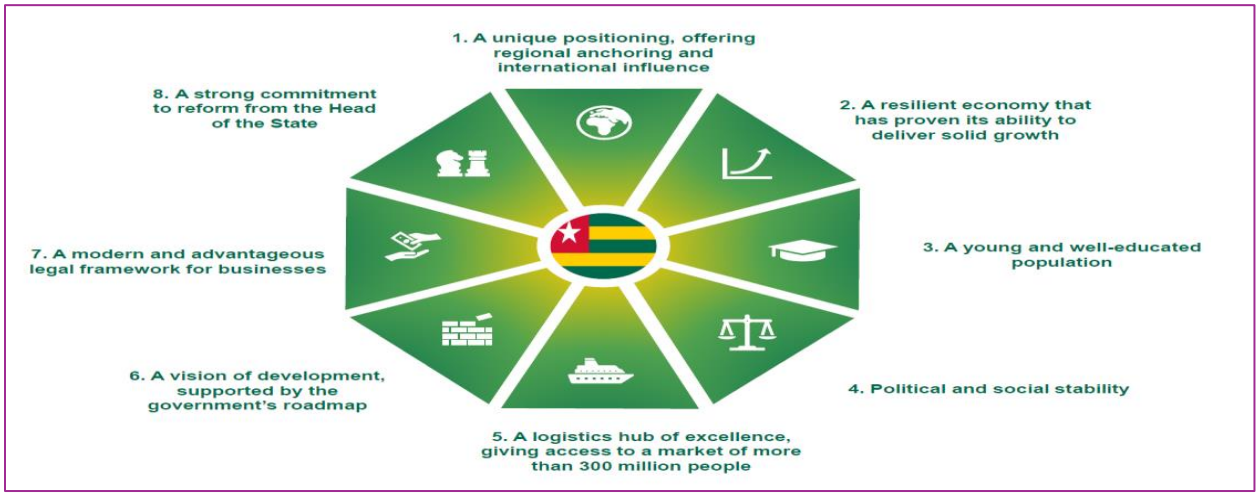
The government strategies adopted by Togo have achieved the following results[27].

- ✓ **Improvement of the Business Environment and Employment Opportunities**

Togo has adopted a new land code and established a fiscal cadaster. The IFC's risk-sharing facility (RSF) in two banks enabled loans to be granted to 2,848 SMEs, with an outstanding loan portfolio of 39 million dollars. In August 2023, the World Bank, with financial support from GIZ, published the first multisectoral diagnostic based on employment data in Togo, analyzing labor supply and demand and assessing the impact of economic performance on the creation of quality jobs.

The following graph highlights Togo's key strategic and economic strengths. It showcases the country's assets across eight key areas, ranging from its unique geographic positioning to its commitment to reforms and modernization.

Figure 5: Togo's Strategic Assets



Source: Togo a stable country, a modern nation with inclusive and sustainable economic growth (Investors Booklet, n.d., p. 3).

[27] World Bank. (2024). *Togo - Overview*. World Bank. https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/togo/overview

This concise graph 5 provides a deeper understanding of Togo's main assets in a regional and international context. It emphasizes the country's strategic role in West Africa, particularly through its advanced logistics infrastructure, young and educated population, and investor-friendly legal framework.

- ✓ **Strengthening Fiscal Policy and Debt Management**

The World Bank assisted the Ministry of Finance in preparing fiscal risk assessments and borrowing plans for 2021. The implemented reforms have improved tax revenue mobilization, the efficiency of public investments, and the transparency of debt management.

- ✓ **Enhancement of Energy Services, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), and Logistics Services**

Through development policy operations (DPO) and the Energy Sector Support and Investment Project (PRISET-P160377), the World Bank's support has improved the financial viability of the energy sector, increased the use of renewable energies, and improved Lomé's distribution network. By March 2022, 416,842 households had benefited from new or improved electricity services, against an initial target of 432,000. The wholesale price of international bandwidth has dropped from 74,645 CFA francs ($123) per Mbps in 2016 to 26,423 CFA francs ($43) in 2022. Internet access has significantly improved, with mobile broadband subscriptions more than quadrupling, from 7.7% in 2016 to 35.7% in 2022 per 100 inhabitants.

- ✓ **Strengthening Health Services**

The World Bank's support has helped Togo improve its preparedness for epidemics and pandemics, especially during COVID-19, with the distribution of vaccines, installation of cold chains, provision of IT equipment, and the creation of a "One Health" platform. The World Bank also supported the launch of universal health coverage in January 2024. On September 29, 2023, the Bank approved a five-year, $62.5 million project — the Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Project in Sub-Saharan Africa — aimed at improving access to education, economic opportunities, and health services, and strengthening Togo's capacity for gender equality.

The following additional sectors have also been affected.

- ✓ **Agriculture and Agricultural Productivity**

The Food System Resilience Program in West Africa (FSRP-Togo), approved on November 18, 2021, with a budget of 90 million dollars over five years, aims to enhance preparedness against food insecurity and increase the resilience of food systems in Togo and other countries in the

region (World Bank, 2021). An additional funding of 20 million dollars, approved on August 11, 2023, aims to extend and intensify these efforts (World Bank, 2023).

- ✓ **Animal Production and Food Security**

Established in 2014, the Regional Center of Excellence for Avian Sciences (CERSA) aims to revolutionize the poultry industry in West and Central Africa. The center offers PhD and master's programs, as well as short professional training courses for poultry technicians. It hosts 58 doctoral students and 173 master students from 12 African countries. Since its inception, CERSA has technically trained more than 900 poultry farmers in Togo, Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, and Senegal. Moreover, through partnerships with universities in Africa, Europe, and China, CERSA has succeeded in promoting research and knowledge sharing among practitioners (CERSA, 2023).

- ✓ **Energy**

The Bank has significantly invested in the energy sector through various financing instruments, including technical assistance, capacity building, as well as analytical and advisory support. Among the major projects is the first operation of the new series of development policy financings for Togo, approved in September 2023, amounting to 150 million dollars, aimed at creating a sustainable financing framework for rural electrification and ensuring the financial viability of public utilities (World Bank, 2023). The Regional Emergency Solar Intervention Project, with a total budget of 311 million dollars, including 60 million for Togo, plans to finance a 25 MWp photovoltaic solar power plant with 40 MWh storage in Dapaong, providing electricity to more than 12,000 households in the northern region of the country (World Bank, 2023). Additionally, the Energy Sector Support and Investment Project for Togo, amounting to 35 million dollars and completed in August 2023, enabled the rehabilitation and strengthening of medium and low voltage systems in Lomé, the extension of the network, and the realization of critical sector studies such as the Least-Cost Development Plan, the restructuring report of the Togo Electricity Company (CEET), and the tariff studies of CEET and the Benin Electricity Community (CEB) (World Bank, 2023). Finally, the Access to Electricity for Development Project, currently in preparation with an estimated budget of 200 million dollars, includes three main components: the construction of 161 kV transmission lines into the interior of Togo, the increase of electricity access in urban and rural areas, and support for institutional capacity building and sector performance improvement (World Bank, 2023).

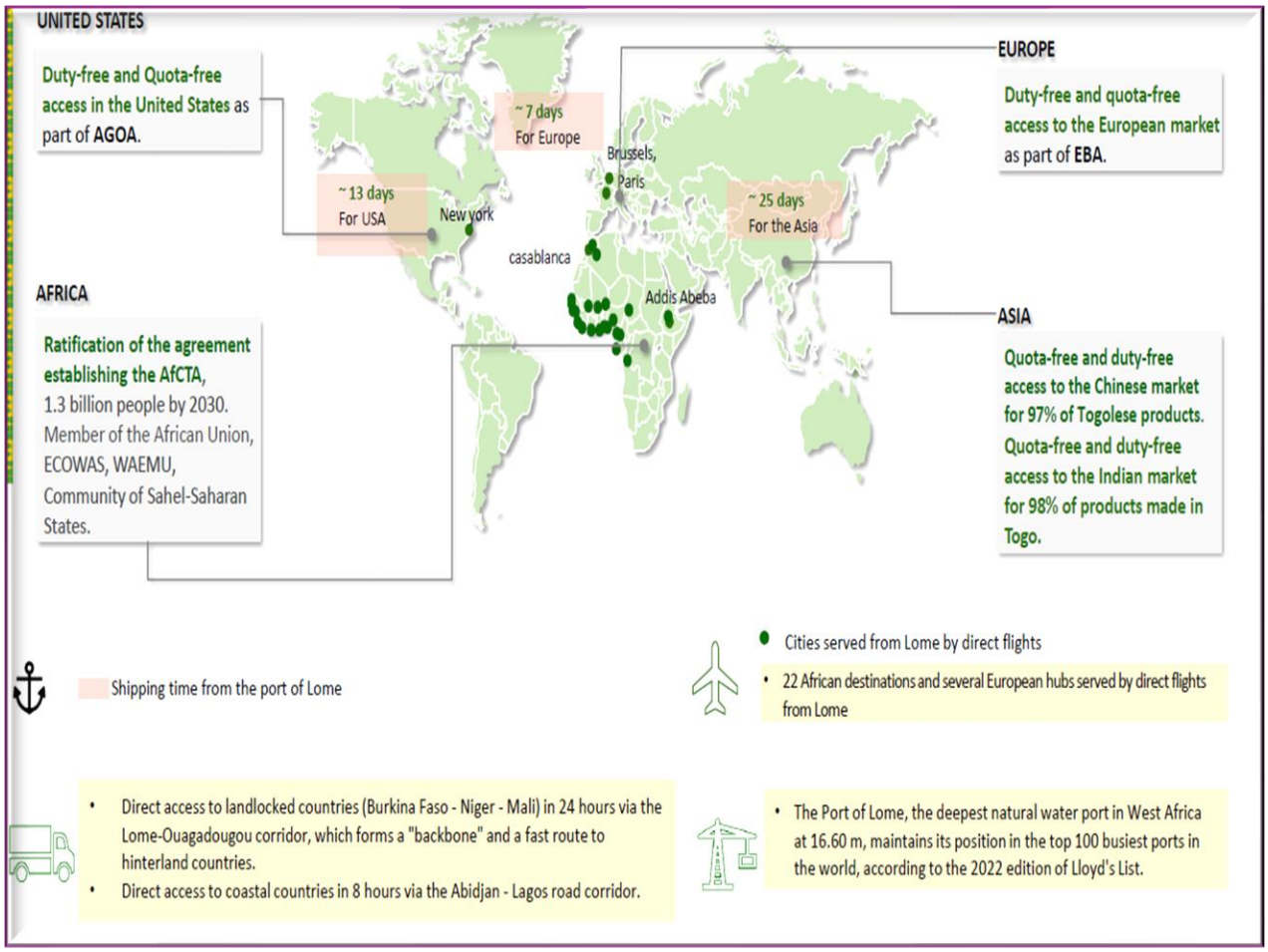
Geopolitically, Togo faces regional security threats, particularly from extremist groups in West Africa. The country actively participates in efforts by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to combat terrorism and promote regional stability. Additionally, Togo seeks to balance its relationships with major global powers, such as China, which is investing heavily in infrastructure, and France, its former colonizer and economic partner (ECOWAS, 2020). Togo's

strategic location along the Gulf of Guinea makes it a key player in regional maritime security initiatives (United Nations, 2018).

In recent years, the Togolese government has undertaken efforts to improve governance and fight corruption. Initiatives such as the establishment of the High Authority for the Prevention and Fight Against Corruption and Related Offenses (HAPLUCIA) aim to enhance transparency and accountability (Transparency International, 2019). However, challenges remain in ensuring the independence and effectiveness of these institutions (Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2020).

The graph below highlights Togo's role as a hub for international trade in West Africa. It showcases the country's strategic assets, including its deep-water port, road corridors, and trade agreements granting privileged access to global markets.

Figure 6: A Strategic Gateway for Global Trade in West Africa



Source: Togo a stable country, a modern nation with inclusive and sustainable economic growth (Investors Booklet, n.d., p. 5).

This graph demonstrates Togo's centrality in regional and international trade dynamics. With its Port of Lomé, the deepest in West Africa, and fast transport corridors linking landlocked and coastal countries, Togo stands out as a key player in trade exchanges. Furthermore, its trade agreements, such as AGOA with the United States or EBA[28] with Europe, enhance its competitiveness and integration into global markets.

In the International Relations and Diplomacy, Togo maintains diplomatic relations with various countries and international organizations. The country is a member of the United Nations, the African Union, the International Organization of the Francophonie, the Commonwealth to name just a few. Togo's foreign policy focuses on promoting peace, security, and development in the region (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2021). The government has also sought to attract foreign investment through economic diplomacy and participation in international forums (World Economic Forum, 2020).

1.5. Togo's Role within ECOWAS and AEC

Togo is an active member of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Economic Community (AEC). The country plays a strategic role in promoting regional integration, economic cooperation, and conflict resolution. It has hosted several significant ECOWAS meetings and contributed to peacekeeping missions in the region.

Regarding the Regional Integration and Economic Cooperation, Togo has been a proactive participant in ECOWAS, advocating for policies that enhance regional trade and economic integration. The country's strategic location along the Gulf of Guinea positions it as a key player in regional transport and logistics networks. Togo's efforts in improving customs procedures and border management have facilitated smoother trade flows within West Africa (ECOWAS, 2018). The construction of the Lomé Container Terminal, one of the largest in the region, has significantly boosted Togo's role as a logistical hub (African Development Bank, 2016).

About Conflict Resolution and Peacekeeping, Togo has contributed to peacekeeping missions in the region, notably in countries such as Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Côte d'Ivoire. Togolese troops have played vital roles in maintaining stability and supporting post-conflict reconstruction efforts. Togo's diplomatic initiatives have also been instrumental in mediating regional conflicts and fostering dialogue among conflicting parties (African Union, 2019). Togo has hosted peace talks

[28] Everything But Arms (EBA), it is a trade initiative by the European Union. The EBA grants duty-free and quota-free access to the EU market for all products originating from the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), with the exception of arms and ammunition. This program aims to foster economic growth and development in LDCs by enabling them to export more competitively to the EU, thus supporting their integration into the global economy.

for various conflicts, demonstrating its commitment to regional peace and stability (Thompson, 2017).

Furthermore, the capital city, Lomé, has hosted several important ECOWAS meetings and summits, underscoring Togo's commitment to regional cooperation. These gatherings have addressed critical issues, including security, economic development, and political stability, and have facilitated collaboration among member states (ECOWAS, 2020). For instance, the 53rd Ordinary Session of the ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government was held in Lomé, focusing on strengthening economic ties and addressing security challenges (GhanaWeb, 2018).

Beyond its involvement in ECOWAS, Togo is also a member of the African Economic Community (AEC), which aims to achieve continent-wide economic integration. Togo supports initiatives that promote the free movement of goods, services, and people across Africa. The country's engagement in AEC activities aligns with its broader goals of fostering economic growth and development through regional partnerships (AEC, 2021). Togo's active participation in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) aims to expand intra-African trade and stimulate economic growth (UNECA, 2019).

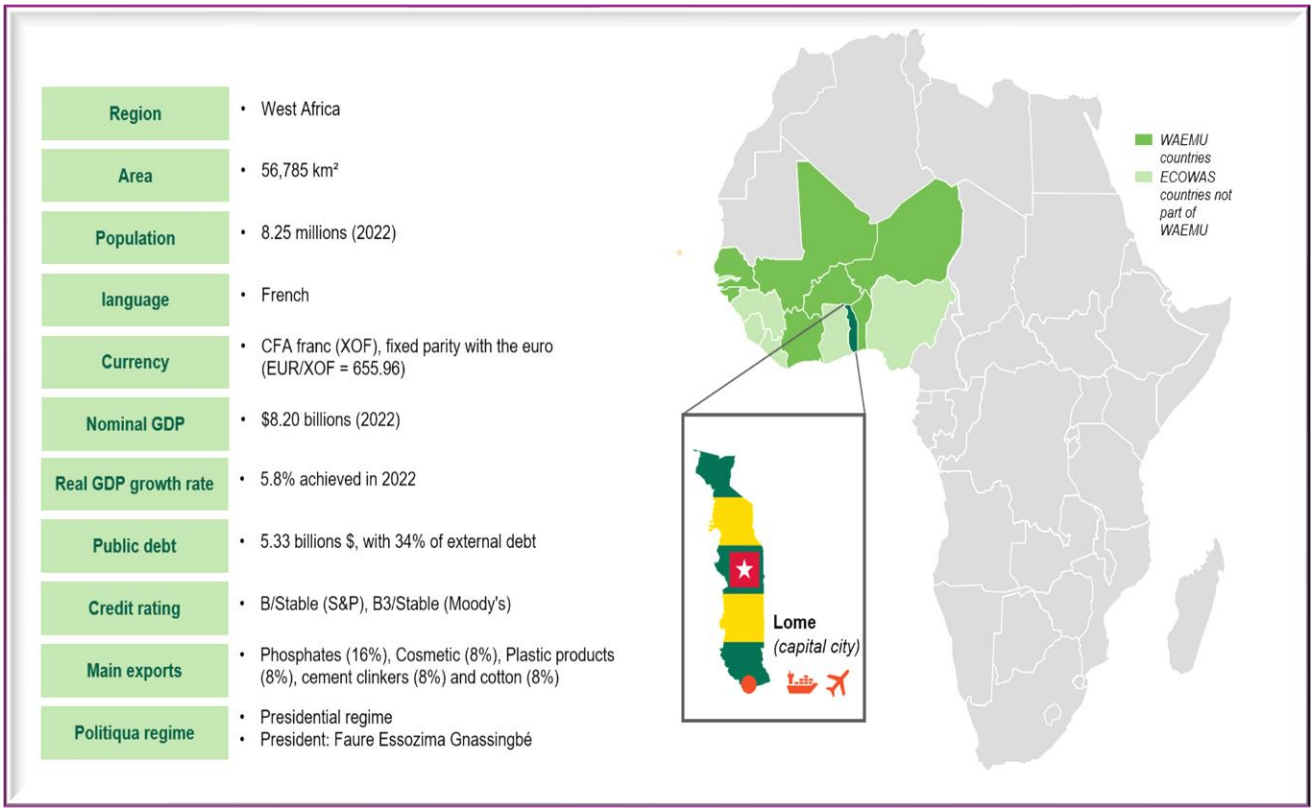
Togo has been involved in several regional infrastructure projects that promote connectivity and economic integration. The Abidjan-Lagos Corridor, a major highway project, aims to enhance transport links between five West African countries, including Togo (ECOWAS, 2016). This project is expected to boost trade and economic activities across the region (World Bank, 2017).

Concerning its engagement in Regional Development Initiatives, the country participates in regional development initiatives aimed at addressing common challenges such as climate change, food security, and health crises. The country is involved in the West Africa Coastal Areas (WACA) Resilience Investment Project, which seeks to strengthen the resilience of coastal communities to climate change (World Bank, 2018). Togo also collaborates with neighboring countries to combat cross-border health threats, such as the Ebola virus outbreak (WHO, 2014).

Promotion of Regional Economic Integration is also one of the duties of Togo. The country advocates for policies that promote regional economic integration and harmonization of regulations within ECOWAS. The country has supported the implementation of the ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET), which aims to create a unified tariff system for the region (ECOWAS, 2019). This initiative is expected to facilitate trade and investment flows within West Africa (UNECA, 2020).

The Graph below highlights Togo's strategic position in West Africa while providing essential economic and political data that reinforce its key role within ECOWAS and WAEMU.

Figure 7: Togo and Its Strategic Position in West Africa: A Geographic and Economic Analysis in the Context of ECOWAS and WAEMU



Source: Togo is a stable country, a modern nation with inclusive and sustainable economic growth (Investors Booklet, n.d., p. 4).

The infographic presents a comprehensive overview of Togo's economic and geopolitical landscape, highlighting key indicators such as GDP, debt levels, main exports, and political structure.

One of the most striking aspects of the data is Togo's strategic positioning in West Africa, particularly with its deep-water Autonomous Port of Lomé, a crucial logistical asset that enhances its role as a trade hub for landlocked neighbors such as Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali. This reinforces Togo's potential as a regional gateway for commerce and investment (World Bank, 2023). This graph 7 highlights how Togo stands out within regional organizations such as ECOWAS and WAEMU. It serves as a helpful tool to better understand the strategic and economic connections of the country with its African neighbors.

However, the country faces challenges such as public debt management and export concentration, with phosphates, cosmetics, and cement among its top exports. While these industries contribute

to the economy, greater diversification could reduce dependency on a limited number of sectors and enhance economic resilience (UNCTAD, 2023).

Additionally, Togo's political structure, classified as a presidential regime, influences its governance and economic policymaking, which can impact investor confidence and trade relations. The country's credit rating (B/Stable) suggests a moderate risk profile, indicating the need for strong fiscal management and policy reforms to maintain financial stability (Moody's, 2023).

Overall, the data emphasizes Togo's economic potential and regional importance but also underscores the need for strategic diversification and governance improvements to maximize long-term sustainable development.

1.6. The Role of Togo in the Pan-African Movement

Historically, Togo has supported Pan-Africanism and African unity. Leaders like Sylvanus Olympio were vocal advocates of this movement. Togo continues to engage in Pan-African initiatives aimed at fostering political unity, economic collaboration, and cultural exchange among African nations.

Togo has been an important player in implementing the African Union's Agenda 2063, which aims to transform Africa into a sovereign, peaceful, and prosperous continent by 2063. The country has taken steps to support projects aligned with these goals, including actively participating in the Single African Air Transport Market.

In the contemporary global context, characterized by the triumph of predatory instrumental rationality and destabilizing globalization for Africa and its communities, it is imperative for the continent to assert itself as the center of its own movement. Africa must position itself to refuse to be reduced to a purely instrumental entity. It is precisely here that Pan-Africanism finds its utmost relevance, offering the indispensable ideological and operational framework. A united Africa, speaking with one voice and acting cohesively in a spirit of unity, is capable of overcoming the traps of subordination, regardless of their origin on the international stage[29].

The history of Pan-Africanism is indeed a rich and diverse narrative, whose stakes have evolved over time and space. From its inception in Afro-American intellectual circles, Pan-Africanism established itself as a movement of emancipation for African communities from domination and historical injustices. Initially, it embodied opposition to slavery and discrimination, advocating for the ideal of equal human dignity and justice, with the aim of deconstructing and undermining the

[29] Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Togolese Abroad. (2025, January 15). *Ensure the continuity of Pan-Africanism after Lome*. Togolese Diplomacy.

foundations of racial ideologies (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Togolese Abroad, 2025).

Subsequently, Pan-Africanism engaged in the administration of African peoples under colonial domination, and later in the decolonial liberation struggles of the 1950s and 1960s. With emblematic figures such as Kwame Nkrumah[30], Modibo Keïta[31], Gamal Abdel Nasser[32], Julius Nyerere[33], Haile Selassie[34], and Thomas Sankara[35], Pan-Africanism symbolized an effort of self-reappropriation on an African scale and an anti-imperialism aimed at liberating the continent from neo-colonialism. The current resurgence of interest in the movement suffices to prove the historically consubstantial relationship between liberation struggles and Pan-Africanism in African and Afro-descendant circles.

It should be noted that the first Pan-African Congress was held in February 1919 in Paris, following the first Pan-African Conference in London in 1900. This dynamic continued with seven more Pan-African Congresses organized subsequently by Africans from the diaspora and the continent.

The 9th Pan-African Congress that Lomé proposes to host is of paramount significance for the African world and Afro-descendants. Encompassing the implementation of the African Union's "Decade of African Roots and the African Diaspora" Agenda 2021-2031, it is the fourth of its kind

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[30] Kwame Nkrumah (1909-1972) was a Ghanaian nationalist leader and politician. Born in Nkroful, Gold Coast (now Ghana), he studied in the United States and the United Kingdom before returning to Africa to lead the fight for the Gold Coast's independence. In 1957, he became the first Prime Minister and later the first President of independent Ghana, where he advocated for African unity and Pan-Africanism.

[31] Modibo Keïta (1915-1977) was a Malian politician who played a key role in Mali's independence. Born in Bamako, he started his career as a teacher before venturing into politics. In 1960, he became the first president of Mali and implemented socialist policies based on nationalization. He was overthrown in a coup in 1968 and spent the rest of his life in military detention until his death in 1977.

[32] Gamal Abdel Nasser (1918-1970) was an Egyptian military officer and politician. He led the Egyptian revolution of 1952 and became president of Egypt in 1956. Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal and implemented significant land reforms. He was also a prominent leader of the Non-Aligned Movement and played a crucial role in forming the United Arab Republic with Syria. He died in 1970, leaving a lasting legacy in Egypt and the Arab world.

[33] Julius Kambarage Nyerere (1922-1999) was the first president of Tanzania. He played a crucial role in the country's independence and was a staunch advocate of African socialism. Under his leadership, Tanzania adopted policies of agricultural collectivization and industrial nationalization.

[34] Haile Selassie (1892-1975) was the emperor of Ethiopia from 1930 to 1974. He is known for his role in resisting the Italian invasion in 1935 and for his leadership in founding the Organization of African Unity (OAU). He was also a symbol of African unity and a champion of human rights.

[35] Thomas Sankara (1949-1987) was the president of Burkina Faso from 1983 to 1987. Known as the "African Che Guevara," he led a popular revolution to transform Burkina Faso into an autonomous socialist nation. He implemented ambitious agrarian and social reforms, but his rule was interrupted by a coup d'état in 1987.

on the continent, following the congresses of Dar-es-Salam[36] in 1974, Kampala[37] in 1994, and Johannesburg[38] in 2014. This continental appropriation of the Pan-African Congress as an institution periodically uniting the African community, after the first five editions were held outside African lands, is justified by the emancipatory and universalist aims of the Pan-African movement. From the late 19th century and especially in the 20th century, Pan-Africanism fought alongside African anti-colonial national liberation movements to liberate a significant part of humanity from colonial imperialism. Furthermore, it reflects the continent's interest in Pan-Africanism, both for its mobilizing force in the face of emancipation challenges and for its unifying power within a framework of fraternal solidarity. As Georges Padmore[39] asserts in his book "Pan-Africanism or Communism? The Coming Struggle for Africa[40]" published in 1956, "The idea of Pan-Africanism emerged first and foremost as a manifestation of fraternal solidarity between Africans and peoples of African descent[41]." (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Togolese Abroad, 2025).

In the 21st century, Pan-Africanism presents a series of challenges in a context where Africa seeks to emancipate itself from all foreign tutelage, rid itself of all forms of external domination, and act, in line with aspiration 7 of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the vision of the African Political Alliance, "as a strong, united, and influential player and partner on the world stage."

Togo played a crucial role in the preparation of the 9th Pan-African Congress, initially scheduled to be held in Lomé in October and November 2024, but which was ultimately postponed sine die. This congress represents a historic opportunity to strengthen African unity and promote the development of the continent. President Faure Gnassingbé and the Minister of Foreign Affairs,

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[36] Dar es Salaam, located on the Swahili coast of the Indian Ocean, is Tanzania's largest city. In 1974, it was the administrative and commercial capital of Tanzania1. However, the decision was made that year to move the capital to Dodoma, which was officially completed in 1996. Dar es Salaam remains an important economic and cultural center.

[37] In 1994, Kampala, the capital of Uganda, hosted the 7th Pan-African Congress. The congress brought together over 2000 delegates to discuss unity, social progress, and democracy in Africa. The congress was marked by debates on the inclusion of African governments and decolonization issues.

[38] In 2014, Johannesburg, one of South Africa's most important cities, continued to play a key role in the country's economy. It is known for its mining industry and vibrant commercial districts1. Johannesburg has also been a center of the anti-apartheid struggle and remains a symbol of cultural and economic diversity in South Africa.

[39] Georges Padmore (1903-1959) was a renowned Pan-African intellectual and activist, born as Malcolm Ivan Meredith Nurse in Trinidad and Tobago. He studied in the United States and joined the American Communist Party before moving to the Soviet Union to work with the Comintern. Later, Padmore relocated to London, where he helped found the International African Service Bureau and played a crucial role in organizing the 5th Pan-African Congress in Manchester in 1945. The words quoted, were written by Georges Padmore in his efforts to promote Pan-Africanism and unity among African people and the African diaspora. His work aimed to denounce imperialism and foster solidarity among oppressed peoples.

[40] Padmore, G. (1956). *Pan-Africanism or Communism? The Coming Struggle for Africa*. D. Dobson.

Professor Robert Dussey, have been essential in organizing this event. Their diplomatic engagement has enabled Lomé to become a platform for discussions on the future of Pan-Africanism. Togo has played a crucial role in reviving discussions on Pan-Africanism at international forums. The Togolese government has organized conferences and workshops to raise awareness among African youth about Pan-African ideals and the importance of African unity[42].

Togo has also taken initiatives to revitalize Pan-Africanism after a period of relative inactivity. The last Pan-African Congress was held in South Africa in 2014, but since then, little progress had been made. Thanks to the efforts of President Faure Gnassingbé, there is a renewed determination to unite Africans and people of African descent in the diaspora. Togo plans to play a key role in promoting these initiatives (Koffi, 2021).

To ensure historical continuity of this movement and to reignite the flame of Pan-Africanism in a context where Africa struggles to make its voice heard on the global stage, the Togolese Republic and the African Union proposed to co-organize the 9th Pan-African Congress in Lomé, in accordance with Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.22(XXXVI) from the 36th Ordinary Session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, held on February 18-19, 2023, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The theme for the congress is: "Renewal of Pan-Africanism and the Role of Africa in Institutional Reform: Mobilizing Resources and Reinventing Ourselves to Act"[43].

This edition of the Congress, which is part of the African Union's "2021-2031 Decade of African Roots and the African Diaspora" Agenda and its action plan led by the High Committee chaired by Togo, will be an opportunity for Africans living on the continent, in the diaspora, and Afro-descendants to meet, exchange ideas, and make pertinent resolutions to support the continental development process. This will strengthen the collective efforts of our States to improve Africa's participation and representation in global governance, as well as its active participation in the necessary reforms of international institutions[44].

So, Togo has supported efforts by the African diaspora to invest in Africa and contribute to the continent's development. Initiatives have been put in place to facilitate the return of African talents and skills from the diaspora (African Union, 2021).

Togo has also contributed to promoting climate justice and reparations. The country has taken strong positions on these issues, in collaboration with other African nations. Foreign Minister

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[42] Launch of the Congress – 9e Congrès Panafricain – Lomé 2024 (diplomatie.tg)

[43] African Union. (2021). *Decade of African Roots and the African Diaspora*. Addis Ababa: AU Commission.

[44] African Union. (2020). 33rd African Union Summit

Professor Robert Dussey has emphasized the importance of these initiatives for the continent's development. Togo continues to play a leading role in promoting these objectives (Dussey, 2020).

Togo has hosted several meetings and summits of ECOWAS, highlighting its commitment to regional cooperation. These meetings have addressed crucial issues such as security, economic development, and political stability. Togo has also actively participated in peacekeeping efforts in the region, notably in Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Côte d'Ivoire. Togolese troops have played a vital role in maintaining stability and supporting post-conflict reconstruction efforts (ECOWAS, 2019).

Togo has been a key player in promoting regional and global economic integration. The country has worked to improve customs procedures and border management to facilitate trade flows within West Africa. Togo has also supported initiatives aimed at promoting the free movement of goods, services, and people across Africa (Kouma, 2018).

Togo has collaborated with other African countries to promote cross-border infrastructure projects, such as transport corridors and energy networks, which facilitate economic cooperation and regional integration (Kouma, 2020).

Togo has supported the creation of partnerships between African universities to promote scientific research and technological innovation on the continent. These initiatives aim to strengthen the capacity of African institutions to address development challenges (Doe, 2022).

Togo has also played an active role in promoting African culture. The country has hosted festivals and cultural events that highlight the diversity and richness of African cultures, thereby fostering cultural exchange and bringing people closer together (Akakpo, 2021).

Togo has participated in regional initiatives to address environmental challenges such as desertification and deforestation. The country has implemented reforestation programs and sustainable resource management practices (Kossi, 2019).

Togo has collaborated with international organizations to promote girls' education and gender equality in Africa. Programs have been launched to improve girls' access to education and reduce gender inequalities (ECOWAS, 2020).

Togo has supported African Union initiatives to strengthen Africa's capacity to respond to health crises, such as epidemics and pandemics. Training and capacity-building programs have been established for healthcare professionals[45] .

[45] WHO. (2020). *Africa Health Report 2020.*

Togo has actively participated in African Union efforts to promote peace and security in Africa. The country has contributed to peacekeeping missions and mediation initiatives in regional conflicts (African Union, 2019).

Togo has supported the establishment of conflict resolution mechanisms at the regional level, such as truth and reconciliation commissions, to foster peace and social cohesion in Africa (Bâ, 2020).

Togo has played a role in promoting food self-sufficiency in Africa by supporting agricultural projects and food security initiatives. The country has implemented programs to improve agricultural productivity and reduce dependence on food imports.

Togo has collaborated with other African countries to strengthen public health systems and improve access to healthcare for vulnerable populations (World Bank, 2020).

In conclusion, Togo's historical and political context reveals a nation that has continually adapted to changing circumstances while striving to maintain its sovereignty and promote regional unity. The early migrations and the formation of significant kingdoms laid the foundation for Togo's diverse cultural heritage. The periods of European exploration and colonization introduced new dynamics, culminating in the establishment of Togoland as a German protectorate and its subsequent division after World War I. The struggle for independence, led by visionary leaders like Sylvanus Olympio, set the stage for Togo's emergence as a republic in 1960.

Post-independence, Togo's development journey has been marked by ambitious infrastructure projects, efforts at economic diversification, and the implementation of structural adjustment programs with mixed outcomes. Political stability has been an ongoing challenge, with periods of autocratic rule and calls for democratic reforms shaping the nation's political landscape. In recent years, Togo has sought to enhance governance, address social inequalities, and navigate the complexities of regional security threats.

Togo's active participation in regional organizations such as ECOWAS and AEC underscores its commitment to fostering regional integration, economic cooperation, and conflict resolution. The nation's strategic initiatives, including its contributions to peacekeeping missions and hosting of significant regional meetings, highlight its role as a key player in West African affairs. Togo's engagement in Pan-African initiatives and its support for the African Union's Agenda 2063 further demonstrate its dedication to promoting African unity and development.

Overall, Togo's historical and political context is characterized by resilience, strategic vision, and a commitment to both national and regional progress. The insights gained from this chapter provide a nuanced understanding of Togo's past and present, offering a foundation for exploring its future prospects in the ever-evolving landscape of African and global politics.

The table 2 below outlines the key historical events that have shaped Togo's political and economic evolution, highlighting their respective impacts on the country's development.

Table 2: Timeline of Key Historical Events and Their Impact on Togo's Development

Year	Key Historical Event	Political Impact	Economic Impact
1884	Signing of the Treaty of Protection between Germany and local chiefs (Treaty of Togoville)	Introduction of colonial administrative structures	Initial development of port and railway infrastructure by the Germans.
1914	Defeat of Germany during World War I	Togo placed under League of Nations mandate, shared between France and the United Kingdom	Slowdown of investments due to the change in colonial governance.
1960	Proclamation of Togo's independence (April 27)	Beginning of Sylvanus Olympio's regime, first president of Togo	Economic policies aimed at national autonomy; establishment of light industries.
1963	Assassination of Sylvanus Olympio and Africa's first post-colonial coup	Start of authoritarian regimes, with Gnassingbé Eyadéma (from 1967 onwards)	Political instability that hindered economic diversification.
1991	Sovereign National Conference	Transition towards multiparty democracy and beginnings of democratization	Economic crisis due to withdrawal of certain international funding; erosion of infrastructure.
2005	Political transition after the death of Gnassingbé Eyadéma and Faure Gnassingbé's rise to power	Attempts at democratic reforms to calm political tensions	Reactivation of international partnerships after years of economic sanctions.
2013	Launch of the Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion (SCAPE)	Strengthening of economic governance	Stimulation of priority sectors such as agriculture and infrastructure.
2018	Adoption of the National Development Plan (PND)	Medium-term vision to structure reforms and investments	Increase in large-scale projects in transport, energy, and industry.
2020	Implementation of the 2020-2025 Government Roadmap	New push for administrative and social modernization	Creation of the Adétikopé Industrial Platform (PIA) to boost industrialization and attract FDI.

(Source: personal creation)

This table highlights the key moments in Togo's history that have shaped its political and economic trajectory. It demonstrates the significant impacts of each event, whether through major political transitions such as independence or coups, or important economic reforms like the implementation of the National Development Plan (PND). These insights provide a clear understanding of Togo's current strengths and challenges while emphasizing the importance of recent initiatives for its sustainable development.

CHAPTER 2: PROBLEM STATEMENT, RESEARCH QUESTIONS, RESEARCH OBJECTIVES, RESEARCH HYPOTHESES

In a doctoral thesis, it is crucial to understand how the research problem, research questions, research objectives, and research hypotheses are interconnected. The research problem is the starting point of the study. It identifies a specific gap or challenge in a field of knowledge. Formulated as a statement, the research problem describes what needs to be resolved or explored. From this problem, the research questions directly stem.

Research questions are specific inquiries you aim to answer through your study. They are more precise and guide the direction of your research. From these questions, we derive the research objectives, which define what we hope to achieve with our study. Research objectives are often formulated in terms of expected outcomes and contributions to knowledge. Finally, research hypotheses are assumptions or propositions we test in our study. Formulated in response to the research questions, hypotheses are designed to be verifiable by scientific methods[46].

It is crucial to maintain logical consistency between these elements. The research questions should naturally stem from the research problem, the objectives should address the questions, and the hypotheses should align with the objectives. Moreover, each component must be clear and precise to ensure the relevance and scientific rigor of the study.

Thus, this chapter is dedicated to the detailed elaboration of each of these elements. We will start by identifying the central problem statement, followed by the formulation of the research questions. Next, we will define the objectives we aim to achieve, and finally, we will propose hypotheses to be tested during this research. These steps will structure and guide our investigation, ensuring a methodologically rigorous and coherent approach.

As Yin (2018, p.25) emphasized, "A good research begins with a well-defined problem and clear research questions, as these guide the entire investigative process". Similarly, according to Creswell (2014, p.45), "Research objectives should be specific and measurable to allow for precise evaluation of results".

2.1 Formulating the Research Problem

In this section, we will address the formulation of the research problem.

[46] https://www.scribbr.fr/memoire/differences-probleme-question-centrale-sous-questions-objectif/, online on December, 8, 2024.

2.1.1 Study Problem

The research problem focuses on the following question: **How can Togo leverage its comparative advantages and support its weaknesses to achieve more robust national development in the current geopolitical context?** This question is crucial for identifying growth levers and necessary reforms to enhance the country's economic and political resilience.

The current geopolitical context in West Africa is marked by political instability, security threats, and fluctuating economic dynamics. Recent coups in neighboring countries such as Mali, Niger, Guinea, and Burkina Faso have repercussions on regional stability and directly influence Togo. Additionally, economic sanctions imposed by ECOWAS and other international organizations in response to these events create an uncertain economic environment[47].

Togo has several comparative advantages that can be harnessed to boost its development. These include:

- **Strategic Geographical Position:** The Autonomous Port of Lomé is a major logistics hub for regional and international trade.
- **Relative Political Stability:** Compared to some of its neighbors, Togo enjoys political stability that can attract foreign investments.
- **Development Initiatives:** The National Development Plan (PND) 2018-2022 aims to transform Togo into a leading logistics and financial hub in West Africa[48].

Despite its advantages, Togo faces several weaknesses and challenges:

- **Economic and Social Inequalities:** Income disparities and unequal access to basic services are major obstacles to inclusive development[49].
- **Corruption and Weak Judicial Institutions:** Endemic corruption and weak judicial institutions hinder effective governance and investor confidence.

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[47] International Crisis Group. (2022). *West Africa: The Impact of Coups on Regional Stability*. Retrieved from https://www.crisisgroup.org/africa/west-africa/impact-coups-regional-stability

[48] Government of Togo. (2018). *National Development Plan (PND) 2018-2022*. Retrieved from https://www.togopnd.tg

[49] Transparency International. (2023). *Corruption Perceptions Index 2023*. Retrieved from https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2023

- **Security Threats:** Proximity to conflict zones in the Sahel exposes Togo to risks of terrorist contagion[50].

To address the research problem, it is essential to identify institutional reforms and development strategies tailored to Togo's realities. This includes:

- **Institutional Reforms:** Strengthening judicial institutions and combating corruption to improve governance.
- **Diversification of Partnerships:** Establishing strategic partnerships with emerging countries and international organizations to diversify sources of funding and investment.
- **Promotion of Local Industry:** Encouraging the processing of raw materials and the development of local industry to create jobs and stimulate economic growth.

The research problem is essential for formulating practical and contextually relevant recommendations for Togo. By leveraging its comparative advantages and addressing its weaknesses, Togo can enhance its economic and political resilience, ensuring more robust national development in a complex and constantly evolving geopolitical context.

2.1.2 Research sub-questions

To address this research problem, the following research sub-questions are proposed:

2.1.2.1 How can Togo leverage its geographical advantages for trade and logistics to enhance economic growth?

Togo's strategic location provides significant opportunities for trade and logistics. Understanding how to maximize these advantages can enhance economic growth (Heilbrunn, 1993, p. 112).

Togo's geographical location on the Gulf of Guinea provides it with a strategic advantage for trade and logistics. The Port of Lomé, being the only deep-water port in West Africa, allows for the accommodation of large vessels, making it a critical hub for maritime trade. This strategic position can be leveraged to enhance economic growth by improving infrastructure and logistics services, thereby attracting more international shipping lines and increasing trade volumes (Heilbrunn, 1993, p. 112). Additionally, Togo's proximity to landlocked countries such as Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali positions it as a gateway for regional trade. By developing efficient transport corridors

[50] International Crisis Group. (2021). *The Risk of Jihadist Contagion in West Africa*. Retrieved from https://www.crisisgroup.org/africa/west-africa/sahel/risk-jihadist-contagion-west-africa

and logistics networks, Togo can facilitate the movement of goods to and from these countries, boosting its role as a regional trade hub (World Bank, 2023).

Furthermore, the development of special economic zones (SEZs) around the port can attract foreign direct investment (FDI) and promote industrialization. SEZs offer incentives such as tax breaks and simplified customs procedures, making them attractive to investors (Lin, 2010). Enhancing the efficiency of customs and border management through digitalization and streamlined processes can also reduce trade costs and improve competitiveness (World Bank, 2023). Moreover, investing in multimodal transport systems, including road, rail, and air connectivity, can enhance the integration of Togo into global supply chains (Heilbrunn, 1993, p. 112). The development of logistics parks and warehousing facilities can further support trade activities by providing essential services such as storage, packaging, and distribution (Lin, 2010). By leveraging its geographical advantages, Togo can position itself as a leading logistics and trade hub in West Africa, driving economic growth and development.

2.1.2.2 What impact does political stability have on attracting foreign investments in Togo?

Political stability is crucial for creating a favorable investment climate. Evaluating its impact can help in formulating policies to attract more foreign investments (Oxford Business Group, 2022).

Political stability is a key determinant of foreign investment flows into a country. In Togo, political stability can significantly influence investor confidence and decision-making. A stable political environment reduces the risks associated with investment, such as expropriation, contract breaches, and political violence (Oxford Business Group, 2022). Investors are more likely to commit capital to countries where the rule of law is upheld, and property rights are protected. Togo's efforts to maintain political stability through democratic governance and peaceful transitions of power can enhance its attractiveness to foreign investors (Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2022, p. 45). Additionally, political stability can lead to consistent and predictable economic policies, which are essential for long-term investment planning. Investors seek assurance that the regulatory environment will remain stable and that there will be continuity in economic policies (World Bank, 2019).

Furthermore, political stability can foster social cohesion and reduce the likelihood of civil unrest, which can disrupt business operations and supply chains. By promoting inclusive governance and addressing social grievances, Togo can create a more stable and secure environment for investment (Martin, 2021, p. 78). Moreover, political stability can enhance the effectiveness of public institutions and reduce corruption, which are critical factors for attracting foreign investments. Transparent and accountable governance can build investor trust and reduce the costs associated with bureaucratic inefficiencies and corruption (Transparency Rwanda, 2009). Togo's commitment to political stability can also improve its international reputation and credit ratings, making it more attractive to international investors and lenders (Oxford Business Group, 2022). By fostering a

stable political environment, Togo can attract more foreign investments, which are essential for economic growth and development.

2.1.2.3 What institutional reforms and strategic partnerships are needed to strengthen Togo's development prospects?

Proposing institutional reforms and identifying strategic partnerships can help in building stronger governance structures, improving investor confidence, and diversifying investment sources (Pellegatta, 2020; UNESCO, 2023).

Institutional reforms are essential for strengthening governance structures and enhancing Togo's development prospects. Reforms aimed at improving the efficiency and transparency of public institutions can build investor confidence and attract foreign investments (Pellegatta, 2020). Strengthening judicial institutions to ensure the rule of law and protect property rights is crucial for creating a conducive investment climate. Additionally, enhancing the capacity of regulatory bodies to enforce contracts and resolve disputes can reduce investment risks and promote business activities (Transparency Rwanda, 2009). Anti-corruption measures, such as establishing independent anti-corruption agencies and implementing robust whistleblower protection laws, can further enhance transparency and accountability in governance (Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2022, p. 45).

Strategic partnerships with emerging economies, international organizations, and private sector entities can also play a vital role in Togo's development. Collaborating with countries like Rwanda, Ghana, and Singapore can provide valuable lessons and best practices in governance, economic diversification, and infrastructure development (Lin, 2010). Partnerships with international organizations such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), and African Development Bank (AfDB) can provide financial and technical assistance for implementing development projects (World Bank, 2023). Engaging with the private sector through public-private partnerships (PPPs) can mobilize additional resources for infrastructure development and service delivery. PPPs can leverage private sector expertise and efficiency in project implementation, reducing the burden on public finances (UNESCO, 2023). Capacity-building initiatives aimed at enhancing the skills and competencies of public officials can improve the effectiveness of public institutions and ensure the successful implementation of development strategies (World Bank, 2024). By undertaking institutional reforms and establishing strategic partnerships, Togo can strengthen its governance structures, attract investments, and achieve sustainable development.

2.2 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this study are to address the research problem and answer the research questions. Each objective contributes to solving the research problem by focusing on critical aspects of Togo's development landscape.

2.2.1 Primary Objective

The primary objective of this study is to Propose strategies to strengthen Togo's national development.

This primary objective aims to identify and recommend actionable strategies that can be implemented to foster sustainable economic growth, political stability, and social development in Togo. By focusing on practical and contextually relevant strategies, this research seeks to contribute to the overall improvement of the country's development trajectory. The strategies will be based on a thorough analysis of Togo's current development status, taking into account both internal and external factors that influence its growth. This objective is crucial as it aims to provide a roadmap for policymakers to follow, ensuring that the proposed strategies are not only effective but also sustainable in the long term (World Bank, 2023).

2.2.2 Specific Objectives

To comprehensively address the research problem, it is essential to establish specific objectives that will guide the analysis and evaluation of Togo's strengths, weaknesses, current development policies, and necessary institutional reforms. These objectives aim to provide a clear roadmap for achieving the primary goal of proposing strategies to strengthen Togo's national development within the current geopolitical and economic context.

2.2.2.1 Analyze Togo's Strengths and Weaknesses

- **Geographical Advantages**: Assessing how Togo's strategic location can be leveraged for trade and logistics.

Contribution: Understanding how to maximize geographical advantages can enhance economic growth and trade opportunities. Togo's location along the Gulf of Guinea provides access to major shipping routes, making it a potential hub for regional trade (Heilbrunn, 1993, p. 112). Leveraging this advantage can attract investments in port infrastructure and logistics services, boosting economic activities.

- **Political Stability**: Evaluating the relative political stability and its impact on attracting foreign investments.

Contribution: Identifying the impact of political stability can help in formulating policies to attract more foreign investments. Political stability is a key determinant for investors when deciding where to allocate their resources. A stable political environment reduces risks and uncertainties, making Togo a more attractive destination for foreign direct investment (Oxford Business Group, 2022).

- **Economic Assets**: Identifying key economic sectors and resources that can drive growth.

Contribution: Prioritizing investments and development efforts in key economic sectors can stimulate growth. Sectors such as agriculture, mining, and services have significant potential to drive Togo's economic growth. Identifying and investing in these sectors can create jobs, increase productivity, and enhance overall economic performance (World Bank, 2023).

- **Social Challenges**: Understanding the socio-economic inequalities and their implications for inclusive development.

Contribution: Addressing socio-economic inequalities is essential for promoting inclusive development and reducing disparities. Socio-economic inequalities can hinder development by limiting access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities for marginalized groups. Understanding these challenges can help in designing policies that promote social inclusion and equitable growth (Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2022, p. 45).

- **Institutional Weaknesses**: Analyzing the effectiveness of governance structures and the prevalence of corruption.

Contribution: Proposing necessary reforms to enhance transparency and reduce corruption can improve governance. Effective governance structures are critical for implementing development policies and attracting investments. Addressing institutional weaknesses and reducing corruption can enhance the efficiency and credibility of public institutions (Transparency Rwanda, 2009).

2.2.2.2 Evaluate Current Development Policies

- **Policy Effectiveness**: Reviewing the outcomes of current policies and their alignment with national development goals.

Contribution: Identifying effective policies and areas for improvement can enhance policy outcomes. Evaluating the effectiveness of current policies helps in understanding their impact on development goals and identifying gaps that need to be addressed. This can lead to the formulation of more targeted and effective policies (World Bank, 2019).

- **Implementation Challenges**: Identifying barriers to effective policy implementation, including resource constraints and administrative inefficiencies.

Contribution: Overcoming implementation challenges can improve the effectiveness of development policies. Implementation challenges such as lack of resources, administrative inefficiencies, and bureaucratic hurdles can hinder the success of development policies. Identifying and addressing these challenges can enhance policy implementation and outcomes (World Bank, 2019).

- **Comparative Analysis**: Comparing Togo’s policies with successful development models from other countries to identify best practices and lessons learned.

Contribution: Learning from successful models can provide valuable insights for Togo's development. Comparative analysis with countries like Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland, and Estonia can help in identifying best practices and strategies that have been effective in similar contexts. This can inform the design and implementation of policies in Togo (Oxford Business Group, 2022).

2.2.2.3 Propose Institutional Reforms and Strategic Partnerships

- **Institutional Reforms**: Proposing measures to strengthen judicial institutions, enhance transparency, and combat corruption.

Contribution: Strengthening governance structures can improve investor confidence and attract foreign investments. Institutional reforms aimed at enhancing the efficiency and transparency of judicial institutions can build investor confidence and create a more conducive environment for business operations (Pellegatta, 2020).

- **Strategic Partnerships**: Identifying potential partnerships with emerging economies, international organizations, and private sector entities to diversify sources of investment and support.

Contribution: Diversifying investment sources and establishing strategic partnerships can enhance development prospects. Strategic partnerships with emerging economies and international organizations can provide access to new markets, technologies, and financial resources, supporting Togo's development goals (UNESCO, 2023).

- **Capacity Building**: Recommending initiatives to build the capacity of local institutions and human resources to effectively implement development strategies.

Contribution: Empowering local institutions and human resources can improve the implementation of development strategies. Capacity building initiatives can enhance the skills and capabilities of local institutions and personnel, ensuring effective implementation and sustainability of development projects (World Bank, 2024).

The objectives of the Study outlined above provide a structured approach to addressing the central research question. Research objectives are often formulated in terms of expected outcomes and contributions to knowledge and clarify what the study aims to achieve, and the hypotheses provide testable propositions based on these objectives.

2.3 Hypotheses of the Study

The hypotheses of this research are formulated to test the potential impact of Togo's geographical, political, and institutional factors on its national development. These hypotheses will guide the analysis and help in drawing conclusions based on empirical evidence.

To respond to the research questions, the following hypotheses are proposed:

2.3.1 Hypothesis 1: Leveraging Geographical Advantages

- ✓ Hypothesis: Togo's strategic geographical location can significantly enhance its trade and logistics sectors, leading to increased economic growth.

- ✓ Justification: Togo's position along the Gulf of Guinea provides access to major shipping routes, making it a potential hub for regional trade. By investing in port infrastructure and logistics services, Togo can attract more trade activities and boost its economy (Heilbrunn, 1993, p. 112). The development of the Port of Lomé as a major logistics hub can facilitate the movement of goods and services, reducing transportation costs and improving trade efficiency (World Bank, 2023).

2.3.2 Hypothesis 2: Impact of Political Stability on Foreign Investments

- ✓ Hypothesis: Political stability in Togo positively influences the attraction of foreign investments.

- ✓ Justification: Political stability is a key determinant for investors when deciding where to allocate their resources. A stable political environment reduces risks and uncertainties, making Togo a more attractive destination for foreign direct investment (Oxford Business Group, 2022). Countries with stable political environments tend to have higher levels of investor confidence, leading to increased foreign investment inflows (Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2022, p. 45). By maintaining political stability, Togo can create a conducive environment for business operations and attract more foreign investments.

2.3.3 Hypothesis 3: Institutional Reforms and Strategic Partnerships

- ✓ Hypothesis: Implementing institutional reforms and establishing strategic partnerships can strengthen Togo's development prospects by improving governance, enhancing transparency, and diversifying investment sources.

- ✓ Justification: Institutional reforms aimed at enhancing the efficiency and transparency of judicial institutions can build investor confidence and create a more conducive environment for business operations (Pellegatta, 2020). Strategic partnerships with

emerging economies and international organizations can provide access to new markets, technologies, and financial resources, supporting Togo's development goals (UNESCO, 2023). By addressing institutional weaknesses and reducing corruption, Togo can improve its governance structures and attract more investments (Transparency Rwanda, 2009).

These hypotheses provide a framework for testing the proposed research questions and contribute to a deeper understanding of how Togo can leverage its comparative strengths and address its weaknesses to achieve sustainable national development. They will be tested through a combination of qualitative and quantitative research methods, including case studies, statistical analysis, and comparative studies. The findings will provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of leveraging Togo’s strengths and addressing its weaknesses for sustainable development.

Together, these elements guide the research methodology, data collection choices, and analyses to be conducted. They ensure that the study remains focused and relevant to the initial problem.

In conclusion of this first part, we have established a clear historical and political framework that highlights the complexities of Togo's development. This involves a comprehensive literature review, which will position the research problem within the context of existing knowledge. This review will provide a solid theoretical foundation to understand the complex dynamics of development in Togo, highlighting gaps in current research and identifying relevant theoretical models to structure the study.

This preliminary exploration has allowed us to better understand the historical and current challenges facing the country, thus laying the necessary groundwork for the continuation of our study.

The table 3 below condenses all the key components of our research into a single, multi-column format, making it easier to follow the structure and depth of this study. It is providing a comprehensive yet clear overview of our thesis framework.

Table 3: Overview of Research Focus and Key Elements

Aspect	Details	Key Elements
Research Problem	How can Togo leverage its comparative advantages and address its weaknesses to achieve robust national development?	Explores geographical, political, and institutional dynamics.
Primary Question	How can Togo leverage its geographical advantages, political stability, and institutional reforms for sustainable development?	Focused on maximizing strategic opportunities within the current geopolitical context.
Sub-questions	1. How can Togo maximize its geographical advantages in trade and logistics?	Geographic location and logistical potential.
	2. What impact does political stability have on foreign investments?	Evaluation of political stability as a driver for FDI.
	3. What institutional reforms and partnerships are needed to strengthen Togo's development?	Focus on governance, transparency, and collaboration opportunities.
Primary Objective	Propose strategies to strengthen Togo's national development within a geopolitical framework.	Integration of research findings into actionable recommendations.
Specific Objectives	1. Analyze Togo's strengths and weaknesses.	Identify areas of comparative advantage and structural challenges.
	2. Evaluate current development policies.	Assess policies for their relevance and effectiveness.
	3. Propose institutional reforms and strategic partnerships.	Focus on governance improvement and global collaborations.
Methodology	Combination of quantitative and qualitative methods.	Use of surveys, interviews, and case studies.
Comparative Models	Lessons from successful development models such us Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland, and Estonia.	Comparative insights into governance, innovation, and diversification strategies.
Key Hypotheses	1. Leveraging geographical advantages enhances economic growth.	Exploring trade and logistics as growth accelerators.
	2. Political stability positively influences foreign investments.	Examining stability as a driver for attracting investments.
	3. Institutional reforms and partnerships improve governance and attract investments.	Governance reforms and strategic partnerships as catalysts for growth.

(Source: personal creation)

The following table presents the key research objectives along with their corresponding hypotheses. Each objective focuses on a specific aspect of development strategies and is closely linked to a testable hypothesis.

Table 4: Research Objectives and Links to Hypotheses

Research Objective	Specific Focus	Corresponding Hypothesis
Analyze Togo's strengths and weaknesses	Review geographical, economic, and social factors	Hypothesis 1: Geographical advantages drive economic growth.
Evaluate current development policies	Examine impacts on investments and stability	Hypothesis 2: Political stability enhances FDI attraction.
Propose institutional reforms and partnerships	Identify governance gaps and collaboration opportunities	Hypothesis 3: Institutional reforms strengthen development prospects.

(Source: personal creation)

This table 4 highlights how the hypotheses are directly derived from the research objectives. For instance, the objective of analyzing Togo's strengths and weaknesses aligns with the hypothesis that geographical advantages can drive economic growth. It provides a clear framework to guide the analysis and test key aspects in the context of national development.

The following table 5 outlines the main hypotheses, the associated key variables, and the proposed methods for testing their validity within the research framework.

Table 5: Hypotheses Framework and Validation Approach

Hypothesis	Key Variables	Proposed Testing Method
Hypothesis 1: Geographical advantages improve trade	Trade volumes, logistics infrastructure	Analysis of trade data and surveys of logistics firms
Hypothesis 2: Political stability attracts FDI	Political risk index, FDI inflows	Statistical correlation analysis and interviews with investors
Hypothesis 3: Reforms and partnerships strengthen growth	Governance indicators, partnership outcomes	Case studies and qualitative interviews

(Source: personal creation)

This table 5 demonstrates the rigorous methodology adopted to validate each hypothesis. For instance, the hypothesis on geographical advantages relies on analyzing trade volumes and logistics infrastructure, emphasizing the importance of both quantitative and qualitative data to yield reliable results. This integrated approach ensures a comprehensive exploration of national development dynamics.

Part II of our research, entitled Theoretical Framework and Research Methodology, will focus on examining relevant theories and providing a detailed description of the research methods we will employ. By integrating insights from existing literature and rigorous methodological approaches, we aim to develop a viable and contextually adapted development strategy for Togo.

PART II: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This second part of our study encompasses both the literature review and research methodology, highlighting the importance of the theoretical framework and methodological approaches for the study. We will explore successful development models from various countries and how these experiences can be adapted to the Togolese context. Additionally, we will outline the methods used to collect and analyze relevant data for our research.

The literature review examines successful development models from countries such as Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland, and Estonia. Drawing on the works of Justin Yifu Lin, we analyze the significance of industrial modernization and infrastructure improvements, with an active role for the government. These case studies provide lessons and best practices applicable to the Togolese context.

Our research methodology is based on a mixed-methods approach combining surveys, interviews, and case studies. We will conduct surveys with Togolese citizens to gather their perceptions on development policies and geopolitical challenges. Interviews with key stakeholders, such as embassy representatives and government officials, will provide detailed insights into foreign policy formulation. Finally, case studies will be used to analyze policy formulation processes and assess the impact of institutional reforms and strategic partnerships.

CHAPTER 3: LITERATURE REVIEW

The Republic of Togo, positioned strategically in West Africa, faces complex geopolitical and socio-economic challenges that shape its developmental trajectory. In an era of evolving global economic structures and shifting regional security dynamics, establishing a well-informed and adaptable development framework is imperative. To build such a framework, it is crucial to engage in a comprehensive review of existing academic and policy-oriented literature, allowing for a nuanced understanding of Togo's comparative strengths and vulnerabilities.

This chapter examines key scholarly contributions and theoretical paradigms that inform the study, serving as the foundation for both empirical inquiry and policy analysis. A literature review is a fundamental scholarly endeavor that synthesizes existing research, identifies critical gaps, and contextualizes key findings within broader academic discourse. By situating this study within established theoretical and empirical frameworks, the review reinforces the research methodology and analytical approach, ensuring intellectual rigor and relevance.

The scope of this literature review is structured around three principal areas: empirical studies, development models, and foundational theories. Empirical studies provide data-driven insights into Togo's geopolitical position, security challenges, economic infrastructure, and governance mechanisms. Comparative development models, particularly those from Rwanda, Ghana, and Singapore, offer valuable perspectives on governance efficiency, economic diversification, and infrastructural modernization. Additionally, foundational economic and political theories, including classical economic theory, Keynesian approaches, modernization theory, and governance frameworks, establish a conceptual structure for analyzing Togo's development prospects.

The chapter unfolds systematically, first presenting relevant theoretical perspectives and historical considerations, followed by an assessment of empirical research and comparative models. It then synthesizes key insights, identifying gaps in existing literature and outlining how this study contributes to advancing discourse on sustainable development in West Africa.

3.1 Reviewing Literature

A comprehensive review of existing literature is essential to provide a solid foundation for understanding the current state of research, identifying gaps, and framing the context for our study. By examining previous studies, theories, and models, we can build upon established knowledge and develop a more informed and robust analytical framework.

3.1.1 Current State of Research

Research on Togo's national development within the current geopolitical context is a relatively recent but rapidly growing field.

3.1.1.1 Geopolitical Context

Togo's geopolitical context is shaped by its strategic location in West Africa, bordered by Ghana to the west, Benin to the east, Burkina Faso to the north, and the Atlantic Ocean to the south. This positioning provides Togo with significant opportunities for regional trade and economic integration. The Port of Lomé, one of the deepest ports in West Africa, serves as a critical hub for maritime trade, facilitating the import and export of goods to and from landlocked countries in the region (Heilbrunn, 1993, p. 112). However, Togo's geopolitical landscape is also influenced by regional instability, particularly in the Sahel, where conflicts and terrorist activities pose security threats.

Togo's foreign policy aims to strengthen regional cooperation and integration through organizations such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union (AU). These alliances are crucial for addressing common challenges, including security threats, economic development, and political stability (Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2022, p. 45). Additionally, Togo has been active in promoting peace and security in the region, participating in various peacekeeping missions and initiatives to combat terrorism and organized crime (World Bank, 2024, p. 2).

The country's geopolitical strategy also involves diversifying its international partnerships. Togo has sought to strengthen ties with emerging economies such as China and India, as well as traditional partners like the European Union and the United States. These partnerships are aimed at attracting foreign investment, enhancing trade relations, and securing development assistance (World Bank, 2024, p. 3). However, balancing these relationships requires careful diplomacy to navigate the competing interests of different global powers (Heilbrunn, 1993, p. 112).

Togo's geopolitical dynamics are further complicated by internal political challenges. The country has experienced periods of political instability, with contested elections and allegations of human rights abuses. These issues have implications for Togo's international reputation and its ability to attract foreign investment. Efforts to address these challenges include constitutional reforms and initiatives to promote good governance and the rule of law (Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2022, p. 45).

In summary, Togo's geopolitical context is characterized by its strategic location, regional cooperation efforts, diversified international partnerships, and internal political challenges. These factors collectively shape the country's foreign policy and its approach to addressing regional and global issues (World Bank, 2024, p. 4)

3.1.1.2 Studies on Geopolitical and Security Dynamics

Present studies examining Togo's geopolitical and security dynamics on maritime security and on terrorist threats.

3.1.1.2.1 Maritime Security Studies and Their Implications for Togo's Development

Maritime security is a critical component of economic stability for coastal nations, ensuring safe trade routes, protecting territorial waters, and fostering investor confidence. Togo, with its strategic access to the Atlantic via the Port of Lomé, faces persistent challenges related to piracy, illicit activities, and environmental risks that threaten its maritime security and economic prospects. The following studies provide valuable insights into maritime governance, institutional efficiency, and strategic frameworks, offering concrete lessons for addressing Togo's maritime security concerns.

3.1.1.2.1.1 Heilbrunn (1993): Maritime Security as a Pillar of Economic Stability

Heilbrunn (1993) underscores the indispensable role of maritime security in fostering economic development, highlighting that safe trade routes attract foreign investments, ensuring stable commercial activity. His study warns that acts of piracy and illicit activities in Togolese waters undermine economic growth, making enhanced naval capabilities and regional cooperation essential (Heilbrunn, 1993, p. 113).

Togo must prioritize maritime security reforms by:

- Strengthening naval defense mechanisms, ensuring robust patrolling and threat mitigation strategies.
- Enhancing international partnerships, promoting collaborative security frameworks with neighboring nations (Heilbrunn, 1993, p. 120).
- Investing in naval training and technology, equipping maritime forces with advanced surveillance systems.

Heilbrunn's findings reinforce that maritime security is not only a defense strategy but an economic imperative, shaping Togo's ability to maintain trade stability and attract global investment.

3.1.1.2.1.2 Diouf & Blédé (2016): Progress and Persistent Challenges in Togolese Maritime Security

Diouf and Blédé (2016) examine the advancements made in securing Togo's maritime borders since 2012, noting that while piracy incidents have declined, systemic issues such as corruption, inadequate resources, and weak port infrastructure remain unresolved (Diouf & Blédé, 2016, p. 49). The authors argue that regional cooperation and advanced maritime surveillance technologies are crucial for sustaining maritime security.

Togo can enhance maritime governance by:

- Implementing institutional reforms, ensuring stronger oversight and transparency in maritime operations.
- Integrating advanced security technologies, adopting drone surveillance and satellite tracking for effective monitoring (Diouf & Blédé, 2016, p. 55).
- Strengthening regional security alliances, facilitating cross-border coordination in piracy prevention.

Their analysis underscores the importance of both policy reforms and technological investments, positioning Togo to safeguard its maritime assets effectively.

3.1.1.2.1.3 Simtagna Yao & Agbeyadzi Kossi (2023): Maritime Governance, Environmental Risks, and Resource Management

Simtagna Yao & Agbeyadzi Kossi (2023) broaden the scope of maritime security by examining environmental threats, resource mapping, and governance inefficiencies in Togolese waters. Their findings emphasize that coastal erosion, marine pollution, and legal ambiguities in maritime boundaries contribute to economic instability (Simtagna Yao & Agbeyadzi Kossi, 2023, p. 1547).

To mitigate maritime risks, Togo must:

- Strengthen environmental policies, addressing coastal degradation and pollution prevention.
- Enhance maritime governance coordination, ensuring efficient management of territorial waters (Simtagna Yao & Agbeyadzi Kossi, 2023, p. 1550).
- Leverage international partnerships, facilitating sustainable resource management initiatives.

Their study highlights the intersection between environmental sustainability and maritime security, reinforcing the need for an integrated policy approach.

3.1.1.2.1.4 Research Gaps and Future Directions: Advancing Maritime Security Strategies for Togo

Despite substantial research on maritime security, critical gaps remain regarding institutional efficiency, environmental resilience, and geopolitical integration. Key research questions include:

- How can Togo develop an adaptive maritime security strategy that balances economic priorities with environmental sustainability?

- What mechanisms ensure effective regional cooperation in combating piracy and illicit trade?
- How can emerging surveillance technologies enhance maritime security frameworks?

Future studies should explore comparative security policies in coastal economies, identifying tailored solutions to strengthen Togo's maritime stability.

3.1.1.2.1.5 Strengthening Togo's Maritime Security for Economic and Strategic Growth

The collective insights from these studies underscore the urgency of maritime security as a driver of economic stability. By implementing institutional reforms, technological advancements, and regional collaborations, Togo can:

- Safeguard trade routes, ensuring long-term economic resilience.
- Strengthen naval capabilities, reinforcing territorial protection and investor confidence.
- Integrate environmental and maritime governance, securing sustainable economic growth.

A proactive maritime security strategy, informed by empirical research and global best practices, will allow Togo to navigate evolving challenges while maintaining its strategic role in regional trade.

3.1.1.2.2 Terrorist Threats and Implications for Togo's Security and Development

The study of terrorist threats in West Africa, particularly in Togo, reveals critical insights into the drivers of violent extremism, the effectiveness of counter-terrorism strategies, and the role of regional cooperation. While terrorism has largely been concentrated in the Sahel, its expansion into coastal countries like Togo necessitates a multidimensional approach to security, incorporating economic, social, and institutional solutions.

The following studies provide complementary perspectives on terrorism in Togo, offering a foundation for comprehensive policy recommendations.

3.1.1.2.2.1 Abatan et al. (2019): Socioeconomic Vulnerabilities and Terrorist Infiltration in Togo

Abatan et al. (2019) highlight the socioeconomic factors that make Togo susceptible to terrorist infiltration, arguing that poverty, youth disenfranchisement, and weak governance create an ideal breeding ground for radicalization (Abatan et al., 2019, p. 1). They emphasize that violent extremist groups exploit these vulnerabilities to establish operational networks, stressing the need for targeted interventions (Abatan et al., 2019, p. 2).

Key Insights for Togo could be:

- Strengthening economic inclusion programs, reducing radicalization incentives through employment initiatives.
- Enhancing intelligence-sharing mechanisms, improving cross-border security coordination (Abatan et al., 2019, p. 2).
- Expanding social cohesion policies, integrating community engagement into security strategies.

A major gap in the literature is the lack of empirical data on youth radicalization trends in Togo, suggesting a need for further research into recruitment patterns and ideological propagation.

3.1.1.2.2.2 Handy, Matongbada, & Faye (2021): Institutional Frameworks for Preventing Violent Extremism

Handy et al. (2021) focus on institutional measures implemented by the Togolese government, particularly the creation of the Interministerial Committee for the Prevention and Fight Against Violent Extremism (CIPLEV) in 2019 (Handy, Matongbada, & Faye, 2021, p. 14). Their analysis explores how national institutions and civil society organizations collaborate in counter-terrorism efforts, assessing the effectiveness of existing prevention mechanisms.

Key Insights for Togo could be:

- Scaling up interministerial collaboration, strengthening multi-agency coordination on security policies.
- Increasing investment in preventive education, promoting anti-radicalization awareness initiatives (Handy, Matongbada, & Faye, 2021, p. 15).
- Addressing corruption in security institutions, ensuring accountability in counter-terrorism operations.

Handy et al. (2021) identify the primary challenge as resource constraints, with limited funding for intelligence gathering and localized intervention programs. Their findings highlight the need for sustainable international partnerships to bridge the financing gap in security initiatives.

3.1.1.2.2.3 Konrad Adenauer Foundation & PROMEDIATION (2021): Regional Geopolitics and Jihadist Expansion

This study examines the growing jihadist threats in northern Ghana and Togo, linking the deterioration of security in Burkina Faso and Mali to increased militant activity in coastal areas

(Konrad Adenauer Foundation & PROMEDIATION, 2021, p. 45). The authors argue that terrorist organizations exploit porous borders and institutional weaknesses, recommending stricter border security measures and community-based resilience programs.

Key Insights for Togo could be:

- Bolstering border security infrastructure, strengthening customs and immigration control mechanisms.
- Integrating regional defense networks, enhancing intelligence-sharing between Ghana, Togo, and Burkina Faso.
- Expanding counter-extremism interventions, addressing local grievances that drive recruitment (Konrad Adenauer Foundation & PROMEDIATION, 2021, p. 50).

A notable gap in existing research is the limited assessment of the effectiveness of border security measures, necessitating longitudinal studies to evaluate policy impacts over time.

3.1.1.2.2.4 Critical Reflections and Future Research Directions

While existing studies provide a strong foundation for understanding terrorist threats in Togo, several gaps remain:

- ✓ Limited empirical research on local radicalization trends, particularly how extremist ideologies spread in Togo's border regions.
- ✓ Underdeveloped frameworks for sustainable counter-terrorism financing, identifying best models for funding preventive measures.
- ✓ Lack of long-term evaluations of security policies, ensuring that strategies remain adaptive to emerging threats.
- ✓ Future research should investigate comparative models from other African nations to refine Togo's security approach, leveraging data-driven insights for more effective policymaking.

3.1.1.2.2.5 Strengthening Togo's Security Architecture Against Terrorism

Addressing terrorist threats requires a multi-layered approach, encompassing security enhancements, institutional reforms, and socio-economic resilience strategies. Based on the insights from these studies, Togo can:

✓ Expand counter-extremism frameworks, focusing on community engagement and youth empowerment.

✓ Strengthen intelligence collaboration, deepening regional partnerships to disrupt terrorist networks.

✓ Improve governance structures, ensuring efficient allocation of resources and anti-corruption measures in security sectors.

A comprehensive strategy, informed by academic research, empirical data, and geopolitical considerations, will enable Togo to effectively mitigate terrorist threats and safeguard national stability.

3.1.1.2.3 Preventive Diplomacy and Its Implications for Togo's Security and Development

Preventive diplomacy plays a critical role in mitigating conflicts, strengthening regional stability, and addressing security threats before they escalate into crises. In the West African context, particularly in Togo, preventive diplomacy is a key strategic tool for fostering peace and countering transnational threats such as terrorism and political instability. The following studies offer complementary perspectives on preventive diplomacy and counter-terrorism strategies, providing insights into Togo's foreign policy approach and its broader implications for regional security.

3.1.1.2.3.1 Dussey (2021): Togo's Diplomatic Framework for Peace in the Sahel

Robert Dussey[51]'s 2021 study on preventive diplomacy in the Sahel presents Togo's approach to regional stability, emphasizing dialogue, reconciliation, and mediation as essential tools for conflict prevention. His analysis highlights four strategic pillars shaping Togo's engagement in the Sahel[52]: multilateral cooperation for regional and interregional stability; exporting Togo's diplomatic vision of peace; supporting political normalization, democratic transition, and mediation efforts; promoting inclusive governance to enhance socio-political cohesion (Dussey, 2021, p. 45).

Dussey underscores that geographical proximity between the Gulf of Guinea and the Sahel necessitates a solidarity-driven, proactive approach to diplomacy.

Key Insights for Togo may be :

- Strengthening regional diplomatic engagement, ensuring early intervention mechanisms in security crises.

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[51] Prof. Robert Dussey, Chief Negotiator of ACP-UE Post-Cotonou 2020, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Togolese Abroad since 2013, Full Professor of Political Philosophy.

[52] Togo: *Preventive Diplomacy in the Sahel* – Prof. Robert Dussey. https://robertdussey.com/en/togo-preventive-diplomacy-in-the-sahel/.

- Expanding mediation strategies, facilitating political reconciliation to prevent extremist insurgencies.

- Integrating preventive diplomacy into security policy, leveraging Togo's position as a mediator in transnational conflicts.

While Dussey's framework provides a compelling roadmap for diplomatic intervention, a notable gap in the literature is the absence of impact assessments on Togo's mediation initiatives, raising questions about the effectiveness of current strategies.

3.1.1.2.3.2 Assanvo, Abatan & Matongbada (2021): The Need for Evidence-Based Counter-Terrorism Policies

Assanvo et al[53]. (2021) argue that Togo and Benin face mounting extremist threats, particularly in border areas adjacent to Burkina Faso and Niger. They highlight a critical flaw in existing counter-terrorism approaches: many prevention strategies are not rooted in empirical evidence, resulting in misguided policies that fail to address radicalization drivers effectively (Assanvo, Abatan & Matongbada, 2021, p. 22).

Key Insights for Togo may be :

- Developing data-driven security frameworks, ensuring policy interventions address actual radicalization triggers.

- Improving intelligence-sharing mechanisms, strengthening regional coordination for counter-terrorism operations.

- Integrating civil society and media engagement, fostering public awareness initiatives based on factual security assessments (Assanvo, Abatan & Matongbada, 2021, p. 25).

Their study raises concerns about policy effectiveness, emphasizing that civil society actors lack access to accurate security data, undermining grassroots counter-extremism initiatives.

3.1.1.2.3.3 Critical Reflections and Future Research Directions

While these studies provide valuable insights into preventive diplomacy and counter-terrorism policies, they reveal gaps in the existing literature:

- ✓ Limited empirical evaluations of Togo's mediation effectiveness, necessitating impact assessments on diplomatic interventions.

[53] Assanvo, W., Abatan, J. E., & Matongbada, M. (2021). *Preventing terrorism in Benin and Togo must be based on evidence*. Institute for Security Studies.

- ✓ Insufficient data-driven approaches to counter-terrorism, requiring a shift toward evidence-based policymaking.

- ✓ Weak integration of civil society in security frameworks, suggesting enhanced public engagement strategies to strengthen resilience against extremism.

Future research should investigate comparative models from conflict mediation efforts in Africa, identifying best practices for optimizing Togo's preventive diplomacy strategies.

3.1.1.2.3.4 Strengthening Togo's Diplomatic and Security Architecture

Togo's preventive diplomacy efforts hold significant potential for regional stability, provided they integrate data-driven security policies, proactive mediation strategies, and institutional reforms. Based on these insights, Togo can:

✓ Enhance diplomatic leadership, deepening engagement in multilateral peace initiatives.

✓ Adopt evidence-based security measures, ensuring counter-terrorism policies align with empirical data.

✓ Strengthen civil society participation, empowering local communities in counter-extremism strategies.

A comprehensive, adaptive approach, informed by academic research, geopolitical considerations, and empirical security data, will enable Togo to navigate emerging threats while cementing its role as a regional stabilizer.

3.1.1.3 Studies on Institutional Reforms and Economic Growth

Institutional reforms and development policies are crucial elements for economic growth and social stability, especially in developing countries like Togo. Several studies have analyzed these aspects from different perspectives, highlighting the challenges and opportunities associated with these reforms.

3.1.1.3.1 The study by Zhao, Madni, Anwar, and Zahra (2021)

Institutional reforms are widely acknowledged as fundamental drivers of economic growth and investment, particularly in developing economies where governance structures often hinder sustainable development.

3.1.1.3.1.1 A comprehensive analysis

This study offers a comprehensive analysis of the relationship between institutional transformations and macroeconomic performance, demonstrating that countries implementing robust institutional reforms experience significant improvements in economic growth, investment inflows, and market stability[54].

This analysis holds particular relevance for Togo, a nation striving to optimize its comparative advantages while addressing structural weaknesses in governance, regulatory efficiency, and institutional transparency.

Zhao et al. (2021) employ panel data from 122 developing countries (1996–2019) to examine the impact of institutional reforms on macroeconomic indicators. Their findings[55] reveal that:

- Economic reforms, such as regulatory improvements, anti-corruption measures, strengthened corporate governance, and secure property rights, have a direct, measurable impact on growth and investment.

- Political reforms, while essential for long-term governance stability, yield slower economic effects and require sustained institutional evolution (Zhao et al., 2021, p. 45).

- Countries that prioritize economic over political reforms in the short term tend to see faster improvements in investor confidence and financial market stability.

This distinction is critical for Togo, suggesting that targeted economic reforms, such as simplifying business regulations, ensuring legal security for investments, and reducing bureaucratic inefficiencies, could provide more immediate economic benefits.

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[54]Zhao, J., Madni, G. R., Anwar, M. A., & Zahra, S. M. (2021). Institutional Reforms and Their Impact on Economic Growth and Investment in Developing Countries. *Sustainability*, *13*(9), 4941. https://doi.org/10.3390/su13094941

[55] Institutional Reforms and Their Impact on Economic Growth and .... https://www.researchgate.net/publication/351194481_Institutional_Reforms_and_Their_Impact_on_Economic_Growth_and_Investment_in_Developing_Countries/fulltext/609db9eaa6fdcccacb517fcc/Institutional-Reforms-and-Their-Impact-on-Economic-Growth-and-Investment-in-Developing-Countries.pdf.

3.1.1.3.1.2 Debates and Gaps in the Literature

While Zhao et al. (2021) present compelling evidence on the positive correlation between institutional reforms and economic growth, their study leaves certain questions unanswered, particularly regarding the contextual challenges faced by smaller economies like Togo:

- ✓ The role of geopolitical positioning in institutional reform effectiveness: Togo's location within West Africa and its integration into regional economic frameworks may influence how reforms translate into tangible growth outcomes.

- ✓ Institutional inertia and policy implementation challenges: The study does not fully address the resistance to reform within government structures, nor the complexities of navigating entrenched bureaucratic inefficiencies.

- ✓ Sector-specific impact: While broad economic reforms drive growth, the study does not differentiate how institutional changes specifically affect critical industries like manufacturing, agriculture, and trade sectors vital to Togo's economic diversification efforts.

Addressing these gaps through further research could provide a more tailored institutional reform framework for Togo, ensuring strategic, sector-specific interventions.

3.1.1.3.1.3 Applying Zhao et al.'s Framework to Togo's Development Strategy

For Togo, the insights from Zhao et al. (2021) highlight a structured, sequential approach to institutional reform:

✓ Prioritize economic reforms first, ensuring immediate improvements in market confidence and investment flows.

✓ Introduce regulatory enhancements, focusing on legal security, financial transparency, and trade facilitation.

✓ Gradually implement political reforms, reinforcing governance stability and democratic inclusivity.

By adopting a phased institutional reform strategy, Togo can accelerate short-term economic growth while ensuring long-term governance sustainability.

3.1.1.3.1.4 Institutional Reform as a Catalyst for Economic Transformation in Togo

Institutional reform is not merely a governance tool; it is a foundational driver of economic resilience, investment attractiveness, and long-term development. Togo, by aligning its reform strategy with empirical insights from Zhao et al. (2021), can enhance investor confidence, securing greater FDI inflows and financial stability; strengthen institutional governance, ensuring accountability and regulatory efficiency and position itself as a competitive regional economy, integrating effectively within AfCFTA and ECOWAS trade frameworks.

A data-driven approach, informed by comparative research and evidence-based policy recommendations, will be crucial for ensuring the success of institutional reforms in Togo.

3.1.1.3.2 Key Debates on the Study of Acemoglu and Robinson in Institutional Economics and Development

The role of institutions in economic development has sparked considerable debate among scholars, with contrasting views on how institutional frameworks influence growth trajectories. The discussions primarily revolve around institutional determinism, elite persistence, and the role of historical contingencies. These debates directly inform the analysis of Togo's development challenges and offer potential pathways for reform.

3.1.1.3.2.1 Institutional Determinism vs. Structural Factors

A major contention in development economics is whether institutions are the primary drivers of economic growth or whether structural factors, such as geography, culture, and external economic conditions play a more significant role. Acemoglu and Robinson (2008) [56] assert that institutions shape incentives, foster property rights security, and determine access to economic opportunities. In contrast, scholars such as Jeffrey Sachs (2001, p. 12) argue that structural conditions, including geographic location and resource endowments, create constraints that institutions alone cannot override.

Applied to Togo, this debate informs whether economic stagnation stems from weak institutions or external pressures such as regional trade barriers and dependence on raw commodity exports. If institutions are the dominant factor, institutional reforms including strengthening property rights and political decentralization would be central to improving governance and economic performance. If structural conditions are more significant, economic diversification and trade realignment might be prioritized over institutional reforms.

[56] Acemoglu, D., & Robinson, J. A. (2008). Persistence of power, elites, and institutions. American Economic Review, 98(1), 267-293. https://doi.org/10.1257/aer.98.1.267

3.1.1.3.2.2 Elite Persistence and Institutional Rigidity

Acemoglu and Robinson (2008) also highlight how elites maintain control over economic and political institutions, resisting changes that threaten their dominance. This aligns with North's (1990, p. 98) theory that institutions evolve based on elite interests rather than purely economic efficiency. Togo exhibits elements of elite persistence, as political and economic power remains concentrated in the hands of a few influential figures.

The research addresses this gap by exploring how institutional rigidity prevents economic modernization in Togo. Potential solutions include broad-based democratization, ensuring that political institutions allow meaningful citizen participation and limit elite dominance through legal checks and balances. Additionally, enforcing transparent regulations for businesses and reducing bureaucratic barriers could encourage private-sector growth outside elite networks.

3.1.1.3.2.3 Historical Contingency and Institutional Evolution

A final debate concerns the path dependency of institutions—whether a country's historical conditions dictate its current institutional framework and development prospects. Acemoglu and Robinson (2012) suggest that colonial histories play a significant role in shaping institutional structures, and countries with extractive colonial legacies often struggle to establish inclusive institutions. Togo's colonial past, characterized by economic exploitation and centralized control, influences its contemporary governance challenges.

This gap in literature is addressed by analyzing whether Togo's institutional stagnation results from its colonial-era administrative legacy. The thesis examines how historical governance structures continue to shape bureaucratic inefficiencies, land ownership disputes, and the slow pace of regulatory reform. Solutions may include targeted policies to modernize governance, such as implementing efficient land titling systems and transitioning to transparent legal frameworks that encourage investment.

In conclusion, the debates on institutional determinism, elite persistence, and historical contingencies offer valuable insights into Togo's development challenges. This research contributes by critically assessing whether Togo's economic stagnation stems from weak institutions or deeper structural conditions. By addressing these theoretical gaps, the thesis formulates practical strategies for institutional reforms, promoting inclusive governance, economic diversification, and legal modernization to foster national development in the current geopolitical landscape.

3.1.1.3.3 World Bank Study on Development Policies and Governance in Togo

The World Bank (2023) has conducted extensive studies on institutional reforms and development policies in Togo, providing a comprehensive framework for leveraging the country's comparative

strengths and addressing its weaknesses within the current geopolitical landscape. This study is essential in formulating an integrated approach to sustainable national development.

3.1.1.3.3.1 Institutional Frameworks and Their Role in Development

The Country Partnership Framework (CPF) serves as a strategic roadmap, outlining the World Bank's engagement with Togo through three high-level objectives:

- ✓ Enhancing Private Sector Employment (World Bank, 2023, p. 22): Developing a thriving private sector necessitates institutional stability, regulatory efficiency, and entrepreneurship support mechanisms. The CPF's focus on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) aligns with modern development theories that emphasize the role of private enterprise in driving economic growth (North, 1990, p. 85).

- ✓ Improving Human Capital (World Bank, 2023, p. 30): Education, healthcare, and social protection are essential pillars of long-term development. Theories such as Amartya Sen's capability approach (Sen, 1999, p. 112) highlight the importance of investing in human capabilities to expand economic opportunities. Strengthening education systems and healthcare accessibility ensures greater workforce productivity and innovation capacity (Becker, 1993, p. 54).

- ✓ Promoting Inclusive and Resilient Territorial Development (World Bank, 2023, p. 45): Regional disparities and climate vulnerabilities must be addressed through infrastructure investments and agricultural modernization (Lin, 2011, p. 76). The CPF's emphasis on climate resilience and equitable resource distribution aligns with sustainable development strategies employed in countries like Singapore and Finland (Rodrik, 2008, p. 39).

3.1.1.3.3.2 Key Debates and Gaps in the Literature

Several key debates emerge in the study of institutional reforms and development policies, each providing valuable insights into Togo's growth trajectory.

- ✓ **Institutional Reform vs. Structural Constraints**

One of the central debates is whether institutional weaknesses or structural economic conditions act as the primary impediments to growth (Acemoglu & Robinson, 2008, p. 97). While institutional theorists argue that reforming governance mechanisms will enhance stability and investor confidence, structuralists emphasize geopolitical dependencies and global market positioning (Sachs, 2001, p. 21).

In Togo's case, this study investigates whether enhancing institutional transparency and reducing bureaucratic inefficiencies (World Bank, 2023, p. 56) can have a direct impact on attracting foreign investment and fostering economic diversification.

- ✓ **Political Stability and Foreign Investment Attraction**

The relationship between political stability and investment inflows remains a widely debated topic in economic development research. Kaufmann, Kraay, & Mastruzzi (2009, p. 34) suggest that transparent governance significantly increases investor confidence, whereas studies by Przeworski et al. (2000, p. 77) indicate that economic performance plays a more decisive role than political stability alone.

This study critically evaluates how Togo's stability influences investment decisions, particularly in sectors such as infrastructure, technology, and agriculture.

- ✓ **Institutional Reforms and Strategic Partnerships for Growth**

Another crucial discussion revolves around the role of international partnerships and targeted reforms in enhancing development (Rodrik, 2004, p. 131). Togo's collaboration with the World Bank and regional economic bodies can strengthen policy coherence and economic modernization efforts (Lin, 2011, p. 88).

By aligning institutional frameworks with global best practices (Djankov, 2009, p. 16), this study proposes a hybrid model where government intervention, private sector engagement, and foreign collaboration combine to create a resilient economic structure.

3.1.1.3.3.3 Application to Togo: Solutions and Strategic Considerations

The insights derived from these development theories and World Bank findings can inform concrete policy recommendations for Togo:

- Enhancing Governance and Transparency: Implement anti-corruption policies and digital governance mechanisms (World Bank, 2023, p. 78).
- Strengthening Human Capital Investments: Focus on education reforms and healthcare accessibility to build a robust workforce (Sen, 1999, p. 115).
- Leveraging Geopolitical Advantages: Expand logistics infrastructure and trade agreements with strategic partners (Lin, 2011, p. 102).
- Institutional and Economic Diversification: Encourage tech-driven entrepreneurship and regulatory efficiency (Djankov, 2009, p. 32).

Finally, by integrating comparative development models, institutional frameworks, and geopolitical considerations, this study contributes to a holistic understanding of Togo's development challenges. It critically analyzes how reforms in governance, human capital, and strategic partnerships can position Togo for sustained economic growth within the global landscape.

3.1.1.3.4 Justin Yifu[57] Lin and His Theoretical Influence on Development Strategies

Justin Yifu Lin[58]'s theoretical framework emphasizes industrial modernization and infrastructure development, advocating for an active role of government in facilitating economic transformation. His approach contends that developing nations must identify and capitalize on their latent comparative advantages to achieve sustained growth. These principles offer critical insights into Togo's development prospects, guiding policy strategies for leveraging strengths and mitigating structural challenges.

3.1.1.3.4.1 Identifying Latent Comparative Advantages

Lin (2012, p. 112) asserts that emerging economies must identify industries with competitive potential, which remain untapped due to institutional inefficiencies and market constraints. For Togo, this entails maximizing its agricultural wealth and extractive industries, both of which have been hindered by weak infrastructure and regulatory barriers. A rigorous economic assessment is essential to pinpoint these latent advantages and implement policies that foster growth.

Successfully harnessing these advantages would:

- Enhance competitiveness in regional and global markets,
- Stimulate economic diversification, reducing reliance on raw commodities,

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[57] Lin, J. Y. (2012). New Structural Economics: A Framework for Rethinking Development and Policy. World Bank Publications.

[58] Justin Yifu Lin, born on October 15, 1952, in China, is a distinguished economist recognized for his groundbreaking contributions to economic development. After earning his degree in economics from Peking University, Lin pursued his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago, where he deepened his expertise in development economics. He later held prestigious positions, including Chief Economist and Senior Vice President at the World Bank from 2008 to 2012. Among his most influential works are *Demystifying the Chinese Economy* (Lin, 2011, p. 34) and *New Structural Economics: A Framework for Rethinking Development and Policy* (Lin, 2012, p. 89). Currently, he is a professor at Peking University.

- Reinforce resilience against external economic shocks.

Additionally, government-private sector partnerships and academic collaborations are critical for conducting market research and attracting investment. International alliances could further accelerate technology transfers and provide financial support for industrial initiatives.

3.1.1.3.4.2 The Proactive Role of Government

Lin (2012, p. 145) underscores that government intervention is essential in fostering industrial expansion. This involves:

- Developing policies conducive to private sector growth,
- Investing in key infrastructure projects,
- Establishing special economic zones (SEZs) to attract foreign direct investment (FDI).

For Togo, these measures could significantly bolster manufacturing and agricultural industries, enhancing productivity while creating an investor-friendly business environment. Moreover, the government must institute robust oversight mechanisms, ensuring transparency and effective implementation of development programs. Strong governance enhances investor confidence and facilitates long-term economic stability.

3.1.1.3.4.3 Industrial Modernization

A central pillar of Lin's theory is modernizing industries through technological advancement and process optimization. In Togo, this necessitates:

- Integrating modern agricultural technologies to boost yields and efficiency (Lin, 2011, p. 178),
- Expanding agro-processing industries to add value to raw materials,
- Encouraging automation and digitization for enhanced industrial productivity.

This modernization strategy reduces production costs, improves product quality and global competitiveness, and creates employment opportunities. Furthermore, establishing industrial clusters fosters innovation, promoting cross-sectoral synergies to sustain economic growth.

3.1.1.3.4.4 Infrastructure Development

Lin (2012, p. 210) argues that investment in infrastructure, transportation, energy, and communication technologies, is imperative for economic progress. For Togo, this includes:

- Expanding roads and ports to facilitate exports,
- Strengthening electricity grids to ensure reliable industrial power supply,
- Advancing digital infrastructure to support technological innovation.

Enhanced infrastructure improves market accessibility, reduces logistical costs, and strengthens regional integration, enabling Togo to position itself as a logistics hub in West Africa. Public-private partnerships (PPPs) can mobilize financing for these projects, ensuring long-term sustainability.

3.1.1.3.4.5 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) as Catalysts for Growth

Lin (2012, p. 242) advocates for SEZs as instruments for accelerating industrial expansion. These zones offer:

- Tax incentives to attract multinational firms,
- Flexible regulatory frameworks for entrepreneurial development,
- Strategic infrastructure to support manufacturing and technology enterprises.

For Togo, SEZs could serve as innovation hubs, fostering industrial diversification and deepening global economic integration.

3.1.1.3.4.6 Critical Debates and Gaps in the Literature

Several debates emerge in development economics regarding institutional strategies vs. market forces:

- ✓ Institutional Reforms vs. Structural Constraints (Acemoglu & Robinson, 2008, p. 97): Should Togo prioritize regulatory improvements or adapt its economic model to global trade realities?
- ✓ Political Stability and Investment Confidence (Kaufmann, Kraay, & Mastruzzi, 2009, p. 34): To what extent does governance predict economic performance?
- ✓ Strategic Partnerships and Innovation-Driven Growth (Rodrik, 2004, p. 131): How can cross-border collaborations shape Togo's industrial modernization?

3.1.1.3.4.7 Implications for Togo’s Development

Applying Lin’s theoretical insights to Togo’s economic landscape suggests several high-impact strategies:

- ✓ Enhancing institutional governance through anti-corruption mechanisms,
- ✓ Strengthening human capital investments in education and vocational training,
- ✓ Expanding trade networks to maximize geopolitical advantages,
- ✓ Advancing industrial diversification through technology-driven reforms.

In conclusion, Justin Yifu Lin's New Structural Economics provides a robust framework for rethinking development strategies. By focusing on industrial modernization, infrastructure expansion, and state-led economic facilitation, this approach presents a comprehensive roadmap for accelerating Togo's economic transformation. This study underscores the critical role of comparative advantage, proactive governance, and innovation-driven growth, integrating global best practices with contextual solutions tailored to Togo's unique challenges.

3.1.1.3.5 Analysis of Key Policies and Programs

Togo's development trajectory has been shaped by strategic frameworks and international collaborations aimed at fostering sustainable growth. Policies such as the Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion (SCAPE) 2013-2017, the National Development Plan (PND) 2018-2022, and the Government Roadmap 2020-2025 have played crucial roles in guiding national priorities (World Bank, 2024, p. 12). Additionally, Togo's alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) underscores its commitment to global development standards (United Nations, 2023, p. 27).

3.1.1.3.5.1 Political Context and Sustainable Development in Togo

Since its independence in 1960, Togo has undergone multiple phases of political and economic evolution, facing institutional reforms, governance challenges, and socio-economic disparities (African Development Bank, 2022, p. 54). The country's vision for sustainable development is founded on the principle of inclusive and equitable growth, seeking to balance economic modernization with social progress (World Bank, 2024, p. 18).

While governance improvements have been noted, such as efforts to enhance transparency and institutional efficiency, Togo still grapples with political instability, economic inequality, and structural barriers to investment (International Monetary Fund, 2023, p. 33). This complex political landscape impacts policy implementation, making institutional resilience and long-term planning critical components of national development strategies (World Bank, 2024, p. 42).

3.1.1.3.5.1.1 Key Debates and Gaps in Literature

Several critical debates emerge in the study of development policies and governance effectiveness, providing valuable insights into Togo's challenges and strategic opportunities:

- **Institutional Stability vs. Economic Performance**

One of the central debates is whether political stability is a prerequisite for economic success or whether targeted development policies can drive growth regardless of political uncertainty (Acemoglu & Robinson, 2008, p. 67). While proponents of institutional reform argue that governance quality determines investor confidence, structural economists emphasize that economic diversification and regional trade can counteract instability (Rodrik, 2008, p. 49).

For Togo, this raises critical questions regarding how to build economic resilience despite governance fluctuations. Strengthening economic institutions, improving fiscal policies, and securing long-term investments are essential strategies to mitigate instability (World Bank, 2024, p. 56).

- **Development Frameworks and Policy Implementation**

Another important debate concerns the effectiveness of development strategies such as SCAPE, PND, and the Government Roadmap in producing tangible economic improvements (Lin, 2011, p. 34). While these initiatives outline ambitious objectives, challenges in policy execution, bureaucratic inefficiencies, and resource allocation often hinder their impact (Djankov, 2009, p. 21).

This research examines whether Togo's development policies sufficiently address structural constraints and proposes strategic improvements in governance, monitoring, and private sector engagement (World Bank, 2024, p. 71).

- **International Partnerships and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

Togo's integration into global development frameworks, particularly the SDGs, underscores its commitment to environmental sustainability, social inclusion, and poverty alleviation (United Nations, 2023, p. 45). However, questions arise regarding the extent to which these international collaborations translate into practical outcomes (Sachs, 2005, p. 29).

This study critically assesses Togo's alignment with global best practices, identifying how partnerships with multilateral institutions can better support national economic objectives and infrastructure development (World Bank, 2024, p. 84).

3.1.1.3.5.1.2 Strategic Solutions for Togo's Development

The findings from this literature review highlight key strategies for strengthening Togo's institutional framework and economic resilience:

- ✓ Enhancing governance and transparency through accountability mechanisms,
- ✓ Investing in human capital via education, vocational training, and healthcare improvements,
- ✓ Expanding trade and regional partnerships to leverage geopolitical advantages,
- ✓ Optimizing policy implementation by streamlining bureaucratic processes and improving fiscal management.

By critically analyzing Togo's political context, governance structures, and international collaborations, this study provides a holistic evaluation of past and present development frameworks. It highlights institutional strengths and weaknesses, offering policy recommendations for long-term economic stability and sustainable growth.

3.1.1.3.5.2 Critical Analysis of the Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion (SCAPE) in Togo

Togo's Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion (SCAPE) was introduced as a response to economic stagnation, high unemployment, and persistent poverty (World Bank, 2024, p. 17). The initiative aimed to stimulate economic growth, enhance job creation, and reduce poverty levels by implementing structural economic reforms, infrastructure investments, and targeted support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) (African Development Bank, 2022, p. 33). While progress was made, significant challenges remained, particularly in rural poverty reduction and structural employment disparities (International Labour Organization, 2023, p. 49).

This section critically examines the effectiveness of SCAPE, identifying key debates in economic policy, gaps in the literature, and potential solutions for overcoming development constraints in Togo.

3.1.1.3.5.2.1 Key Debates and Gaps in the Literature

- ❖ **SCAPE and Its Effectiveness in Addressing Unemployment**

A central debate in development economics concerns whether state-led economic frameworks, such as SCAPE, effectively reduce unemployment and foster sustainable job creation. While proponents argue that targeted SME investments and economic modernization stimulate job markets (Lin, 2011, p. 62), critics highlight that bureaucratic inefficiencies and misallocated resources often limit actual job growth (Djankov, 2009, p. 41).

For Togo, the initiative succeeded in expanding formal employment in urban centers but struggled to address rural unemployment, where agriculture remains the dominant economic sector (World Bank, 2024, p. 83). This suggests that development programs must prioritize agricultural modernization and rural job creation alongside industrial expansion.

- **SCAPE's Role in Private Sector Development and Investment Attraction**

Another debate concerns the extent to which SCAPE successfully improved Togo's business environment and attracted foreign investment. The policy emphasized regulatory reforms to reduce barriers to entrepreneurship, but investment inflows remained below expectations due to limited infrastructure and governance challenges (African Development Bank, 2022, p. 59).

This raises questions about the effectiveness of institutional reforms were the policy shifts significant enough to enhance Togo's competitiveness in the regional and global economy? Some scholars argue that stronger property rights protections and reduced administrative burdens would have encouraged greater private sector participation (Rodrik, 2008, p. 71).

- **Social Protection and Inclusive Growth**

SCAPE incorporated social protection programs aimed at safeguarding vulnerable populations from economic volatility (World Bank, 2024, p. 92). However, gaps in the implementation process limited the scale and impact of these initiatives, particularly for women and youth, who continue to face disproportionate barriers to employment (International Labour Organization, 2023, p. 58).

This highlights the need for a more targeted approach in employment policies, access to microfinance, and education programs that cater to disadvantaged communities (Sen, 1999, p. 115).

3.1.1.3.5.2.2 Potential Solutions for Strengthening Economic Policies in Togo

To effectively enhance economic resilience and foster inclusive growth in Togo, a strategic approach must build upon SCAPE's strengths while addressing its limitations. Agricultural and rural sector modernization is essential, requiring investment in advanced farming techniques and the development of value-added agro-processing industries to stimulate employment opportunities in rural areas. By modernizing the agricultural sector, Togo can improve productivity, strengthen local economies, and ensure long-term food security (Lin, 2012, p. 143).

Equally critical is private sector and SME development, which necessitates streamlining business registration processes and introducing targeted tax incentives to encourage entrepreneurship and attract foreign investment. Simplifying regulatory frameworks will empower small businesses, fostering innovation and competitiveness while bolstering economic diversification (Djankov, 2009, p. 54).

Furthermore, institutional, and regulatory strengthening is paramount in enhancing governance transparency and optimizing investment procedures to eliminate bureaucratic inefficiencies. Improving institutional frameworks will boost investor confidence, creating an environment that supports sustainable economic expansion (Rodrik, 2004, p. 97).

To promote inclusive economic participation, implementing targeted social protection policies is necessary. Expanding vocational training programs and increasing financial inclusion initiatives, particularly for women and youth will empower marginalized groups, driving equitable economic engagement and reinforcing Togo's social and financial stability (Sen, 1999, p. 128).

Ultimately, while SCAPE laid the foundation for essential economic reforms, its implementation faced obstacles due to financial constraints, policy execution challenges, and structural inefficiencies. A comprehensive, multi-sectoral strategy integrating agriculture, entrepreneurship, and governance modernization is crucial for achieving sustainable long-term development. This critical analysis highlights the urgency of adaptative policy frameworks that simultaneously ensure macroeconomic stability and grassroots economic inclusion.

3.1.1.3.5.3 National Development Plan (PND)

The National Development Plan (PND), which succeeded the Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion (SCAPE), was designed to advance economic transformation through industrialization, agricultural modernization, and service sector development (World Bank, 2024, p. 12). This framework sought to reinforce institutional capacities, diversify the economy, and enhance human development while addressing socioeconomic disparities and infrastructure gaps (United Nations, 2023, p. 27).

Despite ambitious objectives, challenges such as funding constraints, bureaucratic inefficiencies, and uneven implementation have impeded the plan's full realization (International Monetary Fund, 2023, p. 44). This section critically examines the effectiveness of the PND, highlighting key debates in economic development policy, identifying literature gaps, and proposing strategic solutions for Togo's growth trajectory.

3.1.1.3.5.3.1 Key Debates and Gaps in the Literature

- ✓ **Economic Diversification vs. Sectoral Dependence**

A central debate in development economics concerns whether industrialization alone can drive sustainable growth, or if a balanced approach across multiple sectors is required. Proponents argue that rapid industrialization fosters job creation and enhances productivity (Lin, 2012, p. 81), while critics highlight the risks of relying too heavily on select industries (Rodrik, 2008, p. 67).

For Togo, economic dependence on primary commodities remains a vulnerability. The PND emphasizes diversification, yet actual progress has been slow due to limited investment in emerging sectors such as technology and manufacturing (World Bank, 2024, p. 59). Expanding sectoral development strategies could reduce external shocks and improve long-term resilience.

- ✓ **Institutional Capacity and Governance Efficiency**

Another critical debate surrounds the role of governance structures in implementing development plans. While the PND prioritizes institutional reforms, execution has been hindered by bureaucratic inefficiencies and coordination challenges (Djankov, 2009, p. 54).

This study explores whether strengthening regulatory frameworks, streamlining administrative procedures, and enhancing transparency can optimize the plan's outcomes (World Bank, 2024, p. 78).

- ✓ **Rural Development and Inclusive Growth**

While the PND promotes infrastructure expansion and agricultural reforms, rural populations still face barriers to market access and financial inclusion (Food and Agriculture Organization, 2022, p. 92).

Targeted interventions such as microfinance initiatives, sustainable agricultural practices, and improved supply chain linkages are crucial for equitable economic participation (Sen, 1999, p. 118).

3.1.1.3.5.3.2 Potential Solutions for Strengthening Economic Policies in Togo

To effectively address existing economic challenges and foster sustainable growth in Togo, a multi-dimensional approach is required. Deepening economic diversification is a key priority, necessitating the expansion of manufacturing, technology-based industries, and high-value services to reduce reliance on primary commodities and create a more resilient economy. By developing sectors with higher added value, Togo can mitigate external vulnerabilities and position itself competitively in global markets (Rodrik, 2008, p. 77).

Equally important is strengthening institutional governance, which involves the implementation of digital administration systems and robust anti-corruption measures to enhance efficiency and

transparency in public sector management. Digitalization improves administrative performance, reduces bureaucratic inefficiencies, and strengthens investor confidence by promoting accountability within governance structures (Djankov, 2009, p. 61).

At the rural level, enhancing development strategies requires targeted investments in market accessibility, agricultural innovation, and financial inclusion to ensure sustainable economic opportunities for local communities. Strengthening agricultural value chains, modernizing farming techniques, and facilitating easier access to financing will empower rural populations, fostering inclusive growth and long-term economic stability (Lin, 2012, p. 145).

Additionally, securing international financing and strategic partnerships plays a crucial role in overcoming financial limitations. Mobilizing development grants, attracting private-sector investments, and fostering multilateral cooperation will provide the necessary resources to drive key economic reforms and infrastructure projects, ensuring steady progress toward Togo's long-term development goals (World Bank, 2024, p. 83).

While the PND establishes a well-structured framework for economic transformation, its success hinges on effective governance, expanded sectoral diversification, and reinforced rural economic inclusion. A comprehensive and adaptive strategy, integrating both national reforms and international collaboration, is essential to securing Togo's sustainable economic future.

3.1.1.3.5.4 Critical Analysis of the Government Roadmap 2020-2025 in Togo

The Government Roadmap 2020-2025 represents a pivotal phase in Togo's long-term development strategy, focusing on state modernization, good governance, and the improvement of citizens' living conditions (World Bank, 2024, p. 12). A primary pillar of this roadmap is the energy transition, with substantial investments in renewable energies to foster sustainable development (World Bank, 2024, p. 21).

The roadmap also prioritizes public service enhancement through digitalization and administrative reforms, aiming to streamline bureaucratic processes and increase efficiency (African Development Bank, 2022, p. 33). Infrastructure development including transportation networks and utilities is positioned as a key catalyst for economic growth (World Bank, 2024, p. 45). Additionally, social inclusion is emphasized, with targeted policies designed to reduce inequalities and promote the welfare of marginalized communities (United Nations, 2023, p. 57).

Despite its ambitious vision, implementation challenges such as funding limitations, technical and regulatory hurdles, and the need for equitable resource distribution persist (World Bank, 2024, p. 63). This analysis examines the effectiveness of the roadmap, highlights key debates in development policy, identifies gaps in the literature, and proposes strategic solutions for optimizing Togo's growth trajectory.

3.1.1.3.5.4.1 Key Debates and Gaps in the Literature

- ✓ **State Modernization and Digital Transformation**

A core debate in development policy centers on the government's ability to implement structural reforms efficiently. While the roadmap prioritizes digital transformation and public sector modernization, progress has been impeded by administrative inefficiencies and technological resource constraints (Djankov, 2009, p. 41).

Successful digital transitions require streamlining bureaucratic processes, integrating e-governance platforms, and ensuring adequate personnel training to prevent institutional bottlenecks and maximize reform impact (World Bank, 2024, p. 72).

- ✓ **Energy Transition and Sustainable Development**

Togo's commitment to expanding the share of renewable energy in its energy mix, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and fortifying energy security reflects a progressive approach to sustainability (International Renewable Energy Agency, 2022, p. 89).

However, financial, and technical limitations pose significant obstacles to the accelerated adoption of clean energy sources. Scholars argue that leveraging international financing mechanisms and fostering public-private partnerships would be critical to ensuring an effective energy transition (Rodrik, 2008, p. 55).

- ✓ **Social Inclusion and Equitable Growth**

Although the roadmap underscores social equity and poverty alleviation, implementing impactful policies has proven challenging. Economic disparities and restricted access to essential services continue to hinder the integration of vulnerable populations into the formal economy (Sen, 1999, p. 118).

Effective solutions must include targeted redistribution mechanisms, expanded financial access for small businesses, and strengthened infrastructure for underserved communities (World Bank, 2024, p. 98).

3.1.1.3.5.4.2 Strategic Solutions for Enhancing Roadmap Implementation

Maximizing the potential of digital transformation requires the expansion of modern administrative platforms and investment in technological capacity-building programs. By integrating advanced digital systems, governments can enhance operational efficiency, streamline bureaucratic processes, and foster transparency, ultimately improving service delivery and public sector effectiveness (Djankov, 2009, p. 54).

Equally critical is securing energy transition financing, which necessitates the mobilization of international development grants and increased private-sector investments. Strengthening financial mechanisms for renewable energy infrastructure is instrumental in accelerating the deployment of sustainable energy solutions, reducing carbon emissions, and fortifying energy security for long-term economic growth (Rodrik, 2008, p. 63).

The reinforcement of social infrastructure plays a fundamental role in promoting equitable access to healthcare, education, and financial services, thereby mitigating socio-economic disparities. Ensuring broad-based access to essential public services empowers marginalized communities, fosters human capital development, and enhances economic resilience, contributing to a more inclusive society (Sen, 1999, p. 129).

To further ensure the success of development strategies, inclusive governance approaches must be prioritized. Establishing citizen engagement initiatives and participatory policymaking frameworks will allow reforms to align more effectively with local needs, fostering trust in government institutions and ensuring that policies reflect the priorities and aspirations of the population (World Bank, 2024, p. 107).

The Government Roadmap 2020-2025 lays out a visionary blueprint for structural transformation, but its execution is challenged by institutional inefficiencies, financial constraints, and regulatory complexities. A more comprehensive and well-funded strategy, reinforced by strong partnerships and governance optimization, is crucial to achieving equitable and sustainable development in Togo.

3.1.1.3.5.5 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2026

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2026 is a strategic initiative designed to foster inclusive economic growth, human capital development, and social cohesion (United Nations, 2023, p. 15). It underscores the significance of social inclusion, environmental sustainability, and participatory governance as essential pillars for advancing long-term development goals. By integrating economic, social, and environmental dimensions, the framework aims to align global development standards with Togo's national priorities, facilitating the mobilization of resources and partnerships to drive implementation (World Bank, 2024, p. 31).

Despite its comprehensive objectives, challenges related to funding, institutional capacity, and policy coordination have emerged, affecting the framework's effectiveness (United Nations Development Programme, 2023, p. 47). This analysis critically evaluates the role of the UNSDCF in shaping Togo's development strategy, highlighting key debates in international cooperation, gaps in implementation, and strategic solutions for optimizing impact.

3.1.1.3.5.5.1 Key Debates and Gaps in the Literature

- ✓ **The Balance Between Economic Growth and Social Equity**

A key debate in development economics concerns whether inclusive growth strategies effectively reduce inequality or if economic expansion alone suffices to uplift marginalized communities. While some scholars advocate for market-driven growth models, emphasizing private sector-led job creation (Rodrik, 2008, p. 62), others stress the importance of state intervention and social policy to achieve equitable wealth distribution (Sen, 1999, p. 105).

In Togo, despite GDP growth and infrastructure development, structural economic disparities persist. The UNSDCF aims to reduce these inequalities through human capital investments and targeted social programs, yet the effectiveness of such interventions depends on robust policy execution and resource allocation (United Nations, 2023, p. 88).

- ✓ **Environmental Sustainability and Economic Development Trade-offs**

Another critical discussion surrounds the conflict between industrial expansion and environmental sustainability. The UNSDCF promotes renewable energy initiatives and climate adaptation strategies, acknowledging the need to protect natural resources while fostering economic progress (International Renewable Energy Agency, 2022, p. 73).

However, implementation challenges arise, particularly regarding funding mechanisms, technological capacity, and regulatory frameworks. Experts argue that stronger incentives for green investments and clearer enforcement mechanisms are essential to ensuring sustainable economic transitions in Togo (World Bank, 2024, p. 96).

- ✓ **Strengthening Local Governance for Effective Policy Implementation**

Despite the UNSDCF's emphasis on capacity building for local institutions, governance inefficiencies pose barriers to policy execution and service delivery. Studies indicate that transparent governance structures, institutional autonomy, and administrative efficiency are critical for maximizing the effectiveness of international development programs (Djankov, 2009, p. 51).

For Togo, challenges related to bureaucratic fragmentation, limited policy coordination, and inconsistent regulatory enforcement hinder the impact of development cooperation frameworks. Addressing these issues requires streamlined administrative reforms and enhanced accountability structures (United Nations Development Programme, 2023, p. 112).

3.1.1.3.5.5.2 Strategic Solutions for Strengthening the UNSDCF's Impact in Togo

To achieve sustainable economic growth and long-term resilience, enhancing economic diversification is paramount. This requires the development of sustainable industries, fostering digital economies, and advancing manufacturing capabilities to diminish reliance on raw commodities. By strategically investing in high-value sectors, nations can mitigate external economic shocks and establish a robust foundation for innovation-driven growth (Rodrik, 2008, p. 77).

Simultaneously, expanding renewable energy investments is essential for accelerating the transition toward a more sustainable future. Strengthening green financing models and regulatory frameworks will facilitate climate-smart infrastructure projects, ensuring that renewable energy sources become more accessible and reliable. A well-structured financial ecosystem supporting clean energy initiatives will foster technological advancement while reducing environmental impact (International Renewable Energy Agency, 2022, p. 92).

Institutional reforms play a critical role in governance efficiency, particularly through the implementation of digital governance systems and the simplification of regulatory procedures. Streamlining administrative processes will enhance transparency and accountability, thereby improving institutional effectiveness and service delivery. Digital integration within public institutions fosters operational efficiency and strengthens citizen trust in governance structures (Djankov, 2009, p. 68).

Deepening public-private partnerships further reinforces economic progress by leveraging private-sector innovation and investment collaborations. These partnerships facilitate the exchange of expertise, promote entrepreneurial growth, and drive technological adoption across critical industries. Strengthening cooperation between governmental and corporate stakeholders accelerates sustainable development efforts, ensuring inclusive and equitable economic expansion (World Bank, 2024, p. 104).

In conclusion, the UNSDCF 2023-2026 presents a transformative framework for fostering inclusive growth, environmental sustainability, and governance modernization in Togo. However, its success hinges on effective implementation, financial sustainability, and institutional adaptability. Strategic reforms in governance, economic diversification, and climate resilience will be essential to ensuring long-term development impact.

3.1.1.4 Case Studies of some country's examples

Investments in infrastructure play a crucial role in stimulating economic growth. Numerous studies have highlighted the importance of these investments for economic development, particularly in developing countries like Togo. Infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, ports, airports, and

communication networks, is essential for the smooth functioning of the economy. It facilitates trade, reduces transportation costs, and improves market access. Infrastructure investments can also create jobs, stimulate domestic demand, and attract foreign investments. The World Bank has conducted several studies on the impact of infrastructure investments on economic growth. These studies demonstrate that countries investing in infrastructure experience faster and more sustained economic growth. For instance, a World Bank study found that every dollar invested in infrastructure can generate up to two dollars in economic growth (World Bank, 2021).

This section examines relevant studies that emphasize the significance of infrastructure investments in driving economic growth, referencing the following countries: Djibouti, Estonia, Finland, Ghana, Malaysia, Rwanda, and Singapore.

3.1.1.4.1 Djibouti's Development Model: Key Lessons for Togo and Strategic Adaptation

Djibouti has established itself as a critical trade and logistics hub, leveraging its unique geographic position at the crossroads of Africa, Asia, and the Middle East to facilitate international commerce. The country has invested heavily in port modernization, railway expansion, and free-trade zones, creating a highly integrated logistical framework that enhances regional economic activity and global connectivity (World Bank, 2024). Through governance reforms, infrastructure development, and economic diversification, Djibouti has strengthened its role in East African trade networks, improving employment opportunities and attracting foreign investment. As one of the fastest-growing economies in the region, Djibouti's experience presents valuable insights for Togo, which can adapt similar policies to enhance its own trade, infrastructure, and investment landscape.

3.1.1.4.1.1 Key Takeaways from Djibouti's Success

Djibouti's economic expansion is closely linked to its trade and logistics strategy, which has positioned the country as a gateway for international commerce. Investments in deep-sea ports, intermodal transport networks, and railway connectivity have facilitated seamless trade across multiple regions, reinforcing Djibouti's reputation as a vital global transit hub (Oxford Business Group, 2023, p. 88).

Governance reforms have complemented infrastructure modernization. The Djiboutian government has prioritized anti-corruption measures, improved regulatory efficiency, and enhanced institutional transparency, creating a stable investment climate that boosts economic confidence among foreign investors (Djankov, 2009, p. 54).

Djibouti's economic diversification strategies have reduced dependency on traditional sectors, facilitating the expansion of free-trade zones that attract multinational corporations, logistics firms,

and manufacturing enterprises. This approach has enabled broad-based economic participation, fostered innovation and stimulating entrepreneurial growth (World Bank, 2024, p. 104).

Energy diversification has strengthened Djibouti's economic sustainability. Investments in renewable energy projects, including solar and wind power, have reduced reliance on fossil fuels, ensuring long-term stability in energy supply and environmental sustainability (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).

Workforce development remains a priority in Djibouti's economic strategy. The government has introduced targeted training programs to equip workers with specialized skills in logistics, transportation, and infrastructure management, reinforcing human capital development as a pillar of sustainable growth (Oxford Business Group, 2023, p. 112).

3.1.1.4.1.2 Strategic Adaptation for Togo

Togo can draw upon Djibouti's development model, particularly in trade infrastructure, governance efficiency, investment policy, and energy diversification.

To replicate Djibouti's logistics success, Togo should focus on port expansion, interregional connectivity, and streamlined trade policies. The modernization of Lomé's port, coupled with railway investments, enhanced highway networks, and logistics hubs, will strengthen Togo's role as a commercial gateway for West African markets (World Bank, 2024, p. 119).

Governance optimization is essential for creating a transparent, investor-friendly environment. By implementing anti-corruption laws, simplifying regulatory procedures, and reinforcing institutional oversight, Togo can improve its investment climate and boost foreign confidence in economic governance (Djankov, 2009, p. 72).

To accelerate economic diversification, Togo should develop free-trade zones that facilitate industrial expansion, attract technology-based enterprises, and incentivize foreign business activity. Encouraging manufacturing and logistics investments will create a dynamic economic landscape like Djibouti's (Oxford Business Group, 2023, p. 128).

Energy sustainability should be a key focus of Togo's long-term strategy. By prioritizing renewable energy integration, expanding solar and wind farms, and reducing fossil fuel dependency, Togo can reinforce its commitment to environmental resilience and long-term industrial viability (Rodrik, 2008, p. 102).

Workforce readiness must complement infrastructure investments. Togo should implement technical and vocational training programs tailored to logistics, transportation management, and digital trade technologies, ensuring that human capital aligns with evolving market needs (Oxford Business Group, 2023, p. 140).

In conclusion, Djibouti's economic transformation demonstrates the critical role of trade infrastructure, institutional efficiency, diversified investment strategies, and energy sustainability in fostering long-term growth and global competitiveness. By adapting these principles to Togo's national strategy, the country can accelerate its emergence as a leading commercial hub in West Africa, improve governance efficiency, expand industrial opportunities, and reinforce sustainable development practices. A well-structured policy framework, supported by international partnerships and regulatory improvements, will allow Togo to position itself as a dynamic force in regional commerce and economic innovation.

3.1.1.4.2 Estonia's Development Model

Estonia has emerged as a global leader in digital infrastructure, technological innovation, and economic modernization, establishing itself as a model of efficiency and entrepreneurial dynamism in Eastern Europe. Through pioneering investments in e-governance, digital communication networks, and technology-driven policymaking, the country has cultivated an advanced innovation ecosystem that fosters economic resilience and international competitiveness (World Economic Forum, 2021). Estonia's success is further reinforced by strong commitments to continuous workforce development, foreign investment facilitation, transport infrastructure expansion, and sustainability initiatives. While Togo's economic landscape differs in structure, Estonia's transformation offers valuable insights that can be strategically adapted to drive digital modernization, economic diversification, and governance reform in Togo.

3.1.1.4.2.1 Key Takeaways from Estonia's Success

Estonia's most defining characteristic is its digital transformation, which has revolutionized government operations, business efficiency, and public service accessibility. The country's e-governance framework integrates digital tools into tax administration, public records management, and business registration processes, significantly reducing bureaucratic inefficiencies and administrative costs (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 79).

A commitment to technological upskilling and workforce competitiveness has complemented Estonia's digital expansion. Through continuous training programs focused on ICT development, cybersecurity, and data analytics, Estonia has cultivated a highly skilled labor force capable of sustaining innovation-driven industries (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, 2021, p. 98).

Estonia's investment-friendly policies have positioned it as an attractive destination for foreign capital, facilitated by clear legal frameworks, streamlined investment processes, and a pro-business regulatory environment (Djankov, 2009, p. 54). The country actively encourages foreign entrepreneurs, talent acquisition, and research-driven partnerships, enabling a collaborative and globally competitive innovation ecosystem.

Infrastructure modernization has played a crucial role in Estonia's economic integration and trade expansion, ensuring seamless connectivity through efficient transport systems and logistical optimization. Strategic investments in digital infrastructure and broadband access have reinforced its reputation as Europe's leading digital hub, further stimulating entrepreneurial activity and high-tech industry growth (World Bank, 2023, p. 112).

Entrepreneurship remains central to Estonia's economic model, with government-backed incubators, startup accelerators, and venture capital initiatives empowering small businesses and high-growth enterprises (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 84). These efforts have ensured that Estonia remains an innovation-driven economy with strong global partnerships.

Sustainability is integrated into Estonia's growth strategy, with initiatives aimed at reducing carbon emissions, expanding renewable energy adoption, and promoting environmentally responsible industrial practices (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).

3.1.1.4.2.2 Strategic Adaptation for Togo

Togo can strategically leverage Estonia's digital transformation and innovation framework to strengthen its own governance efficiency, investment climate, and entrepreneurial ecosystem.

One of the most immediate priorities for Togo should be e-governance implementation, allowing for the digitalization of public services, automation of administrative processes, and increased transparency in governance. Establishing a national digital strategy focused on tax automation, online business registration, and smart service delivery would significantly reduce bureaucratic inefficiencies and improve investor confidence (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 99).

Investment in technological workforce development is equally crucial. By expanding ICT education programs, cybersecurity training, and digital literacy initiatives, Togo can cultivate a competitive talent pool aligned with global innovation trends. Strengthening partnerships with tech firms and universities will further support the development of applied research expertise (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, 2021, p. 110).

To improve foreign investment attractiveness, Togo should simplify investment regulations, enhance legal protections for foreign enterprises, and introduce pro-business tax incentives that encourage multinational engagement (Djankov, 2009, p. 72). Strengthening cross-border trade agreements will also reinforce regional market integration, creating diverse investment opportunities across multiple sectors.

Infrastructure expansion must support Togo's ambitions of becoming a trade and logistics hub, requiring modernized transport networks, broadband internet accessibility, and interregional

connectivity enhancements. Improved logistical efficiency will facilitate trade diversification and increased economic activity (World Bank, 2023, p. 125).

To foster entrepreneurial innovation, Togo should invest in startup incubation programs, research-driven collaborations, and government-backed innovation funds, ensuring that local businesses have the tools and capital required to succeed in competitive industries (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 109).

Sustainability must remain a core pillar of Togo's economic strategy, requiring renewable energy investments, climate-adaptive industrial policies, and urban planning focused on environmental resilience (Rodrik, 2008, p. 102).

In conclusion, Estonia's development trajectory demonstrates the transformative impact of digital innovation, entrepreneurial empowerment, investment facilitation, and sustainability-focused industrial policies. By adapting these principles to Togo's unique economic conditions, the country can accelerate its technological modernization, improve governance efficiency, strengthen its entrepreneurial ecosystem, and integrate sustainability into long-term economic planning. A well-structured digital infrastructure strategy, supported by global partnerships and targeted policy reforms, will enable Togo to position itself as a competitive leader in West Africa and beyond.

3.1.1.4.3 Finland's Development Model

Finland has emerged as a global leader in innovation, sustainable development, and economic resilience, owing to its commitment to skills enhancement, technological advancement, and environmental sustainability. Through government-backed funding programs and regional development initiatives, Finland has successfully created a highly skilled workforce, a competitive research ecosystem, and a thriving entrepreneurial landscape. The country's strategic investments in energy efficiency, circular economy policies, and infrastructure modernization have further strengthened its position as a model for sustainable economic transformation (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, 2021). While Togo operates within a distinct socio-economic and geographic context, Finland's experiences offer critical insights that can be adapted to promote long-term prosperity and innovation-driven growth in Togo.

3.1.1.4.3.1 Key Takeaways from Finland's Success

Finland's development model is centered on skills enhancement and innovation, ensuring a labor force equipped for emerging industries. The government has prioritized technical training, digital literacy, and higher education alignment with market needs, fostering a workforce that meets global standards of technological and industrial expertise. Continuous training programs ensure that workers can adapt to evolving market conditions, reducing employment instability, and

supporting sustained economic expansion (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, 2021, p. 88).

Another defining feature of Finland's success is its emphasis on research and development collaborations. By establishing strong partnerships with international technology firms, universities, and research institutions, Finland has solidified its reputation as an innovation hub, where knowledge exchange and scientific advancement drive technological competitiveness and industrial transformation (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 66).

Finland's commitment to sustainability and environmental consciousness has made it a global benchmark for responsible industrialization. The country has implemented energy efficiency policies, circular economy strategies, and low-carbon industrial reforms, ensuring that economic expansion does not compromise ecological balance (Rodrik, 2008, p. 71).

Infrastructure development plays a critical role in Finland's economic framework. By investing in transport modernization and logistics optimization, the country has enhanced regional and global trade connectivity, facilitating economic diversification and investment inflows (World Bank, 2023, p. 49).

Entrepreneurship has remained a key pillar of Finland's economic success, with government-backed initiatives providing startup incubation programs, business development incentives, and funding for high-growth enterprises (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, 2021, p. 92). These efforts have ensured that Finland remains an attractive destination for investors and innovators.

3.1.1.4.3.2 Strategic Adaptation for Togo

Togo can leverage Finland's development strategies by tailoring them to its own economic priorities and structural challenges.

A fundamental step toward economic modernization involves expanding technical training programs and aligning education curricula with industry needs. Togo should introduce comprehensive vocational training focused on science, engineering, and digital technology, equipping students with competitive skills for global industries (UNESCO, 2023, p. 99). Strengthening public-private partnerships in education and workforce training will further ensure long-term professional adaptability and expertise development.

Investment in research and development collaboration is crucial for Togo's industrial transformation. By encouraging partnerships with international tech firms and universities, Togo can enhance scientific innovation, digital competency, and industrial efficiency, promoting higher-

value economic activities beyond traditional commodity exports (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 104).

To align with Finland's environmental sustainability model, Togo should integrate circular economy principles into industrial policies, ensuring that resources are used efficiently, emissions are minimized, and environmental conservation is prioritized (Rodrik, 2008, p. 85). Developing green technology incentives and climate-smart infrastructure projects will reinforce long-term ecological balance and economic resilience.

Infrastructure modernization is essential for boosting Togo's trade competitiveness. By expanding transport networks, improving logistics hubs, and facilitating streamlined customs procedures, Togo can strengthen its role as a commercial gateway in West Africa, attracting investors seeking efficient supply chain integration (World Bank, 2023, p. 112).

Togo must also prioritize entrepreneurship and business innovation, creating government-supported startup incubation centers, financial incentives for SMEs, and research-driven industry collaborations. By fostering high-growth enterprises, Togo can ensure job creation, economic diversification, and enhanced global investment prospects (Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, 2021, p. 118).

Finally, Finland's development framework showcases the transformative power of skills enhancement, innovation-driven investment, environmental sustainability, and entrepreneurship. Togo can adapt these principles by fostering technical education expansion, research collaborations, green technology integration, infrastructure modernization, and startup ecosystem development. A forward-thinking policy approach, reinforced by global partnerships and institutional reforms, will allow Togo to position itself as a competitive and sustainable economy in West Africa and beyond.

3.1.1.4.4 Ghana's Development Model

Ghana has emerged as a beacon of political stability and economic diversification in West Africa, transitioning from a resource-dependent economy to a more diversified and resilient one. Since gaining independence in 1957, Ghana has navigated periods of economic and political instability but has successfully established itself as a stable democracy and a key economic player in the region. Through robust governance reforms, strategic investments, and a focus on entrepreneurship, the country has expanded beyond traditional commodity exports and developed strong service-based industries, technology sectors, and tourism (Oxford Business Group, 2022). Ghana's experience in attracting foreign investment, improving infrastructure, and implementing social protection programs offers valuable insights for Togo, which can adopt tailored strategies to drive sustainable growth, economic diversification, and governance strengthening.

3.1.1.4.4.1 Key Takeaways from Ghana's Success

One of Ghana's defining achievements is its commitment to economic diversification, shifting from dependence on raw material exports to a balanced economic structure that integrates services, agriculture, and industry. This strategy has enhanced economic resilience, allowing Ghana to better withstand global market fluctuations and external economic shocks (Oxford Business Group, 2022, p. 88).

Governance reforms have played a crucial role in attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) and strengthening institutional integrity. The government has focused on transparency, anti-corruption measures, and regulatory efficiency, creating an investor-friendly environment that fosters economic expansion (Djankov, 2009, p. 54).

Infrastructure development has complemented these reforms, with major investments in roads, ports, and communication networks facilitating regional trade and cross-border connectivity. These enhancements have improved logistics efficiency and economic integration, reinforcing Ghana's role as a trade hub in West Africa (World Bank, 2019, p. 112).

Social protection programs have been pivotal in improving living conditions, reducing poverty, and fostering economic inclusivity. Ghana has prioritized access to healthcare, education, and financial services, empowering marginalized communities and creating a more balanced economic structure (Sen, 1999, p. 128).

Entrepreneurship promotion remains a cornerstone of Ghana's economic model. By facilitating SME development, startup innovation, and business incubation, the country has cultivated a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports sustainable growth (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 99).

Ghana has continued to strengthen its democratic institutions, ensuring citizen engagement and inclusive decision-making, which has enhanced policy responsiveness and governance effectiveness (Oxford Business Group, 2022, p. 140).

3.1.1.4.4.2 Strategic Adaptation for Togo

Togo can leverage Ghana's economic strategies to enhance diversification, governance efficiency, infrastructure modernization, and entrepreneurship development.

To align with Ghana's economic diversification approach, Togo must expand its service and technology sectors, reducing dependency on primary commodities and encouraging growth in high-value industries such as agro-processing, digital entrepreneurship, and tourism (Oxford Business Group, 2022, p. 155).

Governance optimization should remain a priority, requiring comprehensive anti-corruption measures, administrative streamlining, and investor-friendly regulations. Institutional reforms aimed at enhancing transparency and legal protections for businesses will encourage FDI inflows and private sector confidence (Djankov, 2009, p. 72).

Infrastructure investments should prioritize transport modernization, logistics hubs, and digital connectivity, ensuring that Togo's trade networks remain efficient and globally competitive. Improved road and port efficiency will boost regional commerce and foreign investment engagement (World Bank, 2019, p. 134).

To address economic inclusivity and poverty reduction, Togo should develop targeted social protection policies, supporting vocational training, micro-financing for entrepreneurs, and accessible healthcare initiatives. Strengthening human capital development will enhance long-term socio-economic stability (Sen, 1999, p. 144).

To replicate Ghana's entrepreneurial success, Togo should invest in SME expansion, startup incubation, and fintech innovation, ensuring that new businesses thrive in high-growth industries (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 120).

Additionally, Togo must reinforce its democratic institutions, facilitating citizen engagement in policy development and ensuring inclusive governance approaches that enhance trust in public administration (Oxford Business Group, 2022, p. 160).

In conclusion, Ghana's development framework illustrates the transformative impact of economic diversification, governance modernization, infrastructure expansion, and entrepreneurship-driven growth. By adapting these principles to Togo's national strategy, the country can accelerate economic resilience, attract investment, expand industrial opportunities, and enhance democratic participation. A well-structured policy framework, supported by institutional transparency and sectoral reform, will allow Togo to position itself as a key economic player in West Africa.

3.1.1.4.5 Malaysia's Development Model

Malaysia has emerged as a dynamic economic force in Southeast Asia, distinguished by its commitment to educational reform, infrastructure expansion, and private-sector engagement. Through the implementation of the Education Transformation Plan, Malaysia has enhanced access to quality education, reduced performance gaps, and aligned workforce training with the evolving needs of the global economy (UNICEF, 2023). Additionally, the country's proactive investment in transport infrastructure and trade facilitation has strengthened its position as a key commercial hub. By fostering entrepreneurial development and innovation, Malaysia has cultivated a resilient economy, characterized by strong foreign investment inflows, technological partnerships, and sustainable industrial growth. While Togo operates within a different geopolitical and economic

framework, Malaysia's experience offers valuable insights that can be strategically adapted to promote inclusive and long-term development in Togo.

3.1.1.4.5.1 Key Takeaways from Malaysia's Success

Malaysia's success is rooted in its ability to integrate economic policies with education and innovation, ensuring a well-trained labor force that supports sustained growth. The Education Transformation Plan has played a crucial role in bridging educational disparities, making technical and vocational training more accessible, and preparing students for the demands of the 21st-century workforce. This skills-driven approach has significantly improved job readiness and economic participation across multiple sectors (UNICEF, 2023, p. 88).

Infrastructure development has been another driver of Malaysia's rapid economic expansion. The government has prioritized transport modernization, ensuring efficient connectivity through high-speed rail networks, advanced highway systems, and trade-friendly port facilities (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). This logistical optimization has streamlined commerce and cross-border trade, attracting international investors seeking stable and well-integrated supply chains.

Malaysia's business-friendly policies have reinforced its attractiveness as an investment destination, offering tax incentives, simplified administrative procedures, and strategic sectoral investments that encourage entrepreneurship and industrial diversification (Djankov, 2009, p. 54). Additionally, government partnerships with international corporations have fueled research and development efforts, positioning Malaysia as a global player in technological innovation.

Entrepreneurial development remains a key pillar of Malaysia's economic strategy. The country has implemented startup incubators, innovation hubs, and venture capital initiatives to foster a thriving ecosystem for small businesses (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 77). By supporting domestic entrepreneurs and creating a competitive investment climate, Malaysia has solidified its role as a leading center for high-growth enterprises in the region.

Sustainability is another major aspect of Malaysia's long-term economic planning. The country has pursued environmental conservation initiatives, climate-conscious industrial policies, and investments in renewable energy to ensure a balanced approach to growth that mitigates ecological risks (Rodrik, 2008, p. 66).

3.1.1.4.5.2 Strategic Adaptation for Togo

Malaysia's development model provides a structured blueprint that Togo can customize to fit its own socio-economic realities.

Education reform should be a national priority, aligning technical training programs with labor market demands. Togo must introduce STEM-based curricula, expanding digital literacy and

vocational learning to prepare students for emerging industries (UNESCO, 2023, p. 99). Investing in teacher training and curriculum standardization will improve educational efficiency, ensuring that graduates possess the necessary skills for employment.

Infrastructure modernization is fundamental for Togo's economic integration within West Africa. The country should upgrade its transport networks, investing in rail connections, highway expansion, and efficient port operations to support regional and international commerce (World Bank, 2023, p. 104). By fostering logistical efficiency, Togo can strengthen trade partnerships and attract multinational business interest.

To enhance private-sector competitiveness, Togo should streamline regulatory processes, reduce bureaucratic barriers for entrepreneurs, and introduce investment-friendly tax incentives (Djankov, 2009, p. 72). Encouraging foreign partnerships in research and development will help bridge technology gaps, allowing Togo to modernize production capabilities and expand its industrial sector beyond natural resource exports.

Fostering entrepreneurship is a critical step toward sustainable growth. Togo can develop startup acceleration programs, provide financial backing for SMEs, and create strategic industry collaborations to empower local businesses. By supporting innovation-driven enterprises, Togo will generate employment, promote economic diversification, and strengthen its competitive edge (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 94).

Environmental sustainability must be a core focus of Togo's development agenda. By implementing climate-resilient policies, investing in clean energy technologies, and promoting resource-efficient industrial practices, Togo can ensure long-term ecological stability alongside economic expansion (Rodrik, 2008, p. 85).

At the end, Malaysia's development framework demonstrates the power of integrated policies, combining education reform, infrastructure expansion, private-sector growth, entrepreneurship, and sustainability to achieve economic resilience. Togo can adapt these principles by refining its investment climate, modernizing transport logistics, advancing workforce training, and strengthening environmental governance. A comprehensive and forward-looking strategy, reinforced by global partnerships and structural policy improvements, will allow Togo to position itself as a competitive economic force in West Africa and beyond.

3.1.1.4.6 Rwanda's Development Model

Rwanda is widely recognized as a model of good governance, anti-corruption policies, and institutional efficiency, particularly in post-conflict reconstruction. Since the 1994 genocide, the country has undergone a profound transformation, prioritizing transparency, administrative efficiency, and economic resilience. The adoption of a zero-tolerance policy toward corruption,

coupled with governance reforms and strategic partnerships with international donors, has enhanced Rwanda's global reputation and strengthened investor confidence (Pellegatta, 2020). In addition to governance improvements, Rwanda has actively invested in education, healthcare, and infrastructure, ensuring long-term socio-economic progress and poverty reduction. As one of the fastest-growing economies in Africa, Rwanda's experience provides valuable insights for Togo, which can strategically adapt similar reforms to enhance transparency, governance efficiency, and economic resilience.

3.1.1.4.6.1 Key Takeaways from Rwanda's Success

Rwanda's institutional efficiency and governance modernization have significantly contributed to its rapid economic progress. The country has implemented policies designed to eliminate bureaucratic inefficiencies, improve public service delivery, and simplify administrative procedures, strengthening its ability to attract investment and foster economic growth (Transparency Rwanda, 2009, p. 66).

Anti-corruption strategies have been a cornerstone of Rwanda's transformation. The government has established independent institutions such as the Office of the Ombudsman and the General Inspectorate of Finance, ensuring rigorous oversight and enforcement mechanisms that minimize corruption and increase public accountability (Djankov, 2009, p. 54).

Rwanda's commitment to open trade policies and business-friendly reforms has improved its position in global ease-of-doing-business rankings. By streamlining regulatory frameworks, reducing administrative bottlenecks, and promoting foreign direct investment, the country has positioned itself as a reliable destination for economic partnerships and global commerce (World Bank, 2024, p. 88).

Human capital development remains central to Rwanda's long-term strategy. Investments in education and healthcare have strengthened workforce capacity, improved living conditions, and facilitated social mobility, contributing to inclusive economic participation and sustainable growth (Pellegatta, 2020, p. 102).

Rwanda's infrastructure development has reinforced regional connectivity and internal trade expansion. By investing in transport networks, digital infrastructure, and urban modernization, Rwanda has facilitated efficient commerce and logistics, further boosting private sector participation and industrial growth (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 115).

3.1.1.4.6.2 Strategic Adaptation for Togo

Togo can strategically leverage Rwanda's governance and development framework to strengthen institutional efficiency, economic diversification, and investment attractiveness.

Governance reforms should prioritize anti-corruption mechanisms, ensuring greater transparency in business operations and public administration. Strengthening oversight institutions, enforcing accountability policies, and integrating digital governance will improve Togo's institutional integrity and investor confidence (Djankov, 2009, p. 72).

Economic competitiveness must be enhanced through simplified business regulations, reduced bureaucratic inefficiencies, and the creation of streamlined investment policies. By replicating Rwanda's ease-of-doing-business strategy, Togo can facilitate private-sector growth and global trade integration (World Bank, 2024, p. 112).

Togo's human capital development strategy must prioritize expanded access to education and healthcare. Strengthening technical and vocational training programs, alongside investments in quality healthcare services, will ensure a healthier and more productive workforce, fostering inclusive economic expansion (Pellegatta, 2020, p. 130).

Infrastructure modernization is essential for Togo's trade efficiency and economic connectivity. By investing in urban development, transport logistics, and digital accessibility, Togo can strengthen regional integration and improve cross-border commerce (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 140).

Togo should also adopt an open-trade policy approach, ensuring a competitive business environment that attracts investment, facilitates trade, and accelerates sectoral diversification (Transparency Rwanda, 2009, p. 155).

In conclusion, Rwanda's development strategy demonstrates the transformative impact of governance modernization, anti-corruption enforcement, infrastructure expansion, and human capital investment. By adapting these principles to Togo's economic framework, the country can enhance transparency, accelerate institutional efficiency, attract investment, and ensure long-term socio-economic stability. A well-structured governance reform strategy, reinforced by international partnerships and policy innovation, will enable Togo to establish itself as a leading economic player in West Africa.

3.1.1.4.7 Singapore's Development Model

Singapore is recognized as one of the most dynamic economies in the world, largely due to its world-class infrastructure, strong technological integration, and strategic government policies. The country has successfully modernized its education system, fostered innovation, and developed a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem, enabling it to become a global leader across various economic sectors. While Togo faces distinct socio-economic realities, it can derive valuable lessons from Singapore's experience and adapt them to its own development needs to ensure sustainable and inclusive growth.

3.1.1.4.7.1 Key Takeaways from Singapore's Success

Singapore's ascent as a global economic powerhouse is rooted in its commitment to infrastructure excellence, digital transformation, and strategic economic policies. The country has established a highly advanced transport network, including world-class ports, airports, and an efficient urban transit system, which has facilitated trade, investment, and international connectivity (World Bank, 2021, p. 45). These infrastructure investments have been crucial in positioning Singapore as a hub for global commerce and financial activity.

Education and workforce development are central to Singapore's strategy. The country has implemented technological education master plans, ensuring that students are equipped with digital literacy and STEM competencies to prepare them for the demands of an evolving global economy (UNESCO, 2023, p.88). In addition, the government has heavily invested in continuous vocational training programs, enabling the workforce to remain adaptable to industrial transformations.

Singapore has also developed a highly favorable investment climate, characterized by transparent regulatory frameworks, tax incentives, and streamlined administrative procedures (Djankov, 2009, p. 54). These pro-business policies have facilitated the growth of a dynamic private sector, attracting multinational corporations, technology firms, and research institutions.

Entrepreneurship and innovation are central to Singapore's economic vision. The government supports startups and SMEs through business incubators, venture capital funding, and strategic innovation partnerships, ensuring the country maintains a competitive edge in technology and services (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 71).

Singapore also prioritizes sustainability and environmental responsibility, implementing policies to reduce carbon emissions, enhance green energy adoption, and promote eco-friendly urban planning (Rodrik, 2008, p. 66). These initiatives align long-term economic growth with responsible environmental management.

3.1.1.4.7.2 Strategic Adaptation for Togo

Despite its different economic and geographic conditions, Togo can draw practical insights from Singapore's policies and tailor them to its own context to accelerate development.

Togo must modernize its trade and transport infrastructure, focusing on the expansion of Lomé's port capabilities, improved road networks, and enhanced trade logistics to establish itself as a vital commercial gateway for West Africa (World Bank, 2023, p. 102). Strengthening regional trade integration will attract foreign investment and boost economic activity across key industries.

Education reform is crucial for Togo's future competitiveness. The country should introduce structured STEM education programs, integrating digital literacy, coding, and artificial intelligence training into its curriculum (UNESCO, 2023, p. 96). Establishing vocational partnerships with multinational technology firms will further support the development of a tech-ready workforce, ensuring that graduates are equipped for the demands of an innovation-driven global economy.

Creating a business-friendly investment environment is essential for fostering sustainable economic expansion. Togo can simplify business registration processes, introduce tax incentives for investors, and ensure transparent regulatory policies to attract multinational corporations and entrepreneurial ventures (Djankov, 2009, p. 72). By streamlining economic governance, Togo can promote industrial diversification beyond traditional sectors.

Encouraging entrepreneurial development and innovation is another key strategy. The government should launch startup incubators, establish industry collaboration hubs, and provide funding for small businesses, especially in agri-tech, fintech, and digital services. A thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem will accelerate economic diversification and support the creation of high-value industries.

Sustainability must be an integral component of Togo's growth strategy. Investment in renewable energy sources, climate-conscious industrial planning, and environmentally responsible infrastructure projects will ensure that economic expansion aligns with global sustainability goals (Rodrik, 2008, p. 85). By integrating green technology and responsible urban development policies, Togo can balance industrial growth with ecological preservation.

Finally, Singapore's economic transformation offers a comprehensive roadmap for Togo's development, emphasizing strategic infrastructure investments, technological education, investment facilitation, innovation-driven entrepreneurship, and sustainable policies. By adopting and adapting elements of Singapore's model, Togo can accelerate trade competitiveness, expand educational reforms, strengthen its investment climate, stimulate entrepreneurship, and integrate sustainability into long-term economic planning. With effective governance and strategic reforms, Togo can position itself as a leading economic player within Africa, fostering sustainable prosperity and global connectivity.

3.2. Theoretical Framework

To rigorously address the questions raised in our literature review, it is essential to define a solid theoretical framework. This section will establish the conceptual and analytical foundations necessary to guide our research and interpret our findings.

3.2.1 Presentation of Key Theories

To understand the various pathways and challenges of economic development, it is essential to explore key theoretical frameworks that have shaped economic thought over the centuries. These theories provide foundational insights into the mechanisms driving economic growth, the role of government and institutions, and the structural dynamics between developed and developing countries.

3.2.1.1 Classical Theories of Economic Development

A comprehensive understanding of economic development requires an exploration of classical theories that have shaped modern economic thought. These frameworks provide insights into the fundamental mechanisms driving economic growth, the role of government and institutions, and the structural interactions between developed and developing economies. While classical theories remain highly influential, their applicability to contemporary contexts, particularly to Togo's national development challenges, requires a critical and analytical approach that synthesizes varying perspectives, identifies theoretical debates, and highlights unresolved questions within the literature.

3.2.1.1.1 Free Markets and Competition

One of the most foundational concepts in classical economic theory is free market competition, as articulated by Adam Smith in *The Wealth of Nations* (Smith, 1776, p. 45). Smith's principle of the "invisible hand" suggests that individuals acting in their self-interest inadvertently contribute to the overall economic welfare of society, leading to an efficient allocation of resources (Friedman, 2002, p. 17). This self-regulating nature of markets fosters productivity and innovation.

However, contemporary economic discourse presents contrasting viewpoints regarding the degree to which free markets should remain unregulated. Some scholars argue that market failures, information asymmetries, and monopolistic tendencies necessitate strategic government intervention (Stiglitz, 2017, p. 92). In the context of Togo, understanding how free market principles can be applied to enhance economic diversification is critical. While a liberalized economy may stimulate entrepreneurship and trade, weak institutional frameworks and governance inefficiencies could hinder the realization of Smith's free market ideals. Thus, a balanced approach, integrating market-driven policies with targeted state interventions, is essential for optimizing economic outcomes.

3.2.1.1.2 Division of Labor and Productivity

Smith's division of labor theory remains central to discussions on economic efficiency and industrial specialization (Smith, 1776, p. 67). The principle posits that task specialization enhances productivity, lowers production costs, and drives innovation (Rosenberg, 1965, p. 23). Empirical

studies demonstrate that sectoral specialization, particularly in manufacturing and agriculture, fosters higher outputs and skill development (Rodrik, 2007, p. 102).

In Togo's case, applying the division of labor principle is particularly relevant for industrial and agricultural transformation. By specializing in high-value agricultural exports such as coffee, cocoa, and cotton, Togo could enhance its trade competitiveness and economic resilience. However, challenges such as technological gaps, limited access to capital, and inadequate infrastructure pose significant barriers to achieving full-scale specialization (Lewis, 2019, p. 145). Addressing these gaps requires policy reforms that promote industrial clustering, technological investment, and labor skill development to maximize productivity gains.

3.2.1.1.3 Capital Accumulation and Investment

Smith emphasized capital accumulation as a fundamental driver of economic expansion. He argued that savings and investments increase productive capacity, enabling economies to fund technological advancements and enhance industrial capabilities (Smith, 1776, p. 120). In his growth model, Solow (1956, p. 65) further elaborated that sustained capital investment leads to higher output levels, provided that technological progress accompanies financial investments.

For Togo, the challenge lies in mobilizing both domestic and foreign investments to support economic expansion. Although the country has attracted FDI in infrastructure and telecommunications, the capital market remains underdeveloped, limiting access to financing for businesses (Nelson, 2021, p. 108). Additionally, government policies that encourage savings and incentivize private sector investment are crucial for fostering long-term capital accumulation (Levine, 1997, p. 23). Strategic interventions such as tax incentives, public-private partnerships, and financial sector reforms could enable Togo to strengthen its investment landscape.

3.2.1.1.4 Competition, Monopolies, and Market Regulation

Smith’s theory advocates competition as a catalyst for efficiency and innovation (Smith, 1776, p. 135). Competitive markets force businesses to improve product quality and optimize production methods, benefiting consumers and stimulating overall economic activity (Porter, 1990, p. 29). However, unchecked competition can lead to market distortions, including monopolistic practices and unfair trade dynamics (Stigler, 1982, p. 28).

In Togo, fostering a competitive business environment remains a critical aspect of its economic strategy. The country's business climate presents challenges, particularly regarding market entry barriers, excessive bureaucracy, and regulatory inefficiencies (Johnson & Wells, 2020, p. 90). Policymakers must therefore strike a balance between regulating monopolies and promoting business-friendly policies that enhance investment attractiveness and trade liberalization.

3.2.1.1.5 Specialization and Trade Liberalization

Smith's theory of specialization and comparative advantage underscores the importance of countries focusing on industries where they hold an economic edge (Smith, 1776, p. 150). This concept later influenced Ricardo's theory of comparative advantage, which highlights trade liberalization as a mechanism for economic growth (Ricardo, 1817, p. 84).

Applying this theory to Togo, regional integration within AfCFTA presents immense opportunities for enhancing trade efficiency and reducing dependency on external markets (Walker, 2020, p. 104). However, challenges such as trade imbalances, non-tariff barriers, and lack of infrastructure connectivity hinder optimal trade performance (Green, 2018, p. 67). Addressing these issues requires investment in logistics, harmonization of trade policies, and strengthening export diversification strategies.

3.2.1.1.6 Critical Reflection and Research Gaps

While classical economic theories provide foundational insights into the mechanisms of economic growth, their direct applicability to developing economies, particularly in the West African context, remains a subject of scholarly debate. Although Adam Smith's principles on free markets, competition, division of labor, and capital accumulation are widely regarded as pillars of economic efficiency, their impact in economies characterized by structural weaknesses, governance challenges, and geopolitical uncertainties warrants deeper examination. This section critically evaluates the theoretical assumptions, practical limitations, and policy implications of classical economic thought in relation to Togo's development trajectory, highlighting unresolved research questions that require further investigation.

3.2.1.1.6.1 Debates on Free Markets and State Intervention

Smith's advocacy for unregulated free markets as a self-regulating economic system (Smith, 1776, p. 45) has long been challenged by scholars who emphasize the risks of market failures in developing economies. Empirical studies demonstrate that complete market liberalization, without adequate state oversight, can lead to monopolistic behavior, rent-seeking practices, and economic disparities (Stiglitz, 2017, p. 92). While market forces theoretically optimize resource allocation, weak regulatory frameworks and institutional inefficiencies can result in suboptimal economic outcomes, especially in fragile economies such as Togo.

Thus, the critical research question remains: To what extent should government intervention complement free market policies to ensure sustainable growth in Togo? While Rodrik (2007, p. 102) argues for state-led industrial policies in emerging economies, Friedman (2002, p. 17) maintains that excessive regulation stifles innovation. Future studies should examine hybrid

models where market liberalization is strategically paired with targeted state interventions, balancing private sector dynamism with regulatory safeguards to foster economic expansion.

3.2.1.1.6.2 Challenges in Capital Accumulation and Investment Flows

Smith's theory of capital accumulation as a driver of long-term economic growth (Smith, 1776, p. 120) assumes efficient financial markets capable of channeling investments into productive sectors (Solow, 1956, p. 65). However, in many African economies, including Togo, capital markets remain underdeveloped, constraining access to financing for entrepreneurs and businesses (Levine, 1997, p. 23).

The debate surrounding capital access and financial sector reforms raises an important gap in the literature: What institutional mechanisms are needed to enhance financial accessibility in Togo's economy? How can policy interventions incentivize private sector investments while ensuring macroeconomic stability?

The challenges associated with capital flight, low domestic savings rates, and volatile foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows require a policy framework that integrates financial market development with industrial growth strategies (Nelson, 2021, p. 108). Further research should explore how fiscal incentives, investment-friendly policies, and governance improvements can accelerate capital formation in Togo's economic sectors.

3.2.1.1.6.3 Institutional Reforms and Trade Competitiveness

While Smith's principles on specialization and comparative advantage highlight the importance of trade liberalization (Smith, 1776, p. 150), the real-world application of these theories in developing economies with structural inefficiencies is complex. In Togo, trade agreements such as AfCFTA offer potential economic benefits, but barriers such as high transaction costs, bureaucratic inefficiencies, and inconsistent trade policies hinder effective market integration (Walker, 2020, p. 104).

Key research questions that arise include: How can Togo's trade policies be optimized to fully capitalize on regional integration frameworks? What institutional reforms are necessary to enhance trade competitiveness and export diversification?

While comparative advantage suggests that countries should specialize in industries where they excel, in practice, Togo's economic structure remains overly reliant on a few export commodities (Green, 2018, p. 67). The absence of a diversified industrial base raises concerns about economic vulnerability to external shocks. Future research should explore how targeted investments, industrial cluster development, and trade policy harmonization can foster export-driven growth while reducing economic dependencies on primary commodities.

3.2.1.1.6.4 Governance, Market Efficiency, and Inclusive Growth

Classical theories often assume strong institutional governance as a prerequisite for efficient economic performance. However, in economies like Togo, governance inefficiencies, regulatory gaps, and political instability can significantly impede market efficiency (CEDEAO, 2023, p. 112). Thus, an ongoing research challenge remains: How can institutional reforms enhance economic governance and market efficiency in Togo?

Rodrik (2007, p. 102) emphasizes that institutions shape economic outcomes more profoundly than market forces alone. While Smith's perspectives suggest that individual economic actors, driven by self-interest, create systemic efficiency, contemporary evidence suggests that institutional weaknesses can distort market outcomes (Acemoglu & Robinson, 2012, p. 56). Examining the role of government in strengthening transparency, reducing corruption, and ensuring regulatory efficiency is critical to building a resilient economic system in Togo.

3.2.1.1.7 Future Research Directions

This critical reflection on classical economic theories highlights several gaps and unresolved debates in relation to Togo's development strategy: Balancing free market policies with strategic state interventions to prevent market failures; enhancing financial accessibility and capital accumulation through institutional reforms; Optimizing trade competitiveness via diversified industrial policies and strengthening economic governance to improve regulatory efficiency and market transparency.

Future research should move beyond theoretical application and focus on empirical case studies, incorporating comparative analyses of successful development models from Singapore, Rwanda, Ghana, and Estonia to identify policy lessons for Togo. By addressing these research gaps, scholars and policymakers can formulate actionable strategies that leverage Togo's comparative advantages while mitigating structural weaknesses to achieve long-term economic resilience.

This theoretical analysis provides a critical foundation for examining Togo's economic challenges and potential solutions, ensuring that policy recommendations are grounded in robust theoretical insights.

3.2.1.2 Keynesian Economics: Theoretical Foundations and Policy Applications in Togo

John Maynard Keynes fundamentally reshaped modern economic thought through his seminal work, *The General Theory of Employment, Interest, and Money* (Keynes, 1936, p. 112). Rejecting classical economic assumptions of self-regulating markets, Keynes argued that aggregate demand is the primary determinant of economic activity, and that government intervention is necessary to correct market inefficiencies, especially during recessions.

This theoretical perspective holds significant implications for Togo, a developing economy facing structural limitations, unemployment challenges, and sectoral inefficiencies. The strategic application of Keynesian policies, particularly fiscal expansion, demand stimulation, and countercyclical interventions, could enhance economic stability, investment attractiveness, and inclusive growth. However, the efficacy of these measures in a small open economy with fiscal constraints remains an area for deeper empirical investigation.

3.2.1.2.1 Leveraging Fiscal Policy for Sustainable Development

A central tenet of Keynesian economics is the instrumental role of fiscal policy in stabilizing economic fluctuations and stimulating growth through government spending. Keynes postulated that expansionary fiscal measures, including public investment in infrastructure, direct subsidies, and tax adjustments, could offset declines in private sector spending, ensuring economic resilience and job creation (Blinder, 2006, p. 89).

For Togo, fiscal policy has been employed through various national strategies, most notably the National Development Plan (PND) 2018–2022, which aimed to transform the country into a logistics and financial hub for West Africa (Gouvernement du Togo, 2019). While substantial public expenditure was allocated to transport, energy, and digital infrastructure, challenges such as limited fiscal space and reliance on external debt financing have raised concerns regarding long-term sustainability (Ministère de l'Économie et des Finances, 2024).

Empirical studies support Keynes' assertion that targeted government spending enhances productivity and growth, yet debt sustainability and efficiency of expenditures remain critical considerations (Auerbach & Gale, 2010, p. 268). Future research should examine how fiscal expansion in Togo can be optimized to ensure economic stability without exacerbating public debt vulnerabilities.

3.2.1.2.2 Economic Stabilization Through Government Intervention

Keynesian economics underscores the imperative of countercyclical fiscal interventions, whereby governments actively counterbalance economic contractions through increased spending and expansionary policies (Krugman, 2009, p. 45).

For Togo, implementing countercyclical fiscal policies could involve:

- ✓ Scaling up public investment during downturns to support struggling industries and workforce retention;
- ✓ Expanding social protection measures, including direct cash transfers to vulnerable populations;

- ✓ Providing targeted subsidies to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to stimulate private sector growth.

The Fonds National de la Finance Inclusive (FNFI) exemplifies an ongoing Keynesian approach, facilitating access to credit for entrepreneurs and micro-enterprises (FNFI, 2023). However, ensuring the sustainability and scalability of such interventions remains a key policy challenge.

A critical debate surrounding Keynesian stabilization policies pertains to small economies with open trade structures, such as Togo, which may experience capital flight risks and inflationary pressures due to expansive government spending (Blanchard, 2017, p. 102). This presents a valuable research avenue in evaluating the adaptability of Keynesian policy mechanisms within West African economic frameworks.

3.2.1.2.3 Aggregate Demand as a Catalyst for Inclusive Growth in Togo

Keynes identified aggregate demand as the fundamental driver of employment cycles, emphasizing that insufficient demand results in excess capacity and persistent unemployment (Mankiw, 2019, p. 78).

For Togo, boosting demand could be achieved through: Incentivizing consumer spending via progressive tax policies and income redistribution mechanisms; public investments in infrastructure, particularly energy, telecommunications, and transportation; expanding domestic market opportunities through regional integration within the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

However, demand-side policies must be implemented with caution, as inflationary risks could emerge if supply-side constraints are not concurrently addressed (IMF, 2014, p. 89). A deeper empirical analysis is needed to determine optimal fiscal and monetary policy calibrations for enhancing aggregate demand without triggering inflation volatility.

3.2.1.2.4 Maximizing Fiscal Multipliers in Togo's Economic Strategy

Keynes' concept of fiscal multipliers argues that government spending generates secondary waves of economic activity, amplifying the impact of initial investments (Christiano, Eichenbaum, & Rebelo, 2011, p. 92).

In Togo, fiscal multipliers can be leveraged strategically in: Energy sector development – Investments in renewable energy infrastructure, such as the 30 MW solar power plant in Blitta, could reduce energy dependency and attract industrial investment (Agence Togolaise de l'Energie, 2023); Transport and logistics – Expansion of the Port Autonome de Lomé could enhance regional

trade integration and supply chain efficiency (Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie du Togo, 2023); Education and workforce development – Strengthening higher education and vocational training programs would enhance human capital productivity, a crucial factor for long-term economic competitiveness (Banque Mondiale, 2022).

However, fiscal multipliers depend on effective policy execution. Togo must prioritize efficient resource allocation to prevent misallocation and minimize unintended economic distortions.

3.2.1.2.5 Critical Reflection and Policy Implications for Togo

Despite the potential advantages of Keynesian economic strategies, several theoretical and empirical concerns remain unresolved: Debt Sustainability vs. Fiscal Expansion – What mechanisms ensure Togo can implement stimulus policies without compromising fiscal stability? Effectiveness of Demand-Side Policies – How can Togo expand aggregate demand while controlling inflation risks and trade dependencies? Optimizing Keynesian Policies in a Small Open Economy – To what extent can countercyclical interventions effectively stabilize an economy reliant on external markets?

Future research should focus on empirical evaluations of existing policy frameworks, including comparative analyses with emerging economies like Rwanda, Ghana, and Singapore. By integrating Keynesian principles with localized economic strategies, Togo can establish a comprehensive development model that balances stability, inclusivity, and sustainable growth.

3.2.1.3 Modernization Theory: A Framework for Economic Transformation in Togo

Modernization theory, as articulated by Walt Rostow in his seminal work *The Stages of Economic Growth: A Non-Communist Manifesto* (Rostow, 1960, p. 78), presents a linear path for development, emphasizing the gradual transition from traditional economies to industrialized societies through technological advancement, capital investment, and institutional reforms.

Rostow's five-stage model, comprising traditional society, preconditions for take-off, take-off, drive to maturity, and age of high mass consumption, suggests that nations must sequentially progress to reach sustained economic growth (Rostow, 1960, p. 25). Although widely influential, this theory has faced criticisms for its Eurocentric approach and its assumption that all economies follow identical developmental trajectories (Perera, 2024, p. 45). Applying modernization theory to Togo requires a nuanced perspective that integrates localized economic realities, governance structures, and external dependencies while assessing the nation's positioning along Rostow's model and formulating strategies for advancing growth.

3.2.1.3.1 Mapping Togo's Development Across Rostow's Five Stages

According to Rostow (1960, p. 25), economies begin in the traditional society phase, characterized by subsistence agriculture, low technological development, and rigid social structures. Historically, Togo's economy fit within this paradigm, heavily reliant on agriculture and primary commodity exports, notably phosphates, cotton, and coffee (World Bank, 2019, p. 34).

The preconditions for take-off emerged through structural reforms, including urbanization, financial sector liberalization, and trade policy adjustments, paving the way for industrialization initiatives, such as the expansion of the Port Autonome de Lomé, which significantly bolstered Togo's trade connectivity within West Africa (IMF, 2023, p. 98).

To transition into the take-off phase, Togo must overcome institutional inefficiencies, enhance domestic investment attractiveness, and leverage its strategic geographical location to establish itself as a regional trade hub (Rodrik, 2016, p. 109). The drive to maturity requires economic diversification, particularly expanding the manufacturing sector, modernizing transport and energy infrastructure, and investing in human capital development (Hanushek & Woessmann, 2008, p. 146).

Critically, Togo has yet to fully enter the age of high mass consumption, where consumer-driven economic growth replaces investment-led expansion (Rostow, 1960, p. 98). Constraints such as income inequality, informality in labor markets, and limited domestic consumption continue to hinder this progression (UNDP, 2023, p. 76). Therefore, policies should focus on strengthening middle-class purchasing power, expanding formal employment opportunities, and incentivizing domestic entrepreneurship.

3.2.1.3.2 Institutional Foundations for Sustainable Development in Togo

Rostow (1960, p. 78) emphasized the necessity of Western-style institutions, including transparent governance, competitive markets, and legal protections for property rights, as fundamental to economic modernization. While some scholars argue that institutional convergence towards Western models accelerates development, others highlight the risks of policy homogenization that disregards regional and historical contexts (North, 1990, p. 87).

For Togo, institutional modernization must balance global best practices with local governance realities. Key reform priorities include:

- ✓ Strengthening transparency and accountability mechanisms to improve investment confidence (Acemoglu & Robinson, 2012, p. 112);

- ✓ Enhancing regulatory frameworks to facilitate ease of doing business and mitigate bureaucratic inefficiencies (Rodrik et al., 2004, p. 138);

- ✓ Expanding educational and vocational training programs to align workforce capabilities with industrial and technological shifts (Hanushek & Woessmann, 2008, p. 146).

However, a critical debate remains: Should Togo adopt wholesale institutional reforms modeled after Western economies, or should it pursue hybrid governance approaches that integrate local political, social, and economic structures? Future research must explore how institutional adaptations can maximize governance efficiency while preserving socio-cultural integrity.

3.2.1.3.3 Technological Innovation as a Catalyst for Economic Transformation in Togo

Rostow (1960, p. 101) asserted that technological advancement drives economic modernization, increasing productivity, reducing transaction costs, and expanding market access. For Togo, leveraging digital technologies, renewable energy innovations, and industrial automation could propel its economy toward sustained growth (Freeman & Soete, 1997, p. 77).

Key areas of focus include:

- ✓ Renewable energy investments – The Blitta solar power plant (30 MW) represents a landmark step toward sustainable energy solutions, reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels (Agence Togolaise de l'Energie, 2023);

- ✓ ICT sector expansion – Facilitating access to digital technologies and e-commerce can support entrepreneurship and service-based industries, enhancing market accessibility and efficiency (Castells, 1996, p. 89);

- ✓ Infrastructure modernization – Developing advanced transport networks and communication systems to improve interregional connectivity and economic competitiveness (Estache & Fay, 2007, p. 132).

While technology adoption is critical for development, implementation challenges, including high costs, inadequate technical expertise, and digital literacy gaps, must be addressed through strategic public-private partnerships and expanded research & development initiatives (World Bank, 2018, p. 36).

3.2.1.3.4 Capital Investment: Strengthening the Foundations of Togo's Economic Modernization

Capital investment plays a pivotal role in accelerating modernization, with infrastructure development, industrial expansion, and human capital enhancement serving as key drivers of

economic progress (Rostow, 1960, p. 123). For Togo, attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) and optimizing domestic capital allocation are essential for financing large-scale development projects (Todaro & Smith, 2015, p. 56).

Potential investment strategies include:

- ✓ Developing industrial parks – Establishing special economic zones (SEZs) to attract multinational corporations and encourage technology transfer (Rodrik, 2016, p. 109);

- ✓ Strengthening financial sector policies – Implementing tax incentives and investment protection regulations to stimulate private-sector participation (Dunning, 1993, p. 87).

- ✓ Human capital investments – Expanding technical training programs to equip workers with expertise in emerging industries (Hanushek & Woessmann, 2008, p. 146).

However, the debate surrounding FDI-led development models remains contested, particularly regarding investment dependency risks and long-term sustainability of foreign capital influxes. Future research should examine the balance between external financing and domestic resource mobilization, ensuring economic autonomy and resilience.

3.2.1.3.5 Critical Reflection: Rethinking Modernization Strategies for Togo

While modernization theory offers a structured framework for economic transformation, its applicability to Togo's unique development trajectory requires a critical reassessment: What alternative pathways exist beyond Rostow's linear model? Can Togo pursue a hybrid modernization approach, integrating localized economic strategies with global best practices? How can institutional reforms be tailored to regional contexts? What governance adaptations ensure policy effectiveness without disrupting traditional structures? What role should technological innovation play in shaping Togo's modernization agenda? How can policymakers overcome barriers to digital transformation while maximizing economic competitiveness?

Future research should evaluate comparative modernization models from nations with similar economic structures, identifying scalable strategies that align with Togo's socio-economic realities while ensuring sustainable development and global integration.

3.2.1.4 Dependency Theory: Structural Challenges and Pathways Toward Economic Sovereignty in Togo

Dependency theory, first articulated by Andre Gunder Frank in *Capitalism and Underdevelopment in Latin America* (1967, p. 56), challenges the assumptions of modernization theory, arguing that the global economic system systematically favors developed nations (the core) at the expense of

developing ones (the periphery). Frank contends that developing countries remain trapped in a cycle of dependency, relying on the export of raw materials and the import of high-value manufactured goods, which entrenches underdevelopment and external reliance (Thompson, 2023, p. 67).

For Togo, this theoretical framework provides a powerful lens for examining the structural constraints impeding national development—particularly commodity dependence, financial reliance on external loans, and the pervasive influence of multinational corporations (MNCs). To transition toward economic autonomy, Togo must adopt a comprehensive strategy, focusing on industrial diversification, financial independence, and economic restructuring that empowers local industries and reduces dependency.

3.2.1.4.1 The Structural Dynamics of Economic Dependency: Togo's Reality and Reform Strategy

Dependency theory highlights how historical global trade structures create economic asymmetry, locking developing nations into unequal trade relationships (Frank, 1967, p. 78). This is particularly evident in Togo's economic framework, which heavily depends on the exportation of phosphates, cotton, and agricultural commodities, while importing high-value industrial goods, electronics, and machinery (Dos Santos, 1970, p. 235).

This structural imbalance constrains economic diversification, reinforcing external reliance on developed economies for technological advancement, manufactured goods, and investment capital (Cardoso & Faletto, 1979, p. 149). To reverse this trend, Togo must:

- ✓ Develop local processing industries – Establish agro-processing factories for cocoa, cotton, and coffee to increase product value before export;
- ✓ Expand domestic manufacturing capabilities – Invest in light industry, textiles, and consumer goods production to reduce import dependency;
- ✓ Leverage regional trade agreements – Strengthen ECOWAS and AfCFTA partnerships to enhance intra-African supply chains and reduce reliance on Western markets (ECA, 2020, p. 59).

Additionally, colonial-era economic structures shaped Togo's resource extraction model, favoring commodity dependency over industrial growth (Rodney, 1972, p. 87). Breaking free from this pattern requires state-led industrial policies, such as: Tax incentives for local industries, making domestic production more competitive; Public-private partnerships (PPPs) for infrastructure, ensuring adequate transport and energy access for industrial growth and Government-backed investment funds, supporting Togolese entrepreneurs in strategic sectors.

3.2.1.4.2 Multinational Corporations (MNCs) and Their Role in Sustaining Dependency: Strategies for Economic Empowerment

A cornerstone of dependency theory is the role of multinational corporations (MNCs) in reinforcing global economic asymmetry (Sunkel, 1972, p. 527). MNCs primarily operate in developing countries to extract resources and capitalize on cheaper labor markets, while repatriating profits back to their home nations, limiting long-term benefits for the host country (Hymer, 1976, p. 144).

In Togo, MNCs dominate key industries such as phosphate mining, agriculture, and telecommunications, creating economic dependencies through: Profit repatriation, reducing domestic wealth accumulation; Limited technology transfer, keeping local firms underdeveloped and Political and regulatory influence, often favoring foreign corporate interests over local growth (Evans, 1979, p. 273).

To counteract these challenges, Togo should: Mandate reinvestment requirements – Ensure that a portion of MNC profits is reinvested in local infrastructure projects; Strengthen tax policies – Enforce progressive taxation on foreign firms operating in resource extraction and export-driven industries and encourage domestic partnerships – Facilitate collaborations between MNCs and Togolese enterprises to transfer knowledge and expertise.

Further, regional economic alliances can enhance Togo's negotiation power, ensuring equitable contracts with multinational firms.

3.2.1.4.3 Financial Dependency and Debt: Solutions for Economic Resilience

Financial dependency, characterized by reliance on loans from developed nations and international institutions, creates long-term fiscal vulnerability (Reinhart & Rogoff, 2009, p. 184). For Togo, financial constraints arise from: Foreign debt servicing, limiting national investment in education and infrastructure; Structural adjustment programs (SAPs) imposed by international lenders, often restricting policy sovereignty (Collier, 2007, p. 83) and Volatile foreign direct investment (FDI), creating economic fluctuations based on investor interests (Stiglitz, 2000, p. 104).

While debt relief mechanisms, such as the Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative, provide temporary relief, they do not resolve systemic financial dependency (Easterly, 2002, p. 67). Togo can adopt long-term financial sustainability strategies, including Expanding sovereign wealth funds, ensuring capital reserves for future economic investments, Developing domestic financial institutions, reducing external borrowing reliance and Pursuing intraregional investment partnerships, strengthening African-based financing options over external creditors.

Additionally, investing in high-return sectors, such as renewable energy, fintech, and digital services, can generate stable revenue streams and minimize aid reliance.

3.2.1.4.4 Structural Economic Reforms: A Blueprint for Sustainable Growth in Togo

Dependency theory argues that deep-seated structural changes, including economic diversification, industrialization, and human capital development, are essential for breaking the cycle of dependency (Kay, 2011, p. 62). For Togo, key reforms should focus on:

- ✓ Manufacturing sector expansion, reducing dependency on raw material exports ;
- ✓ Technology-driven industrialization, fostering local innovation and startup ecosystems ;
- ✓ Workforce skill development, ensuring educational programs align with modern industry needs (Todaro & Smith, 2015, p. 213).

In addition, investment in Energy infrastructure, reducing reliance on imported electricity; Transport modernization, improving trade accessibility and logistical efficiency and Regional economic integration, increasing Togo's role in West African production networks (UNECA, 2017, p. 45).

To ensure inclusive economic growth, policies must also prioritize marginalized communities, strengthening social equity alongside economic expansion.

3.2.1.4.5 Critical Reflections: Beyond Dependency

Dependency theory presents a compelling analysis of global economic disparities, highlighting how structural imbalances reinforce the underdevelopment of peripheral economies like Togo. However, applying its principles to Togo's development strategy necessitates a tailored and pragmatic approach that accounts for the country's unique economic conditions, geopolitical positioning, and institutional capacities.

A central question in designing a sovereign economic model for Togo is how to break the cycle of commodity dependence. The country must evaluate whether state-driven industrial expansion, supported by public investment and strategic policies, is preferable to a market-led approach that relies on private sector dynamism and foreign direct investment. Determining the optimal industrial policy requires a careful balance between government intervention and market forces to ensure sustainable economic transformation.

Another crucial aspect is leveraging regional partnerships to reduce reliance on Western markets. Strengthening intra-African trade through frameworks such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) could provide Togo with alternative avenues for economic growth. By fostering integration within West Africa, Togo can position itself as a strategic hub, enabling greater market access and value chain participation. Implementing policy frameworks that enhance inter-African

trade cooperation, technological exchange, and joint infrastructure projects will be essential in reducing external dependencies.

Financial independence is another pillar of economic sovereignty. Togo must explore whether prioritizing African-based financing solutions, such as regional development banks and sovereign wealth funds, would offer a more sustainable alternative to traditional global lenders. Reducing reliance on foreign debt while strengthening domestic financial institutions can safeguard economic stability and improve long-term investment prospects. Additionally, fostering transparency in financial governance will help attract responsible investment while mitigating risks associated with external credit dependency.

Future research should examine comparative industrialization models, drawing insights from countries such as such as Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland, and Estonia. These nations have successfully transitioned their economies by implementing strategic policies that align with their developmental contexts. By identifying scalable strategies that resonate with Togo's economic realities, policymakers can craft a robust framework for achieving long-term economic resilience, fostering innovation, and securing financial autonomy. A nuanced approach, rooted in adaptive governance, regional integration, and sustainable industrial policies, will be key to ensuring that Togo can emerge from structural dependency and establish a self-sustaining economic model.

In summary, the classical theories of economic development, Keynesian economics, modernization theory, and dependency theory offer diverse perspectives on how economies grow and evolve. Each theory highlights different factors that influence economic progress, from the benefits of free markets and government intervention to the importance of technological advancement and the impacts of global economic structures. By integrating these theoretical insights, policymakers in Togo can develop comprehensive strategies that address both short-term economic stability and long-term sustainable development. These strategies should aim to leverage the country's unique strengths, address systemic challenges, and create an environment conducive to innovation, industrialization, and equitable growth.

3.2.2. Theories of Governance and Political Stability

Understanding the interplay between governance and political stability is crucial for analyzing their impact on economic development. This section explores key theories that highlight how effective governance and stable political environments contribute to sustainable growth and societal well-being.

3.2.2.1 Examining Good Governance Theory in the Context of Togo's Development

The concept of good governance has evolved significantly, becoming a central pillar in economic development theories, policy formation, and institutional efficiency. The World Bank's seminal 1992 report underscores the critical role of transparency, accountability, and the rule of law in fostering sustainable growth, asserting that effective governance creates an environment conducive to investment, social stability, and national prosperity (World Bank, 1992, p. 34).

While good governance principles are universally acknowledged as essential to economic modernization, the literature presents critical debates and gaps regarding implementation in developing economies, particularly small, open economies like Togo. Scholars have examined governance efficiency, institutional integrity, and geopolitical positioning, revealing both opportunities for reform and structural constraints that must be addressed.

3.2.2.2 Conceptual Foundations of Good Governance: Transparency, Accountability, and Rule of Law

The foundational principles of good governance theory emphasize that governments must operate with transparency, ensure institutional accountability, and uphold the rule of law to facilitate economic resilience (Kaufmann, Kraay & Zoido-Lobatón, 1999, p. 8). Transparency is particularly critical in developing economies, where weak regulatory structures and bureaucratic inefficiencies often hinder governance efficiency (Rothstein & Teorell, 2008, p. 165).

In comparative studies on governance in Africa, nations like Rwanda and Ghana have successfully implemented institutional transparency mechanisms, which have enhanced foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows and policy credibility (Rodrik, Subramanian & Trebbi, 2004, p. 138). The experience of these nations suggests that Togo could benefit from similar reforms, particularly by:

- Enhancing digital governance, ensuring public access to administrative processes and budget allocations.
- Institutionalizing independent oversight bodies, monitoring public-sector efficiency and fiscal management.
- Strengthening anti-corruption frameworks, creating enforceable legal provisions against political mismanagement (Grindle, 2007, p. 556).

While these transparency-enhancing measures have proven effective elsewhere, research in the Togolese context is needed to determine the feasibility and potential challenges of their implementation.

3.2.2.3 Judicial Governance and Business Climate: Strengthening Legal Predictability in Togo

Legal stability plays a pivotal role in governance efficiency, as the enforcement of contracts, the protection of property rights, and regulatory consistency influence investment attractiveness and economic dynamism (North, 1990, p. 54). Nations with predictable legal environments, such as Singapore and Estonia, have demonstrated how rule-of-law reforms can accelerate economic growth (Fukuyama, 2013, p. 351).

For Togo, existing studies highlight those legal inefficiencies, such as slow judicial processes and unclear investment regulations, restrict business expansion and deter private-sector innovation (Djankov et al., 2003, p. 453). Strengthening judicial governance in Togo requires:

- Expanding the use of specialized commercial courts, ensuring faster resolution of business disputes.
- Modernizing legal frameworks, providing greater security for private-sector investments and entrepreneurship.
- Establishing independent arbitration mechanisms, safeguarding corporate legal protections and regulatory adherence (Rodrik et al., 2004, p. 138).

The literature suggests that countries with robust judicial institutions attract higher-quality investments due to legal predictability and operational security, a crucial consideration for Togo's economic policy planning.

3.2.2.4 Political Stability and Governance Efficiency: Implications for National Development

Political stability is widely recognized as a determinant of governance efficiency, shaping policy continuity and investor confidence (Kaufmann et al., 1999, p. 8). Empirical research illustrates that nations with minimal political volatility foster business-friendly environments, encouraging long-term economic sustainability (Fukuyama, 2013, p. 351).

For Togo, ongoing governance reforms must focus on:

- Ensuring electoral integrity, mitigating policy inconsistencies, and fostering stable leadership transitions.
- Strengthening policymaking institutions, reducing bureaucratic obstacles to economic modernization.
- Enhancing diplomatic and geopolitical engagement, optimizing trade agreements and regional economic integration (Rodrik, 2007, p. 142).

Governance stability plays an instrumental role in attracting foreign investment, securing international partnerships, and reinforcing institutional credibility.

3.2.2.5 Research Gaps and Future Directions: Developing a Governance Framework for Togo's Context

While extensive literature supports the importance of good governance in economic development, several gaps remain regarding its direct applicability to Togo. Key research questions include:

- How can Togo adapt global governance best practices to its institutional realities?
- What role does geopolitical positioning play in shaping governance reforms?
- How can judicial modernization enhance economic resilience and trade competitiveness?

Future studies should explore comparative governance frameworks, analyzing policy strategies from successful economies to formulate adaptable solutions for Togo's institutional modernization.

3.2.2.6 Governance as the Cornerstone of Togo's Economic Transformation

Good governance remains a foundational determinant of economic success, fostering investment confidence, institutional efficiency, and sustainable development. By strengthening transparency measures, judicial reliability, and governance participation, Togo can:

- Improve policy adaptability, ensuring economic competitiveness in global markets.
- Cultivate investor trust, reinforcing national credibility in trade and financial partnerships.
- Accelerate governance modernization, positioning Togo as a stable and efficient economic player.

The literature underscores that integrating governance excellence with strategic economic policies will allow Togo to drive long-term prosperity and institutional resilience.

3.2.3 Institutional Theory and Its Relevance to Togo's Development

Institutional theory, as articulated by Douglass North in *Institutions, Institutional Change, and Economic Performance* (1990, p. 67), underscores the transformative role of institutions in shaping economic and political outcomes. North posits those institutions, defined as the rules, norms, and constraints governing human interaction, are fundamental to economic growth, as they reduce transaction costs, enhance cooperation, and create a stable environment for investment and

innovation. This framework is particularly relevant for analyzing Togo's development trajectory, where institutional efficiency remains a crucial determinant of economic resilience.

3.2.3.1 Institutional Stability and Economic Growth: Addressing Togo's Structural Challenges

The literature extensively discusses the role of strong institutional frameworks in fostering economic development and investment attractiveness (Williamson, 2000, p. 597). Studies show that nations with well-defined property rights and reliable judicial systems attract higher levels of foreign direct investment (FDI) and experience more sustained economic growth (Acemoglu, Johnson & Robinson, 2001, p. 1385). In Togo, institutional inefficiencies—such as weak contract enforcement, unclear regulatory frameworks, and bureaucratic hurdles—continue to hinder private-sector expansion.

To address these challenges, reforms should focus on:

- Clarifying property rights laws, ensuring security in land and business ownership to attract both local and international investment.
- Streamlining judicial processes, enhancing legal predictability for commercial transactions and dispute resolution (Besley & Ghatak, 2010, p. 912).
- Modernizing administrative systems, reducing red tape and improving regulatory efficiency to promote business confidence.

Togo's institutional reform must align with global best practices while remaining adaptable to local economic realities, reinforcing policy effectiveness and investment security.

3.2.3.2 Institutional Change and Policy Adaptability: Ensuring Long-Term Economic Resilience

North (2005, p. 112) argues that institutions must evolve to remain effective in addressing shifting economic landscapes and emerging challenges. However, literature on institutional change suggests that developing economies often struggle with policy inertia, slowing their ability to implement necessary reforms (Rodrik, 2008, p. 100).

For Togo, institutional modernization should focus on:

- Updating trade and investment policies, aligning regulatory frameworks with AfCFTA standards to maximize regional market integration.
- Strengthening fiscal institutions, ensuring greater transparency in public finance management to enhance government credibility.

- Investing in governance reforms, minimizing administrative inefficiencies, and strengthening institutional autonomy.

Comparative studies on Singapore and Rwanda demonstrate how proactive institutional adjustments can accelerate economic transformation, reinforcing the need for Togo to implement adaptive governance mechanisms.

3.2.3.3 Formal vs. Informal Institutions: Harnessing Local Networks for Economic Development

Greif (1993, p. 911) emphasizes the importance of informal institutions, highlighting that social networks, cultural norms, and trust-based interactions often complement formal regulatory systems. In Togo, informal institutions play a pivotal role in trade facilitation, community-based economic initiatives, and microfinance structures.

Strengthening the synergy between formal and informal institutions can:

- Enhance local business ecosystems, fostering entrepreneurial innovation through trust-based commerce.
- Improve financial accessibility, leveraging informal credit systems to support SMEs and emerging enterprises.
- Promote economic inclusivity, ensuring policy frameworks accommodate indigenous economic practices alongside formal regulations.

Integrating informal structures into policy planning can bridge institutional gaps, facilitating smoother transitions in economic modernization.

3.2.3.4 Institutional Foundations as Catalysts for Sustainable Development in Togo

Institutional theory underscores the centrality of governance frameworks in shaping national economic performance. By reinforcing legal stability, policy adaptability, and institutional transparency, Togo can:

- Strengthen investor confidence, improving market stability and trade competitiveness.
- Enhance administrative efficiency, ensuring a streamlined business environment and regulatory predictability.
- Accelerate economic modernization, integrating institutional reforms with development priorities to secure long-term growth.

A proactive institutional strategy, leveraging both formal and informal mechanisms, will enable Togo to navigate global economic shifts while ensuring national development resilience.

3.3. Integration of Concepts

In this section, we will integrate the theories and concepts discussed in the previous sections, demonstrating how they interrelate and contribute to the development of a comprehensive framework for understanding and addressing Togo's developmental challenges and opportunities.

3.3.1 Theories Interrelation

- ✓ **Good Governance and Economic Development**

The theory of good governance emphasizes transparency, accountability, and the rule of law as pillars of sustainable development. These elements are crucial for creating an environment conducive to economic growth, as they foster trust among investors and citizens (World Bank, 1992, p. 34). Effective governance structures ensure that resources are allocated efficiently, corruption is minimized, and public services are delivered effectively, which are essential for economic development (Kaufmann, Kraay, & Zoido-Lobatón, 1999, p. 8). For instance, when public funds are managed transparently, the likelihood of misallocation of resources is reduced, leading to better outcomes in public projects and services (Rothstein & Teorell, 2008, p. 165).

Additionally, accountability in governance can lead to increased foreign aid and investments, as donor countries and investors prefer to engage with well-governed states (Grindle, 2007, p. 556). Moreover, the rule of law is critical in maintaining order and protecting the rights of individuals and businesses. A robust legal framework that enforces contracts and protects property rights can encourage entrepreneurship and innovation (North, 1990, p. 54). Togo can benefit from judicial reforms that streamline legal processes and improve the efficiency of the court system, making it easier for businesses to operate and resolve disputes (Djankov, La Porta, Lopez-de-Silanes, & Shleifer, 2003, p. 453). Investing in institutions that promote participation and inclusiveness can also drive economic and social development. When citizens are engaged in governance processes, they are more likely to support and comply with policies and regulations, leading to more effective implementation and positive outcomes (Fukuyama, 2013, p. 351). Overall, good governance is a fundamental pillar for sustainable development and prosperity.

- ✓ **Political Stability and Investment**

Political stability theory highlights the importance of a stable political environment in attracting foreign investment. Stable political conditions reduce uncertainty and risk, making a country more attractive to investors. This stability allows for consistent and predictable policies, which are crucial for long-term investment decisions (Alesina, Ozler, Roubini, & Swagel, 1992, p. 78). Political stability also enhances the effectiveness of policy implementation, as consistent

leadership ensures that development strategies are pursued without interruption (Henisz, 2000, p. 635). For Togo, achieving political stability can enhance its attractiveness to investors, thereby boosting economic growth and development. A stable political environment can also foster social cohesion, reducing the likelihood of conflict and instability (Collier & Hoeffler, 2004, p. 563).

Political stability can lead to a more favorable investment climate by ensuring that businesses operate in an environment free from the disruptions caused by political turmoil. In stable political settings, policies and regulations are less likely to change abruptly, providing investors with the confidence they need to make long-term commitments (Henisz, 2000, p. 635). This stability can also enhance economic performance by enabling continuous economic activities and reducing transaction costs associated with political risks (Jensen, 2008, p. 1052). Stable political environments are associated with consistent and predictable policies, which are crucial for long-term investment decisions. For Togo, achieving political stability can enhance its attractiveness to investors, thereby boosting economic growth and development.

A stable political environment can also foster social cohesion, reducing the likelihood of conflict and instability (Fearon & Laitin, 2003, p. 75). Political stability also allows for the implementation of consistent economic policies that can drive growth. Stable governments can focus on long-term development strategies, such as infrastructure development and human capital investment, without being hindered by political instability (Rodrik, 1991, p. 429). This stability can also enhance the effectiveness of governance and institutional reforms, creating a more efficient and productive economic environment (Acemoglu & Robinson, 2012, p. 423).

- ✓ **Institutional Theory and Economic Performance**

Institutional theory, as articulated by Douglass North, posits those institutions, defined as the rules, norms, and constraints that shape human interaction, are fundamental to economic performance (North, 1990, p. 67). Effective institutions reduce transaction costs, facilitate cooperation, and promote economic development by providing a stable and predictable environment for economic activities (Williamson, 2000, p. 597). Strengthening institutional frameworks in Togo can lead to significant economic benefits by creating a reliable legal system, enforcing property rights, and promoting transparency and accountability (Besley & Ghatak, 2010, p. 912). Institutions also play a crucial role in shaping economic incentives, ensuring that businesses operate within a framework that encourages innovation and investment (Acemoglu, Johnson, & Robinson, 2001, p. 1385). Institutions play a critical role in defining economic incentives for individuals and businesses. They determine the rules of the game and influence the behavior of economic agents. Effective institutions can enhance economic efficiency by reducing uncertainty and providing a stable framework for economic activities (Williamson, 2000, p. 597). This stability encourages investment and innovation, driving economic growth (Acemoglu, Johnson, & Robinson, 2001, p. 1385). For Togo, strengthening institutional frameworks can lead to significant economic benefits. This includes developing clear property rights, enforcing contracts, and creating a reliable judicial

system. Such institutions reduce the risks associated with economic transactions, making it easier for businesses to operate and thrive (Besley & Ghatak, 2010, p. 912). Furthermore, institutions that promote transparency and accountability can help combat corruption and enhance public trust in government (Mauro, 1995, p. 695).

3.3.2 Developing a Theoretical Framework

By integrating these theories, we can develop a comprehensive theoretical framework that guides the analysis of Togo's development. This framework should focus on the following key areas:

- ✓ **Leveraging Comparative Advantages**

Togo has several comparative advantages, such as its strategic location, natural resources, and agricultural potential. To leverage these advantages, the country needs to invest in infrastructure, improve governance, and ensure political stability. For instance, enhancing transport infrastructure can facilitate trade and attract investment, while good governance can create a business-friendly environment (Rodrik, 2008, p. 100). Investing in technology and innovation can also help Togo capitalize on its agricultural potential by improving productivity and market access (Gollin, Parente, & Rogerson, 2002, p. 225).

Additionally, promoting tourism by leveraging its cultural and natural heritage can generate significant revenue and employment opportunities (Christie, Fernandes, Messerli, & Twining-Ward, 2013, p. 58). Strengthening the agricultural sector through the adoption of modern farming techniques and improving access to agricultural inputs can significantly boost productivity and enhance food security (Binswanger-Mkhize & Savastano, 2017, p. 93).

Moreover, developing agro-processing industries can add value to agricultural products, creating jobs and increasing export earnings (FAO, 2017, p. 85). Togo's strategic location can be further leveraged by enhancing its logistics and transportation infrastructure, making the country a regional hub for trade and commerce (AfDB, 2018, p. 110). Improving access to financing for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) can also foster entrepreneurship and innovation, driving economic growth (Klapper, Laeven, & Rajan, 2006, p. 591). Investing in human capital through education and vocational training can equip the workforce with the skills needed to support diversified economic activities (Hanushek & Woessmann, 2008, p. 613).

- ✓ **Addressing Weaknesses**

Togo also faces several challenges, including political instability, weak institutions, and inadequate infrastructure. Addressing these weaknesses requires comprehensive reforms in governance, political stability, and institutional frameworks. Implementing judicial reforms to ensure the rule of law, reducing corruption through transparency measures, and fostering political inclusiveness can help mitigate these challenges (Acemoglu & Robinson, 2012, p. 423). Enhancing

the capacity of public institutions through training and technical assistance can improve service delivery and administrative efficiency (Fukuyama, 2013, p. 351). Moreover, investing in human capital by improving education and healthcare systems can build a more productive workforce, essential for long-term economic development (Hanushek & Woessmann, 2008, p. 613).

Infrastructure development should focus on critical sectors such as energy, transportation, and telecommunications to support economic activities and improve living standards (World Bank, 2019, p. 52). Additionally, addressing governance issues such as corruption and lack of accountability can restore public trust and create a more conducive environment for development (Rose-Ackerman, 1999, p. 78). Strengthening the legal and regulatory framework to protect property rights and enforce contracts can enhance the business environment and attract investments (Besley & Ghatak, 2010, p. 912). Promoting social inclusion by addressing inequalities and ensuring that marginalized groups have access to opportunities can foster social cohesion and stability (UNDP, 2016, p. 45). Engaging in regional cooperation and integration can provide access to larger markets and enhance economic resilience (UNECA, 2017, p. 62).

- ✓ **Promoting Sustainable Development**

Sustainable development in Togo can be achieved by balancing economic growth with social and environmental considerations. This involves promoting inclusive growth by ensuring that the benefits of development are equitably distributed among all segments of society. Investing in human capital, such as education and healthcare, can enhance productivity and improve living standards (UNDP, 2016, p. 38). Additionally, implementing environmental protection measures can ensure that economic activities do not degrade natural resources, preserving them for future generations (World Bank, 2018, p. 64). Policies that promote gender equality and empower women can also contribute to more inclusive and sustainable economic growth (Duflo, 2012, p. 1053).

Moreover, fostering sustainable agricultural practices can enhance food security and protect biodiversity (FAO, 2017, p. 125). Strengthening community-based resource management can empower local communities and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources (Ostrom, 1990, p. 142). Encouraging the adoption of renewable energy sources can reduce dependence on fossil fuels and mitigate the impacts of climate change (IRENA, 2019, p. 87). Promoting green technologies and eco-friendly industries can create new job opportunities and drive economic growth while minimizing environmental impact (UNEP, 2020, p. 72). Ensuring that development policies are inclusive and consider the needs of vulnerable groups can contribute to social cohesion and stability (World Bank, 2016, p. 48). Finally, fostering partnerships between government, private sector, and civil society can enhance the effectiveness of sustainable development initiatives (UNDP, 2018, p. 93).

- ✓ **Enhancing Institutional Capacity**

Strengthening institutional capacity is essential for effective governance and economic performance. This involves building the capacity of public institutions, improving the efficiency of public service delivery, and enhancing the regulatory framework to support business activities (North, 2005, p. 112). Investing in digital infrastructure and e-governance can enhance transparency and efficiency in public administration (Heeks, 2001, p. 112). Furthermore, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and innovation within public institutions can lead to more adaptive and responsive governance (Eggers & Bellman, 2015, p. 85). Collaboration with international organizations and development partners can also provide the necessary technical and financial support for institutional strengthening (World Bank, 2019, p. 34).

Enhancing the skills and competencies of public officials through training and professional development programs can improve the overall effectiveness of public administration (Andrews, 2013, p. 67). Establishing clear and transparent procedures for public procurement can reduce corruption and increase the efficiency of public spending (OECD, 2015, p. 46). Encouraging citizen participation in governance processes can increase accountability and ensure that public policies reflect the needs and priorities of the population (Fukuyama, 2013, p. 351). Strengthening legal and regulatory frameworks to protect property rights and enforce contracts can create a more predictable business environment and attract investment (Besley & Ghatak, 2010, p. 912). Finally, implementing performance management systems can help monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of public policies and programs, ensuring that they achieve their intended outcomes (Behn, 2003, p. 590).

In conclusion, the integration of theories and concepts related to governance, political stability, and economic development provides a solid foundation for analyzing Togo's developmental challenges and opportunities. By leveraging its comparative advantages and addressing its weaknesses, Togo can achieve robust national development. The theoretical framework developed in this section emphasizes the importance of good governance, political stability, and effective institutions in driving sustainable economic growth. These elements are crucial for structuring the research and providing a comprehensive basis for analysis and recommendations.

In summary, the integration of theories on good governance, political stability, and institutional economics provides a comprehensive framework for analyzing and addressing Togo's developmental challenges and opportunities. Good governance, characterized by transparency, accountability, and the rule of law, is essential for creating a conducive environment for economic growth. Political stability reduces uncertainty and fosters a favorable investment climate, which is crucial for long-term development. Effective institutions, defined as the rules and norms governing economic interactions, are fundamental in reducing transaction costs and promoting cooperation. By leveraging its comparative advantages, addressing its weaknesses, and focusing on sustainable and inclusive development, Togo can achieve robust national development. This theoretical framework underscores the importance of these interconnected elements in structuring research, guiding analysis, and formulating recommendations for sustainable growth and prosperity in Togo.

The literature review and theoretical framework developed for this doctoral thesis provide a robust foundation for analyzing the developmental challenges and opportunities in Togo. By integrating theories of good governance, political stability, and institutional economics, this work highlights the essential elements for promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth in the Togolese context.

Good governance, characterized by transparency, accountability, and the rule of law, is identified as a fundamental pillar for creating an environment conducive to economic growth. Political stability is crucial for reducing uncertainty and attracting investments, thereby facilitating consistent and predictable policies. Effective institutions, by defining clear rules and norms, reduce transaction costs, facilitate cooperation, and encourage innovation and investment.

By leveraging Togo's comparative advantages, such as its strategic location, natural resources, and agricultural potential, and addressing its weaknesses, including political instability, weak institutions, and inadequate infrastructure, Togo can lay the groundwork for robust economic development. Targeted reforms and investments in infrastructure, human capital, and institutional capacities are essential to tackle these challenges.

The literature review also highlighted key studies, such as those on good governance by Kaufmann, Kraay, and Zoido-Lobatón (1999), on political stability and investment by Alesina, Ozler, Roubini, and Swagel (1992), and on institutional theory by Douglass North (1990). Specific case studies, such as those from East and West Africa, demonstrated the positive impacts of governance reforms and infrastructure investments on economic growth.

Research on Togo's national development within the current geopolitical context is a relatively recent but rapidly growing field, particularly studies on geopolitical and security dynamics. Political instability, external threats such as terrorism and drug trafficking, and necessary reforms to enhance security and governance are essential elements to consider. Governance reforms and security investments are crucial for strengthening stability and attracting investments.

The developed theoretical framework also underscores the importance of promoting sustainable development that balances economic growth with social and environmental considerations. Ensuring that the benefits of development are equitably distributed and implementing environmental protection measures can secure a prosperous and resilient future for Togo.

3.4 The study's methodology and anticipated outcomes

To ensure a systematic and rigorous approach to the research, this section outlines the study's methodology and the anticipated outcomes.

3.4.1 Links Between Theories, Models, and the Research Problem

Explicitly linking theories and models to the research questions is crucial for structuring a coherent and effective research framework. For example, Lin's theory on industrial modernization and infrastructure improvements directly informs the hypothesis that institutional reforms and strategic partnerships can strengthen Togo's development prospects. Lin (2012) emphasizes the need for governments to identify industries with comparative advantages and support their growth through strategic investments and infrastructure enhancements. This approach is particularly pertinent for Togo, where targeted reforms could significantly boost economic productivity and employment (Lin, 2012).

Similarly, Sachs' sustainable development models underscore the importance of integrating sustainable practices into national policies to ensure long-term resilience. Sachs (2015) advocates for the inclusion of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a core element of development strategies, highlighting that economic growth should not come at the expense of environmental sustainability. For Togo, this would involve adopting policies that promote renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and resource efficiency (Sachs, 2015). The integration of these sustainable practices is essential for building a resilient economy that can withstand external shocks and environmental challenges.

These theoretical links also illuminate the study's methodology. The mixed methods approach, which combines qualitative and quantitative data, allows for a nuanced understanding of the phenomena being studied, in line with Lin's integrative development theories. According to Creswell and Plano Clark (2017), mixed methods research is particularly effective in capturing the complexity of development issues by providing both statistical trends and contextual insights. This approach enables the researcher to validate findings through triangulation, thereby increasing the reliability and depth of the analysis (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2017).

Furthermore, case studies and comparative analyses with other countries provide a robust framework for testing the formulated hypotheses. Yin (2014) argues that case studies are valuable for exploring real-life contexts and generating in-depth insights into specific issues. By examining the development experiences of countries like Rwanda and Singapore, the study can identify best practices and lessons learned that are applicable to Togo's context. Comparative analysis, as highlighted by George and Bennett (2005), allows for the identification of patterns and causal mechanisms that can inform policy recommendations.

In conclusion, by integrating these theories and models into the research framework, the study can develop a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of Togo's development challenges and opportunities. The use of mixed methods, supported by case studies and comparative analyses, provides a rigorous methodological approach that aligns with the theoretical underpinnings of Lin's

and Sachs' models. This approach ensures that the research findings are not only robust but also relevant and actionable for policymakers in Togo.

3.4.2 Theoretical Framework and Methodology

The theoretical framework is enriched by concepts of effective governance, industrial modernization, and sustainable development. These concepts not only inform the research hypotheses but also the methodology employed. For instance, surveys and interviews with stakeholders are designed to explore how institutional reforms and strategic partnerships can be implemented in the Togolese context.

Additionally, analyzing current development policies in Togo and comparing them with successful models from other countries allows for the formulation of specific and actionable recommendations. This includes proposals for legislative reforms, industrial modernization initiatives, and sustainable development strategies.

Lin (2012) argues that for industrial modernization to succeed, it is crucial for the government to identify industries with comparative advantages and support their growth through strategic investments and infrastructure improvements. This approach is particularly relevant for Togo, where targeted reforms could significantly boost economic productivity and employment (Lin, 2012).

Similarly, Sachs (2015) emphasizes the integration of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into national policies to ensure long-term resilience. Sachs highlights the importance of promoting renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and resource efficiency within development strategies (Sachs, 2015). For Togo, this would involve adopting policies that encourage these sustainable practices, thereby creating a more resilient economic environment.

The study's methodology also relies on the mixed methods approach, combining qualitative and quantitative data to provide a nuanced understanding of the phenomena being studied, in line with Lin's integrative development theories. Creswell and Plano Clark (2017) argue that mixed methods research is particularly effective in capturing the complexity of development issues, allowing for the validation of findings through triangulation and thus increasing the reliability and depth of the analysis (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2017).

Furthermore, case studies and comparative analyses with other countries provide a robust framework for testing the formulated hypotheses. Yin (2014) asserts that case studies are valuable for exploring real-life contexts and generating in-depth insights into specific issues. By examining the development experiences of countries like Rwanda and Singapore, the study can identify best practices and lessons learned that are applicable to Togo's context. Comparative analysis, as

highlighted by George and Bennett (2005), allows for the identification of patterns and causal mechanisms that can inform policy recommendations.

In conclusion, by integrating these theories and models into the research framework, the study can develop a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of Togo's development challenges and opportunities. The use of mixed methods, supported by case studies and comparative analyses, provides a rigorous methodological approach that aligns with the theoretical underpinnings of Lin's and Sachs' models. This approach ensures that the research findings are not only robust but also relevant and actionable for policymakers in Togo.

3.4.3 Explicit Links Between Theories, Models, and the Research Problem

- **Good Governance and Economic Development**

Link: The theory of good governance is directly related to the research problem by emphasizing the importance of transparency, accountability, and the rule of law in attracting investments and promoting economic growth. Good governance ensures that public resources are managed efficiently and that corruption is minimized, which fosters a conducive environment for business activities (Kaufmann, Kraay, & Zoido-Lobatón, 1999).

Example: Implementing reforms to enhance transparency and reduce corruption in Togo can create a more favorable business environment and stimulate economic growth. For instance, establishing independent anti-corruption bodies and promoting open government initiatives can increase investor confidence and attract foreign direct investments (FDI). This, in turn, can lead to job creation, increased productivity, and improved economic performance (Kaufmann et al., 1999).

- **Political Stability and Investment**

Link: Political stability is crucial for creating a favorable investment climate. Studies demonstrate that investors prefer stable political environments for long-term investment decisions, as stability reduces the risks associated with political upheavals and policy uncertainties (Alesina, Ozler, Roubini, & Swagel, 1992).

Example: Enhancing political stability in Togo can attract more foreign investments, which are essential for economic development. By implementing policies that promote political stability, such as strengthening democratic institutions, ensuring fair elections, and maintaining social order, Togo can create a more predictable and secure environment for investors. This stability can lead to increased capital inflows, technology transfer, and overall economic growth (Alesina et al., 1992).

- **Institutional Theory and Economic Performance**

Link: Institutions play a key role in shaping economic incentives. Strong institutions can reduce transaction costs, facilitate innovation, and attract investments by providing a stable and predictable framework for economic activities (North, 1990).

Example: Strengthening institutions in Togo, such as property rights and judicial systems, can improve economic efficiency and attract investments. For instance, ensuring that property rights are well-defined and protected can encourage individuals and businesses to invest in long-term projects. Similarly, an efficient and independent judiciary can resolve disputes fairly and promptly, reducing the risks associated with business transactions. These improvements can lead to a more vibrant private sector and sustained economic growth (North, 1990).

- **Case Studies and Lessons Learned**

Link: Case studies of countries like Rwanda and Singapore offer examples of successes through institutional reforms and infrastructure investments. These case studies illustrate how well-designed strategies can be applied to transform economies and achieve significant developmental progress (Rodrik, 2007; Whitfield, 2012).

Example: Adapting Rwanda and Singapore's approaches to governance and infrastructure development can help Togo overcome its economic challenges. For instance, Rwanda's focus on good governance and anti-corruption measures, along with strategic investments in infrastructure, has led to impressive economic growth. Similarly, Singapore's emphasis on efficient public administration and world-class infrastructure has made it a global economic hub. By learning from these examples, Togo can implement targeted reforms and investments to create a more dynamic and competitive economy (Rodrik, 2007; Whitfield, 2012).

These explicit links between theories, models, and the research problem provide a better understanding of how different approaches can be integrated to formulate effective development strategies for Togo. By combining institutional reforms, effective governance, political stability, and lessons learned from successful case studies, Togo can develop robust and context-specific development policies.

Comparative case studies will allow for the comparison of successful development strategies from Rwanda and Singapore with the Togolese context. By drawing on the lessons learned from these studies, this research will identify effective and adaptable practices for Togo’s economic development.

3.5 Research Gaps and Future Directions: Institutional Strategy for Togo's Economic Transformation

The literature review identifies critical gaps in research on governance, institutional reforms, economic diversification, and trade competitiveness in Togo. Addressing these gaps is essential for optimizing institutional strategies and achieving sustainable economic transformation.

3.5.1 Research Gaps

- **Limited Exploration of Emerging Sectors**

Existing studies focus on traditional sectors like agriculture, mining, and services, leaving emerging sectors such as technology, renewable energy, and tourism underexplored. These sectors have significant potential for economic diversification and innovation. For example, renewable energy projects have reduced dependency on fossil fuels and fostered industrial growth in countries like Malaysia (IRENA, 2019, p. 33). Similarly, technology-driven industries like fintech and agritech have transformed economies in Southeast Asia, yet their applicability to Togo remains under-researched (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 77).

- **Underrepresentation of Local Perspectives**

The literature often overlooks the perspectives of local communities and private sector actors, despite their critical role in shaping development outcomes. Participatory research methods, such as focus groups and community surveys, are rarely employed, limiting the inclusivity of policy recommendations (Patton, 2015, p. 67). For instance, local communities may have unique insights into challenges like implementing agricultural policies or accessing basic services, which are not adequately captured in top-down analyses (World Bank, 2023, p. 45).

- **Insufficient Analysis of Geopolitical Dynamics**

Geopolitical shifts in West Africa, such as ECOWAS realignments and the expansion of AfCFTA, are not fully accounted for in the literature. These dynamics significantly influence regional trade patterns and economic stability (Aboagye, 2025, p. 31). For example, the withdrawal of Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger from ECOWAS has disrupted trade flows, yet the implications for Togo's economic strategy remain underexplored (UNECA, 2021, p. 22).

- **Weak Evaluation of Institutional Reform Implementation**

While institutional reforms are frequently discussed, there is limited analysis of the practical challenges associated with their implementation, such as resource constraints, political will, and socio-cultural factors. For instance, Singapore's success in anti-corruption reforms is often cited, but the contextual differences that may hinder similar reforms in Togo are rarely examined (Quah, 2010, p. 45).

- **Inadequate Integration of Digital Transformation**

Emerging technologies like blockchain, artificial intelligence (AI), and big data analytics are not fully explored for their potential to enhance governance and trade competitiveness in Togo. Estonia's digital governance model, which includes secure data exchange systems and automated public services, has revolutionized institutional efficiency, yet its applicability to Togo remains under-researched (Drechsler, 2020, p. 45).

3.5.2 Future Research Directions

- **Exploring Growth Opportunities in Emerging Sectors**

Future research should focus on the potential of technology, renewable energy, and tourism to drive economic diversification in Togo. For instance, Malaysia's green industrial zones have successfully integrated renewable energy projects into their economic strategy, reducing carbon emissions while fostering industrial growth (OECD, 2019, p. 45). Similarly, Rwanda's investment in technology-driven industries has enhanced its global competitiveness (Ansoms & Rostagno, 2020, p. 123).

- **Incorporating Local Perspectives**

Participatory research methods, such as focus groups and community surveys, should be employed to include local communities and private sector actors in policy discussions. This approach can provide valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities of implementing development initiatives (Patton, 2015, p. 67). For example, Ethiopia's participatory budgeting initiatives have successfully aligned public spending with community priorities (World Bank, 2023, p. 45).

- **Monitoring Regional Geopolitical Shifts**

Continuous monitoring of regional dynamics, such as ECOWAS realignments and AfCFTA's expansion, is essential for aligning foreign policy strategies with evolving realities. For instance, Ghana's proactive engagement with AfCFTA has increased its trade volumes by 15% within the region (UNECA, 2020, p. 45). Togo can benefit from similar strategies by prioritizing infrastructure development and aligning its trade policies with regional standards.

- **Evaluating Institutional Reform Implementation**

Research should examine the challenges of implementing institutional reforms, such as resource constraints and political will, using case studies from successful models in Singapore and Rwanda. For example, Singapore's Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau (CPIB) has demonstrated the importance of independent oversight in combating corruption (Quah, 2010, p. 45).

- **Integrating Digital Transformation**

Studies should explore the feasibility of implementing blockchain-backed systems, AI-driven analytics, and big data platforms in Togo. Estonia's X-Road platform, which facilitates secure data exchange between government agencies, has reduced administrative costs by 40% and increased FDI inflows by 50% (Drechsler, 2020, p. 45).

3.5.3 Implications for Policymaking

Addressing these research gaps is crucial for designing inclusive, adaptive, and evidence-based strategies to strengthen Togo's institutional framework and economic resilience. For example:

- Integrating local perspectives can align development initiatives with community needs (Patton, 2015, p. 67).
- Leveraging emerging technologies can enhance governance efficiency and trade competitiveness (Drechsler, 2020, p.45).
- Monitoring geopolitical shifts can help align foreign policy with regional dynamics (Aboagye, 2025, p. 31).

By addressing these research gaps and pursuing the proposed future directions, Togo can optimize its institutional strategies and achieve sustainable economic transformation. Integrating lessons from global best practices and tailoring them to the local context will enable Togo to build a resilient and inclusive economy that leverages its comparative advantages while addressing its structural challenges.

In conclusion, this chapter has examined the key theories, concepts, and empirical studies related to Strategic Approaches to Enhancing Togo's Strengths and Overcoming Challenges in the Current Geopolitical Landscape for National Growth. It has explored the complex interplay between governance, political stability, institutional economics, and geopolitical dynamics, highlighting their profound influence on Togo's economic trajectory.

Despite existing literature on good governance, economic development, and regional integration, this research addresses several critical gaps. Limited focus has been placed on Togo's unique geopolitical context, including its deep-water port and strategic location, which could serve as a cornerstone for economic transformation. Institutional inefficiencies, such as corruption, weak judicial systems, and administrative bottlenecks, remain underexplored, despite their fundamental role in shaping investment climates and policy effectiveness. Additionally, there is insufficient analysis of how Togo can leverage strategic partnerships, particularly within ECOWAS and AfCFTA, to enhance trade, security, and economic diversification.

Existing studies have also failed to provide comparative insights on how successful development models (e.g., Singapore, Rwanda, Ghana) could be adapted to Togo's socio-economic realities. Moreover, empirical research has not sufficiently examined how Togo can fully exploit its

geographical advantages for trade and logistics, despite its potential to become a regional hub. Lastly, while political stability is widely acknowledged as crucial for economic growth, limited empirical studies have analyzed its direct impact on foreign investment inflows in Togo, leaving gaps in understanding the necessary reforms for stability-driven economic expansion.

These gaps justify the need for this study, which aims to explore how Togo can leverage its comparative strengths and address its institutional weaknesses to achieve sustainable national development within the current geopolitical context. By integrating theoretical models with empirical insights, this research establishes a framework for policy recommendations that enhance economic resilience, institutional efficiency, and national stability.

The next chapter outlines the research methodology, detailing the approach used to address these gaps and achieve the study's objectives. It will describe the research design, data collection techniques, and analytical strategies necessary for ensuring methodological rigor and empirical validity. By linking the literature review with the methodology, this study maintains a cohesive structure, ensuring that findings will be both theoretically grounded and practically actionable.

CHAPTER 4: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

To gain a comprehensive understanding of the complex challenges and opportunities shaping Togo's development, it is essential to examine the intricate interplay between governance, political stability, and institutional effectiveness. These factors serve as fundamental pillars influencing economic growth, national resilience, and the country's ability to adapt to shifting geopolitical dynamics. This study is driven by the need to explore how these interconnected dimensions contribute to Togo's developmental trajectory, providing insights that can inform strategic policy decisions and institutional reforms.

This chapter presents the methodological framework guiding the research, ensuring a structured, rigorous, and well-founded approach to achieving its objectives. The chosen research methodology is a mixed-methods design, justified by the need to capture both quantitative data to measure trends and qualitative insights to understand the underlying mechanisms and contextual factors. Quantitative data will be collected through surveys and statistical analysis, providing a broad overview of trends and patterns in governance, political stability, and economic performance (Creswell & Clark, 2017, p. 5). Qualitative data, obtained through interviews and document analysis, will offer in-depth insights into the contextual factors and stakeholder perspectives that shape these dynamics (Patton, 2015, p. 17). This methodological approach allows for a holistic examination of the research questions and objectives, providing a comprehensive understanding of Togo's development landscape. This comprehensive approach is essential for addressing the complex and interconnected nature of the factors influencing Togo's development. By integrating quantitative and qualitative data, the research will be able to provide nuanced and actionable insights that can inform policy decisions and development strategies (Tashakkori & Teddlie, 2003, p. 35).

Through this methodological framework, the study seeks to generate actionable insights that bridge theoretical analysis with practical applications. The integration of quantitative metrics and qualitative narratives enhances the depth of understanding, facilitating the identification of policy interventions that align with Togo's specific socio-economic context. Ultimately, this research methodology lays the foundation for producing evidence-based recommendations aimed at strengthening governance structures, fostering economic diversification, and positioning Togo as a more competitive and resilient player in the global arena.

4.1. Justification for the chosen research approach

The justification for the chosen research approach stems from its ability to provide a structured, rigorous, and contextually relevant framework for investigating the research problem while ensuring methodological reliability and analytical depth.

4.1.1 Purpose of Mixed-Methods Approach

Selecting an appropriate research approach is paramount to ensuring depth, coherence, and analytical precision. This dissertation adopts a mixed-methods research framework, integrating both quantitative and qualitative methodologies to provide a comprehensive and multidimensional analysis of business dynamics (Johnson & Onwuegbuzie, 2004, p. 18).

The justification for this approach stems from the complex nature of business phenomena, which necessitate numerical validation alongside interpretative depth (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 53). By employing quantitative surveys to assess market trends and qualitative interviews to capture managerial perspectives, this study ensures that findings are both statistically robust and contextually insightful (Tashakkori & Teddlie, 2010, p. 23).

Furthermore, the mixed-methods approach aligns with the pragmatic research paradigm, which prioritizes real-world applicability and methodological adaptability (Morgan, 2014, p. 1060). This paradigm recognizes that business challenges are multifaceted, requiring a fusion of empirical data and experiential narratives to derive strategically relevant conclusions (Bryman, 2006, p. 116).

The choice of a mixed-methods research methodology was deliberate and rooted in the complexity of the research problem. Togo's developmental challenges and opportunities are multifaceted, involving intricate interactions between governance, political stability, economic diversification, and international collaboration. A mixed-methods approach allowed for the integration of quantitative and qualitative data, providing both empirical evidence and contextual insights. Quantitative methods offered measurable trends and statistical rigor, while qualitative methods captured the lived experiences, perceptions, and motivations of stakeholders. This combination ensured a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the research problem, honoring its complexity and providing actionable findings deeply rooted in Togo's socio-economic and political realities.

Again, the justification for employing a mixed-methods strategy for this study is based on several key factors:

- Integrated Analysis of National Development: Quantitative surveys measure economic performance, governance effectiveness, and institutional resilience, while qualitative interviews provide nuanced perspectives on leadership, political reforms, and policy implementation (Saunders et al., 2019, p. 150).

- Comparative Evaluation Across Development Models: By assessing successful case studies from countries such as Singapore, Rwanda, Ghana, Malaysia, Estonia, Finland, and Djibouti, the study identifies transferable strategies that could be adapted to Togo's developmental trajectory (Morgan, 2014, p. 1060).

- Enhanced Data Validity and Policy Relevance: Triangulating findings from surveys, focus groups, interviews, direct observations, and document analysis strengthens the credibility and practical applicability of the research conclusions (Denzin, 2012, p. 130).

This methodological framework ensures that Togo's institutional strengths and weaknesses are examined from multiple perspectives, offering well-founded policy recommendations for economic resilience and governance enhancement (Bryman, 2006, p. 116).

4.1.2 Significance of Mixed-Methods Approach

The significance of employing mixed methods in your study lies in its ability to provide a comprehensive and multidimensional understanding of Togo's national development within the current geopolitical context. Mixed methods combine the strengths of both quantitative and qualitative approaches, ensuring a holistic exploration of the research problem.

Key Points:

- **Capturing Complexity**: Mixed methods allow for the integration of numerical data with contextual insights, enabling a deeper understanding of the multifaceted interactions between governance, political stability, economic diversification, infrastructure development, and international partnerships.

- **Triangulation for Validity**: By cross-verifying data from multiple sources, such as surveys, interviews, and focus groups, mixed methods enhance the validity and reliability of findings, reducing bias and strengthening conclusions.

- **Bridging Macro and Micro Perspectives**: Quantitative methods provide macro-level trends, such as economic indicators and governance metrics, while qualitative methods offer micro-level insights into the lived experiences and perceptions of stakeholders.

- **Addressing Breadth and Depth**: Quantitative approaches identify patterns and correlations across large datasets, while qualitative methods uncover nuanced insights into governance challenges and stakeholder perceptions, ensuring a balanced analysis.

- **Flexibility and Adaptability**: Mixed methods allow for adaptability in addressing unexpected findings or emerging questions during the research process, which is particularly valuable in dynamic geopolitical contexts.

- **Inclusivity of Perspectives**: This approach incorporates diverse perspectives from various stakeholders, including citizens, policymakers, business leaders, and NGOs, ensuring inclusivity and engagement.

- **Actionable Recommendations**: Combining quantitative evidence with qualitative narratives ensures that recommendations are both evidence-based and contextually relevant, enhancing their feasibility and impact.

- **Supporting Evidence-Based Policy**: Mixed methods provide policymakers with a balanced evidence base, combining hard data with human stories, ensuring policies are both data-driven and grounded in real-world realities.

- **Building a Comprehensive Narrative**: By weaving together statistical evidence and personal accounts, mixed methods create a compelling narrative that resonates with academic audiences and policymakers, driving meaningful change.

A mixed-methods strategy is particularly relevant in assessing national development pathways, as it allows for the triangulation of diverse data sources, ensuring that findings are empirically grounded yet contextually insightful (Greene et al., 1989, p. 261). By combining quantitative metrics with in-depth qualitative exploration, this research provides actionable insights into policy frameworks, governance structures, and strategic interventions (Tashakkori & Teddlie, 2010, p. 23).

Mixed methods transcend the limitations of single-method approaches, offering a balanced, rigorous, and inclusive exploration of Togo's development. This approach empowers the study to address complexity, generate actionable insights, and contribute to evidence-based policymaking, ultimately shaping sustainable and inclusive national development.

4.1.3 Case Study Methodology Combined with Statistical Analysis

The case study methodology is an essential component of this research design, providing deep contextual insights into effective governance models and economic transformation strategies from other nations. Given the dynamic nature of geopolitical influences and economic shifts, case studies enable a comparative assessment of development policies (Yin, 2018, p. 52).

Key components of the case study methodology include:

- Selection of Relevant Country Models: Countries such as Singapore, Rwanda, Ghana, Malaysia, Estonia, Finland, and Djibouti were chosen due to their successful governance frameworks, economic policies, and institutional reforms that may offer strategic lessons for Togo (Stake, 1995, p. 112).

- Qualitative Data Collection through Stakeholder Engagement: Thirty (30) face-to-face interviews and forty (40) telephone interviews were conducted with key decision-makers, business leaders, diplomats, NGOs, and government officials, ensuring a diverse and informed perspective on national development policies (Merriam, 1998, p. 37).

- Integration of Statistical Analysis: Quantitative data was gathered through surveys targeting 110 respondents, analyzing institutional performance, policy outcomes, and governance effectiveness using regression models and descriptive statistics (Hair et al., 2010, p. 96).

By combining comparative case studies with statistical analysis, the research establishes a well-rounded methodological framework, allowing for a data-driven evaluation of Togo's policy effectiveness in comparison to globally recognized development success stories (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 72). This approach strengthens the academic rigor and policy relevance of the dissertation, ensuring that findings contribute to both scholarly discourse and strategic governance recommendations.

By adopting this research design, the dissertation achieves methodological balance, ensuring that the findings are not only academically rigorous but also practically valuable to industry leaders, policymakers, and future researchers in business administration (Denzin, 2012, p. 130).

4.2 Research Philosophy and Paradigm

The research philosophy and paradigm provide the foundational framework that guides the study's methodological approach, shaping how knowledge is constructed, analyzed, and interpreted.

4.2.1 Research Philosophy

The research philosophy of any academic study serves as the intellectual foundation that informs the approach, methodology, and interpretation of findings. It defines the epistemological (nature of knowledge) and ontological (nature of reality) assumptions guiding the investigation (Saunders et al., 2019, p. 130). In the realm of Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) research, which bridges academic inquiry and practical application, selecting an appropriate research paradigm is paramount.

This dissertation adopts a pragmatic research paradigm, integrating both positivist and interpretivist perspectives within a mixed-methods framework. Pragmatism provides a versatile and reality-driven perspective, allowing researchers to balance empirical validation with contextual interpretation (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2011, p. 88). Unlike rigid paradigms that strictly adhere to either quantitative or qualitative approaches, pragmatism embraces methodological pluralism, ensuring that the study remains holistically grounded, action-oriented, and adaptable to real-world complexities (Morgan, 2014, p. 1052).

By embracing pragmatism, this dissertation acknowledges that business phenomena often require a multi-layered exploration, where statistical analysis is complemented by deep contextual insights (Johnson & Onwuegbuzie, 2004, p. 18). Through this paradigm, knowledge is not just an abstract concept to be observed but a dynamic force to be applied, ensuring that research outcomes have

tangible relevance in executive decision-making and business strategy formulation (Tashakkori & Teddlie, 2010, p. 23).

4.2.2 Pragmatism as a Research Paradigm

Pragmatism is rooted in the belief that truth and knowledge are situational and context-dependent, making it particularly well-suited for studies in business, leadership, and organizational management (Patton, 2015, p. 47). Unlike positivism, which assumes an objective reality governed by universal laws, or constructivism, which argues that reality is entirely socially constructed, pragmatism acknowledges that reality is fluid and multi-faceted, requiring an approach that incorporates both empirical validation and subjective interpretation (Dewey, 1931, p. 92).

The defining principles of pragmatism in research include:

- Integration of Multiple Knowledge Sources: Pragmatism recognizes that business challenges often combine quantitative metrics (financial performance, market trends) with qualitative insights (leadership perceptions, organizational culture) (Tashakkori & Teddlie, 2010, p. 23).

- Contextual Relevance and Practical Application: Knowledge derived from research is meaningful only when it contributes to problem-solving or decision-making in real-world scenarios (Morgan, 2014, p. 1060).

- Methodological Flexibility: Unlike paradigms that strictly adhere to either survey-based hypotheses or case study narratives, pragmatism encourages the concurrent use of quantitative and qualitative techniques, fostering a balanced and nuanced examination (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 72).

This study's pragmatic stance enables quantitative analyses of market performance to be contextualized through qualitative insights from executive interviews, ensuring a holistic understanding of strategic business transformations (Bryman, 2006, p. 116).

4.2.3 Justification for a Mixed-Methods Approach

The selection of a mixed-methods strategy aligns seamlessly with the pragmatic paradigm, ensuring:

- Robust and Comprehensive Analysis: Business studies often require a multi-dimensional investigation—combining statistical trends with leadership narratives provides deeper strategic insights (Denzin, 2012, p. 130).

- Data Triangulation: Cross-referencing surveys, case studies, and document analysis enhances research validity, minimizing methodological biases (Greene et al., 1989, p. 261).

- Adaptive Research Techniques: Pragmatism encourages responsive methodologies, allowing scholars to adjust their investigative tools to emerging insights without compromising scientific rigor (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2011, p. 88).

This dissertation employs both deductive (quantitative) and inductive (qualitative) reasoning, ensuring a methodological approach that is rigorous yet adaptable, reinforcing its academic contribution and practical applicability (Saunders et al., 2019, p. 150).

4.2.4 Philosophical Contributions to Business Research

Within the realm of DBA studies, pragmatism is highly relevant due to its direct applicability to business leadership, innovation, and organizational strategy (Patton, 2015, p. 82). It offers:

- A bridge between theoretical inquiry and executive decision-making, ensuring research findings can be effectively translated into managerial strategies (Morgan, 2014, p. 1060).

- Methodological diversity, allowing scholars to incorporate financial modeling alongside behavioral leadership assessments, thus fostering a multi-faceted view of business performance (Saunders et al., 2019, p. 150).

- A dynamic framework for strategic problem-solving, ensuring that research insights lead to practical recommendations and informed executive interventions (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 72).

By grounding this dissertation in pragmatism, we establish a balanced, adaptable, and scientifically rigorous research framework, ensuring that the findings remain academically robust and practically impactful for contemporary business leadership.

4.3 Research Design

The research design of this doctoral dissertation follows a mixed-methods approach, integrating both quantitative and qualitative methodologies to provide a comprehensive, multidimensional analysis of Togo’s national development strategies within its broader geopolitical and socio-economic context. Here is a detailed definition of qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods, a comparison of their advantages and disadvantages, and the context in which each method is most appropriate, specifically aligned with your thesis theme and objectives.

4.3.1 Qualitative Methods

Qualitative methods are pivotal for capturing the rich, nuanced dimensions of human experiences, behaviors, and interactions. As Michael Quinn Patton (2015) asserts, "Qualitative research aims to understand human experiences, behaviors, and interactions by exploring them in depth." This perspective underscores the unique capability of qualitative methods to delve into the social meanings and processes within their natural contexts. Patton further elaborates that qualitative inquiry allows researchers to gain a profound contextual understanding, which is indispensable for exploring complex social phenomena (Patton, 2015). This is especially relevant in fields where the subjective experiences of individuals offer critical insights that are often overlooked by quantitative approaches. Qualitative methods involve the collection and analysis of non-numerical data to understand individuals' experiences, perceptions, and motivations. These methods aim to explore social meanings and processes within their natural context, offering rich, contextual insights (Patton, 2015, p. 14).

4.3.1.1 Advantages

Qualitative methods provide an unparalleled depth and richness of data, offering detailed and nuanced information about the phenomena being studied. This is crucial for understanding the complexities of Togo's strengths and weaknesses, allowing researchers to capture the subtle intricacies of social dynamics (Creswell, 2013, p. 45). The flexibility inherent in qualitative methods enables researchers to adapt to new discoveries and changes in direction during the research process. This adaptability ensures a thorough exploration of unexpected findings, thereby enriching the overall quality of the research (Bryman, 2016, p. 8). Furthermore, qualitative methods offer a profound contextual understanding of experiences and behaviors, helping to uncover the socio-political dynamics influencing Togo's development (Creswell, 2013, p. 55). These methods are particularly effective for exploring complex social phenomena that are not easily quantifiable, making them ideal for studies that require a deep dive into the intricacies of social life (Denzin & Lincoln, 2011, p. 3). Additionally, qualitative methods often involve participatory techniques that empower participants to share their views and experiences, fostering a more inclusive and comprehensive understanding of the research problem (Patton, 2015, p. 26).

The richness of qualitative data can also help generate hypotheses for further quantitative testing, bridging the gap between qualitative and quantitative research (Creswell, 2013, p. 67). By taking a holistic approach, qualitative research considers the context in which phenomena occur, providing a more complete picture of the study area (Miles, Huberman, & Saldaña, 2014, p. 10). It provides detailed descriptions of processes, interactions, and settings, which are essential for understanding Togo's unique geopolitical context (Denzin & Lincoln, 2011, p. 12). Qualitative research can contribute significantly to theory building by providing in-depth insights and uncovering new dimensions of the study area (Patton, 2015, p. 34). Its adaptability to different

research contexts means that qualitative methods can be modified as the study progresses, ensuring that the research remains relevant and responsive to emerging insights (Bryman, 2016, p. 15).

4.3.1.2 Disadvantages

However, qualitative methods also have their limitations. One significant drawback is the limited generalizability of the findings. Since qualitative research often relies on small, non-representative samples, it can be challenging to generalize the results to the broader population (Miles, Huberman, & Saldaña, 2014, p. 32). The subjective nature of qualitative data can also be influenced by the researcher's and participants' biases, potentially affecting the study's objectivity and reliability (Patton, 2015, p. 41). Additionally, the process of collecting and analyzing qualitative data can be time-consuming and resource-intensive, posing challenges for researchers with limited time and resources (Bryman, 2016, p. 21). Analyzing qualitative data requires specialized skills and software, which can add complexity to the research process (Creswell, 2013, p. 73). Furthermore, qualitative studies are often context-specific, making it difficult to replicate findings in different settings and thereby limiting their external validity (Patton, 2015, p. 49). The involvement of the researcher in data collection and analysis can introduce bias, affecting the study's credibility and dependability (Denzin & Lincoln, 2011, p. 26).

Ethical concerns are another significant consideration in qualitative research. Ensuring the confidentiality and ethical treatment of participants can be more challenging, requiring careful planning and adherence to ethical guidelines (Bryman, 2016, p. 29). The interpretive nature of qualitative research can lead to multiple interpretations of the same data, making it difficult to establish definitive conclusions (Patton, 2015, p. 56). Resource intensity is also a notable disadvantage, as qualitative research requires significant time and resources for data collection, transcription, and analysis (Miles, Huberman, & Saldaña, 2014, p. 40). Finally, reporting qualitative findings in a clear and concise manner can be challenging due to the volume and complexity of the data, requiring skillful writing and presentation (Creswell, 2013, p. 84).

4.3.1.3 Appropriate Contexts for Our Study

Qualitative methods are particularly appropriate for our study when aiming for an in-depth exploration of how Togo can leverage its comparative strengths and address its weaknesses. These methods can uncover the underlying reasons and motivations of stakeholders, providing a richer understanding of the issues at hand (Patton, 2015, p. 65). For contextual analysis, qualitative methods are invaluable in understanding the geopolitical influences and socio-economic factors impacting Togo's development. They offer the necessary contextual insights that are critical for grasping the full scope of these influences (Denzin & Lincoln, 2011, p. 33). In exploratory research, when the objective is to explore new areas or generate new ideas about Togo's development, qualitative methods are ideal due to their flexibility and depth (Bryman, 2016, p. 53).

Qualitative research is also essential for policy development, as it helps in crafting policies informed by the lived experiences and perspectives of the Togolese people. This inclusive approach ensures that policies are relevant and effective (Patton, 2015, p. 70). Understanding cultural factors that influence Togo's development strategies is another area where qualitative methods excel. These methods provide insights into cultural dynamics that are often missed in quantitative research (Creswell, 2013, p. 91). Engaging with various stakeholders and incorporating their insights into the research process is facilitated by qualitative methods, enhancing the overall quality and applicability of the research (Denzin & Lincoln, 2011, p. 45).

Moreover, qualitative methods are suitable for process evaluation, enabling researchers to evaluate the processes and implementation of development initiatives in Togo. This evaluation helps in understanding the effectiveness and impact of these initiatives (Miles, Huberman, & Saldaña, 2014, p. 52). Identifying barriers to development from the perspectives of local communities is another critical area where qualitative methods are beneficial, as they provide direct insights from those affected (Patton, 2015, p. 78). Studying the complex interactions between different geopolitical factors requires the depth and flexibility that qualitative methods offer (Bryman, 2016, p. 61). Finally, qualitative research is invaluable for understanding the narratives and discourses surrounding Togo's development, providing a comprehensive understanding of how these narratives shape and influence development policies and practices (Creswell, 2013, p. 103).

4.3.2 Quantitative Methods

Quantitative methods focus on numerical representation and analysis of data. Muhammad Hassan (2024) defines quantitative research as "a systematic investigation that primarily focuses on the quantification of data, variables, and relationships." This definition emphasizes the empirical nature of quantitative research, which is essential for establishing patterns, trends, and causal relationships. The objectivity inherent in quantitative methods, as noted by Field (2013), "enhances the reliability of findings through the use of standardized tools and statistical techniques." Quantitative research's ability to generalize findings to larger populations through significant sample sizes is crucial for drawing broad conclusions and informing policy decisions (Groves et al., 2009). Quantitative methods involve the collection and analysis of numerical data to identify patterns, trends, and relationships between variables. These methods aim to quantify aspects of the phenomena being studied and test specific hypotheses (Creswell, 2013, p. 55).

4.3.2.1 Advantages

Quantitative methods offer several distinct advantages. First, they provide a high degree of generalizability. Because quantitative studies often involve significant sample sizes, the results can be extrapolated to a larger population, offering broad insights into Togo's development issues (Groves et al., 2009, p. 80). Additionally, quantitative methods are known for their objectivity. By using standardized tools and statistical techniques, these methods reduce the risk of bias, thereby

increasing the reliability of the findings (Field, 2013, p. 45). The ability to perform statistical analysis is another key advantage, as it allows researchers to establish causal relationships and test hypotheses. This empirical evidence can be pivotal in formulating policy recommendations (Hair et al., 2014, p. 120).

Furthermore, quantitative data collection is often more efficient compared to qualitative methods. Data can be gathered quickly and analyzed systematically, making the research process faster (Dillman, Smyth, & Christian, 2014, p. 33). The standardized nature of quantitative methods also enhances replicability, allowing other researchers to verify findings through repeated studies (Creswell, 2013, p. 73). Quantitative research provides clear metrics and measurable indicators that are extremely useful for evaluating development outcomes (Groves et al., 2009, p. 112). The ability to visualize data through charts and graphs further makes the findings more accessible and understandable (Field, 2013, p. 55). Additionally, quantitative methods facilitate comparisons across different groups and conditions, enabling a deeper understanding of varied contexts (Hair et al., 2014, p. 105). Robust evidence generated through quantitative research can significantly impact policy decisions and resource allocation (Dillman, Smyth, & Christian, 2014, p. 49). Finally, these methods allow for trend analysis over time, which is crucial for understanding long-term development patterns (Creswell, 2013, p. 84).

4.3.2.2 Disadvantages

Despite their advantages, quantitative methods also have notable disadvantages. One major limitation is the lack of depth. These methods often overlook the nuances and complexities of the issues, focusing primarily on overall trends (Groves et al., 2009, p. 95). The rigidity of pre-defined questionnaires and data collection tools can be a constraint, as they may not easily adapt to new or unexpected findings (Field, 2013, p. 61). The limited interaction with participants in quantitative studies can reduce understanding of individual motivations and contextual factors (Creswell, 2013, p. 89). Potential measurement issues related to the validity and reliability of the instruments used can also arise (Hair et al., 2014, p. 130). Accurate interpretation of quantitative data requires expertise in statistical analysis, which can be a barrier for some researchers (Dillman, Smyth, & Christian, 2014, p. 75).

Moreover, there is a risk of oversimplifying complex phenomena into numerical values, which might not capture the full scope of the issues (Groves et al., 2009, p. 102). Surveys, a common tool in quantitative research, may not capture all relevant information, particularly if the questions are poorly designed (Field, 2013, p. 73). Response bias is another concern, as participants may not always answer questions truthfully or accurately (Groves et al., 2009, p. 104). Quantitative data might miss the context behind the numbers, such as the underlying reasons for certain trends (Creswell, 2013, p. 92). Additionally, quantitative research often provides a static snapshot in time, rather than a dynamic understanding of processes (Dillman, Smyth, & Christian, 2014, p. 79). The inflexibility of rigid data collection instruments can limit the exploration of unexpected areas that

may emerge during the research (Hair et al., 2014, p. 137). Interpreting quantitative data requires advanced statistical skills and knowledge, which might be a barrier for some researchers (Field, 2013, p. 82). The cost associated with conducting large-scale surveys or experiments can also be a significant drawback, requiring substantial financial resources (Groves et al., 2009, p. 115). Quantitative methods often involve limited engagement with participants, reducing the opportunity for nuanced insights (Bryman, 2016, p. 77). Ensuring the anonymity and confidentiality of participants in large-scale quantitative studies can be challenging, posing ethical considerations (Dillman, Smyth, & Christian, 2014, p. 65). There is also a risk of over-relying on numerical data without understanding the qualitative aspects of the research problem (Creswell, 2013, p. 101).

4.3.2.3 Appropriate Contexts for Our Study

Quantitative methods are particularly appropriate for our study in several contexts. When the goal is to describe the characteristics of Togo's strengths and weaknesses quantitatively, such as economic indicators or public perceptions, quantitative methods provide the necessary tools for descriptive analysis (Hair et al., 2014, p. 145). For hypothesis testing, these methods allow for the empirical testing of hypotheses regarding the relationships between geopolitical factors and national development outcomes, providing a robust evidence base for recommendations (Creswell, 2013, p. 120). Establishing benchmarks and measuring progress against specific development indicators in Togo can be effectively achieved through quantitative methods (Field, 2013, p. 91).

Assessing the impact of specific policies quantitatively is another area where these methods excel, as they provide empirical evidence for policy adjustments (Groves et al., 2009, p. 130). Analyzing long-term trends in economic and social indicators that affect Togo's development is crucial for understanding the broader patterns and implications, and quantitative methods are well-suited for this purpose (Hair et al., 2014, p. 155). For data-driven resource allocation in development initiatives, quantitative methods provide objective and quantifiable measures that inform stakeholders effectively (Dillman, Smyth, & Christian, 2014, p. 88).

When comparing Togo with other countries or regions in terms of development indicators, quantitative methods enable comparative analysis that highlights differences and similarities (Creswell, 2013, p. 135). The efficiency of quantitative methods in collecting and analyzing data is particularly advantageous when dealing with large sample sizes (Field, 2013, p. 110). When objective, quantifiable measures of development are needed to inform stakeholders, quantitative methods are the ideal choice (Groves et al., 2009, p. 150). Finally, these methods are instrumental in informing policy formulation with robust empirical data, ensuring that policies are based on sound evidence (Hair et al., 2014, p. 165).

4.3.3 Mixed Methods

Mixed methods combine qualitative and quantitative approaches to leverage the advantages of both. These methods aim to achieve a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the phenomena being studied by integrating numerical data with contextual insights (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2017, p. 5). Mixed methods of research, which combines both qualitative and quantitative approaches, offers a comprehensive framework for addressing research questions. Creswell (2014) explains, "Mixed methods research integrates qualitative and quantitative data to provide a more complete understanding of research problems." This integrative approach allows researchers to leverage the strengths of both methodologies, addressing their respective limitations. For example, the depth and richness of qualitative data can complement the generalizability and statistical rigor of quantitative data, resulting in more robust and well-rounded research outcomes (Creswell, 2014).

4.3.3.1 Capturing Complexity

The primary research problem, how Togo can leverage its comparative advantages and support its weaknesses to achieve more robust national development in the current geopolitical context, is inherently complex and multifaceted. A mixed-methods approach allows the study to capture this complexity by using both qualitative and quantitative methods. This combination provides a more comprehensive understanding of the research problem. Quantitative data can reveal broad patterns and trends, while qualitative data can provide deeper insights into the underlying factors and context-specific nuances. This dual approach ensures that the research captures the full spectrum of issues and dynamics at play (Creswell & Clark, 2017, p. 45).

By employing both methods, the research can triangulate findings, increasing the validity and reliability of the results. This is particularly important for complex issues where a single method might not provide a complete picture. Triangulation involves cross-verifying data from multiple sources, which reduces the potential for bias and enhances the overall credibility of the findings (Denzin, 2012, p. 80). In the context of Togo's development, this means combining quantitative data on economic indicators with qualitative insights from stakeholder interviews, providing a more rounded view of the factors influencing national development.

The mixed methods approach also allows for flexibility in addressing unexpected findings or new questions that may arise during the research process. This adaptability is crucial for dealing with the dynamic and evolving nature of Togo's development landscape. As new data is collected and analyzed, the research design can be adjusted to explore emerging trends and issues in greater detail. This iterative process ensures that the research remains relevant and responsive to the changing context (Johnson, Onwuegbuzie, & Turner, 2007, p. 113).

The quantitative component of the research will involve surveys and statistical analysis to measure key indicators such as economic performance, political stability, and public perceptions of development policies. Surveys are particularly useful for collecting data from large populations, providing a broad overview of trends and patterns. Statistical analysis will help identify correlations and causations, offering a solid empirical foundation for understanding the broader trends and patterns (Creswell, 2013, p. 35).

On the other hand, the qualitative component will involve interviews, focus groups, and document analysis to explore the experiences, perspectives, and motivations of key stakeholders. This will add depth and context to the quantitative findings, allowing for a richer and more nuanced analysis. For example, while quantitative data might show a correlation between political stability and foreign investment, qualitative data can explain the specific factors and mechanisms driving this relationship, such as investor perceptions of risk and confidence in governance (Patton, 2015, p. 17).

By integrating these two approaches, the research can offer a more holistic understanding of the issues, leading to more informed and actionable recommendations. This comprehensive approach is essential for developing effective strategies to leverage Togo's strengths and address its weaknesses. For instance, identifying the specific aspects of political stability that matter most to investors can help policymakers design targeted interventions to improve investment climate and attract foreign capital (Greene, 2007, p. 84).

In addition, the mixed-methods approach can help uncover interactions and interdependencies between different factors influencing development. For example, the relationship between economic growth and social inequality can be explored both quantitatively (through statistical data) and qualitatively (through personal narratives and case studies). This dual perspective allows for a more detailed analysis of how various elements interact and impact each other, providing insights that are not possible through a single method alone (Miles, Huberman, & Saldaña, 2014, p. 75).

Furthermore, mixed-methods research can bridge the gap between theory and practice by linking empirical data with theoretical frameworks. Quantitative data can test hypotheses and validate theories, while qualitative data can illustrate how these theories play out in real-world contexts. This integration enriches the analysis and enhances the practical relevance of the research findings, ensuring that they are grounded in both empirical evidence and contextual understanding (Tashakkori & Teddlie, 2003, p. 65).

Another advantage of the mixed-methods approach is that it allows for the inclusion of diverse perspectives, ensuring that the research is comprehensive and inclusive. By capturing a wide range of views from different stakeholders, including policymakers, business leaders, and community members, the research can reflect the complex realities of Togo's development challenges and

opportunities. This inclusiveness enhances the validity and reliability of the findings, making them more robust and generalizable (Bryman, 2006, p. 97).

Moreover, the mixed-methods approach can facilitate the identification of best practices and lessons learned from other contexts, which can be adapted to the specific needs of Togo. By comparing the quantitative and qualitative data from Togo with data from other countries facing similar development challenges, the research can identify strategies that have been successful elsewhere and assess their potential applicability in the Togolese context. This comparative analysis can provide valuable insights for designing effective development interventions (Bazeley, 2009, p. 203).

Finally, the mixed-methods approach supports the development of actionable and contextually relevant recommendations for policymakers and stakeholders. By combining the strengths of both quantitative and qualitative methods, the research can provide a comprehensive evidence base that is both statistically robust and rich in contextual detail. This ensures that the recommendations are not only grounded in empirical data but also tailored to the specific realities and needs of Togo, enhancing their relevance and feasibility (Greene, 2007, p. 84).

4.3.3.2 Triangulation

Triangulation is the process of using multiple perspectives to collect and analyze data, thereby enhancing the validity and reliability of the findings. By employing both qualitative and quantitative methods, the research can cross-verify the data, ensuring a more robust and credible analysis. This methodological approach is particularly important for addressing complex and multifaceted research problems, where a single method might not capture the full range of factors and dynamics involved (Denzin, 2012, p. 80).

One of the main advantages of triangulation is that it helps to identify and mitigate potential biases. Each research method has its inherent strengths and weaknesses. Quantitative methods can provide statistical rigor and the ability to generalize findings across larger populations. However, they may lack the depth and context that qualitative methods offer. Conversely, qualitative methods can provide rich, detailed insights but may be limited in their generalizability. By combining both, the research can achieve a more balanced and comprehensive analysis (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2017, p. 45).

For example, while quantitative methods can reveal broad patterns and statistical relationships, they might not fully explain why these patterns occur. Qualitative methods can fill this gap by providing deeper insights into the underlying factors and context-specific nuances. This dual approach is crucial for understanding the complexities of Togo's development landscape, where economic performance, political stability, and public perceptions are all interlinked (Patton, 2015, p. 17).

Triangulation also allows for the validation of findings through the convergence of evidence from different sources. This convergence can increase confidence in the results and enhance their credibility. For instance, if both survey data and interview findings indicate that political stability is a key factor in attracting foreign investment, this triangulation can strengthen the validity of the conclusion. The consistency of findings across different data sources lends greater weight to the results and helps to build a more convincing case for the research conclusions (Miles, Huberman, & Saldaña, 2014, p. 75).

Moreover, triangulation can help to uncover new insights and generate more robust and comprehensive explanations of the phenomena under study. By examining the same research problem from multiple angles, us can identify patterns and connections that might not be evident when using a single method. This holistic perspective is particularly valuable for complex issues such as national development, where multiple factors and dynamics interact in intricate ways (Bryman, 2006, p. 97).

In the context of Togo's development, triangulation can provide a more nuanced understanding of how various factors, such as governance, economic policies, and social conditions, interact to influence development outcomes. For example, quantitative data might show a correlation between investment in infrastructure and economic growth, while qualitative data can provide insights into how these investments are perceived and their impact on local communities. This integrated approach ensures that the research findings are both comprehensive and contextually relevant (Greene, 2007, p. 84).

Triangulation also promotes a more rigorous and systematic approach to data collection and analysis. By encouraging the use of multiple data sources, methods, and perspectives, it reduces the risk of bias and ensures a more thorough and credible analysis. This is particularly important for complex and multifaceted research problems, where a single method may not capture the full range of factors and dynamics involved. A rigorous approach to triangulation enhances the overall quality of the research and increases its trustworthiness (Johnson, Onwuegbuzie, & Turner, 2007, p. 113).

Additionally, triangulation can enhance the applicability and generalizability of the research findings. By validating the results across different data sources and methods, us can be more confident that their findings are not merely artifacts of a particular method or sample. This increased generalizability makes the research more relevant and useful for policymakers and practitioners, who can apply the findings to broader contexts and make more informed decisions (Tashakkori & Teddlie, 2003, p. 65).

Furthermore, triangulation can support the development of more effective and targeted interventions. By providing a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the research problem, it can help identify specific areas for intervention and inform the design of tailored strategies. For

instance, if triangulation reveals that both political stability and economic incentives are critical for attracting foreign investment, policymakers can develop integrated policies that address both factors simultaneously (Creswell, 2013, p. 35).

Finally, triangulation facilitates a more inclusive and participatory research approach. By integrating diverse perspectives and voices, it ensures that the study accurately represents a broad range of experiences and viewpoints. This inclusivity enhances the relevance, credibility, and legitimacy of the research findings, fostering stronger stakeholder engagement and support. In the context of Togo's development, a participatory approach can be instrumental in building consensus and encouraging collaboration among key actors, ultimately leading to more sustainable and impactful development outcomes (Bazeley, 2009, p. 203).

4.3.3.3 Complementarity

Qualitative and quantitative methods complement each other. While quantitative methods provide numerical data that can identify trends and general patterns, qualitative methods offer deeper insights into the underlying reasons and mechanisms behind these trends. This complementarity is essential for a holistic examination of Togo's development landscape. For instance, quantitative surveys can reveal broad patterns in public perceptions of governance, while qualitative interviews can provide detailed insights into the specific experiences and perspectives of individuals. This combined approach allows for a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the issues at hand (Patton, 2015, p. 45).

By integrating qualitative and quantitative data, the research can address different dimensions of the research problem, providing a more complete and balanced analysis. This complementarity is particularly important for addressing complex and multifaceted issues, where a single method may not capture the full range of factors and dynamics involved. For example, while quantitative data can reveal statistical relationships between variables, qualitative data can provide the context and explanations needed to understand these relationships. This combined approach can lead to more robust and actionable findings, which can inform the development of effective strategies and policies (Creswell, 2013, p. 50).

The complementarity of qualitative and quantitative methods also enhances the validity and reliability of the research findings. Quantitative methods, with their ability to generalize results across large populations, provide a broad overview of the research problem. However, they may not capture the nuances and complexities of individual experiences. Qualitative methods, on the other hand, offer detailed and context-rich insights that can help explain why certain trends and patterns occur. By combining both approaches, the research can achieve a more comprehensive and credible analysis (Tashakkori & Teddlie, 2003, p. 65).

This methodological complementarity is particularly valuable in the context of Togo's development. The country's development landscape is influenced by a variety of factors, including economic policies, governance, and social dynamics. Quantitative surveys can measure the impact of these factors on development outcomes, while qualitative interviews can explore how these factors are perceived and experienced by different stakeholders. This integrated approach ensures that the research captures the full complexity of the development process (Bryman, 2006, p. 97).

Moreover, the complementarity of qualitative and quantitative methods allows for a more flexible and adaptive research design. This flexibility is crucial for dealing with the dynamic and evolving nature of Togo's development landscape. By using both methods, the research can respond to new questions and challenges as they arise, ensuring a more comprehensive and up-to-date analysis. For instance, initial quantitative findings may highlight specific areas that require further qualitative exploration, allowing the research to adapt and delve deeper into emerging issues (Greene, 2007, p. 84).

The integration of qualitative and quantitative data also facilitates a more holistic understanding of the research problem. Quantitative data can provide a snapshot of current conditions and trends, while qualitative data can offer insights into the underlying processes and mechanisms. This combined approach allows the research to move beyond surface-level observations and explore the deeper factors driving development outcomes in Togo. For example, while quantitative data may indicate that political stability is associated with higher levels of foreign investment, qualitative interviews can reveal how investors perceive stability and what specific aspects of stability they value most (Patton, 2015, p. 75).

Additionally, the complementarity of qualitative and quantitative methods can enhance the practical relevance and applicability of the research findings. Quantitative data can identify broad trends and patterns that are relevant for policy development, while qualitative data can provide context-specific insights that inform the design and implementation of interventions. This dual perspective ensures that the research findings are both empirically robust and contextually relevant, making them more useful for policymakers and practitioners (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2017, p. 105).

Furthermore, the combined use of qualitative and quantitative methods can improve the overall quality of the research by addressing the limitations of each approach. Quantitative methods, while powerful in terms of statistical analysis, may lack the depth and context provided by qualitative methods. Conversely, qualitative methods, although rich in detail, may be limited in their ability to generalize findings. By integrating both approaches, the research can leverage the strengths of each method and mitigate their weaknesses, resulting in a more comprehensive and balanced analysis (Johnson, Onwuegbuzie, & Turner, 2007, p. 113).

The complementarity of qualitative and quantitative methods also allows for a more inclusive and participatory approach to research. By incorporating multiple perspectives and voices, the research can capture a wider range of experiences and viewpoints. This inclusiveness enhances the validity and reliability of the findings, as well as their relevance for different stakeholder groups. In the context of Togo's development, this participatory approach can help build consensus and foster collaboration among various actors, leading to more sustainable and impactful development outcomes (Bazeley, 2009, p. 203).

Finally, the integration of qualitative and quantitative data supports the development of more effective and targeted interventions. By providing a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the research problem, the research can identify specific areas for intervention and inform the design of tailored strategies. For example, if the research reveals that both economic incentives and political stability are critical for attracting foreign investment, policymakers can develop integrated policies that address both factors simultaneously. This holistic approach ensures that interventions are well-informed and contextually appropriate, enhancing their effectiveness and impact (Miles, Huberman, & Saldaña, 2014, p. 75).

The methodology of this doctoral research aims to analyze Togo’s comparative strengths and weaknesses in the current geopolitical context to propose national development strategies. A mixed-methods approach will be adopted, combining qualitative and quantitative methods, as well as data triangulation and integration to provide a comprehensive and nuanced analysis of Togo’s development dynamics.

Mixed methods transcend the limitations of single-method approaches, offering a balanced, rigorous, and inclusive exploration of Togo’s development. This approach empowers the study to address complexity, generate actionable insights, and contribute to evidence-based policymaking, ultimately shaping sustainable and inclusive national development. A mixed-methods approach can help identify not only the statistical relationships between various socio-economic factors but also the lived experiences and perceptions of different stakeholders. This dual perspective is essential for developing policies that are both evidence-based and contextually relevant.

4.4 Data Collection Methods

The methodological rigor of any empirical research hinges on the robustness and reliability of its data collection methods. To ensure a comprehensive and multidimensional analysis, this study employs a mixed-methods approach, integrating both primary and secondary data sources to provide a well-rounded perspective on Togo’s national development strategies within its geopolitical and socio-economic context (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 72).

By incorporating primary data collection techniques such as semi-structured interviews, surveys, and archival analysis, alongside secondary sources including company reports, industry

publications, and databases, this research fosters methodological triangulation, reinforcing the credibility, validity, and depth of its findings (Saunders et al., 2019, p. 140).

4.4.1 Primary Data Collection

Primary data collection plays a pivotal role in generating firsthand insights and capturing lived experiences related to governance structures, economic resilience, and political stability in Togo. We employed a diversified methodological approach, including interviews, direct observations, and focus groups, to gather relevant and enriching data for analyzing the dynamics of national development in Togo, for qualitative studies.

4.4.1.1 Interviews

In this thesis, we employed a diversified methodological approach, including interviews, direct observations, and focus groups, to gather relevant and enriching data for analyzing the dynamics of national development in Togo. Semi-structured interviews are highly effective in exploring complex institutional dynamics while allowing respondents to share expert insights within a flexible but structured framework (Patton, 2015, p. 67). This study conducted thirty (30) face-to-face interviews with key decision-makers, business leaders, diplomats, NGO representatives, and government officials to gather highly contextualized perspectives on Togo's governance challenges, forty (40) telephone interviews targeting industry stakeholders to assess strategic policies and institutional performance.

4.4.1.1.1 Semi-Structured Interviews

According to Velmuradova (2004), the primary qualitative data collection methods include both directive and non-directive interviews, participant and non-participant observation, and discrete measurement techniques[59]. An individual interview, defined as a face-to-face interaction between an investigator and a subject, is based on the principle of non-directivity, as directive interviews are more akin to structured questionnaires. There are two types of individual interviews: non-directive, which revolves around a theme without the researcher's intervention, and semi-directive, where the researcher guides the conversation through sub-themes. The approach to conducting interviews can be either structured and deliberate or free and heuristic.

In this research, establishing a connection with key stakeholders such as diplomats, government officials, opinion leaders, development experts, and representatives of international organizations was crucial. These interviews were essential to obtain in-depth information on Togo's national development strategies. According to Blanchet and Godman (1992), "the interview was born from

[59] M. Velmuradova. *Epistemologies and methodologies of management science research*. Note de syntheses. [Other] USTV. 2004, pp.105. hal-01582285

the need to establish a sufficiently equal relationship between the interviewer and the interviewee so that the latter does not feel compelled to provide information, as in an interrogation."

Based on the degree of structuration, we opted for semi-structured interviews, a method that offers flexibility while ensuring the achievement of research objectives. This technique, as noted by Lincoln (1995), "contributes to the development of knowledge favoring qualitative and interpretative approaches within constructivist paradigms." The interviews were conducted in two phases: an initial face-to-face meeting and a subsequent phone interview.

These interviews provided detailed qualitative insights into development strategies, geopolitical challenges, and perceptions of Togo's development policies. The recordings of the interviews were transcribed for detailed analysis (Kvale & Brinkmann, 2009, p. 108). The semi-structured format allowed flexibility in the interview process, enabling the interviewer to delve deeper into specific topics as they arose.

Interview questions were carefully crafted to cover a wide range of relevant topics, including the effectiveness of current development policies, the impact of geopolitical dynamics on national development, and the role of international organizations in supporting Togo's growth.

To ensure a diversity of perspectives, the selection of interviewees was strategic, including individuals from various sectors such as government, academia, civil society, and international organizations. This diversity helped achieve a holistic view of the development landscape in Togo.

To ensure the reliability and validity of the data collected, interviewers were trained in effective interviewing techniques. This training included how to ask open-ended questions, follow up on responses, and create a comfortable environment for interviewees to share their thoughts. Additionally, interviewers were trained to recognize and mitigate their own biases during the interviews.

The semi-structured interview approach also allows for the collection of rich and detailed data that provides valuable context to quantitative findings. For example, while a survey might indicate that a majority of respondents are dissatisfied with a particular policy, interviews can reveal the specific reasons behind this dissatisfaction. This qualitative data helps explain the "why" behind the numbers, offering a deeper understanding of the issues at hand.

Finally, the semi-structured interview was conducted in two forms: open-ended interviews with broad, predefined themes and focused interviews with open-ended questions. These techniques allowed the collection of verbal data, which was confirmed by the questionnaire results. Togo is a country with significant linguistic and cultural diversity. Since Togo's accession to the Commonwealth on June 25, 2022, the use of English has been strengthened in addition to French, the official language since independence in 1960. It was therefore essential to design the

questionnaires in bilingual versions, in French and English, to ensure they were accessible to a wide audience (see Appendix B: Interview Guide).

4.4.1.1.2 The face-to-face interviews

The face-to-face interviews took place from December 23, 2024, to January 11, 2025, in two distinct locations: in Ankara, where we are stationed at the Embassy of Togo, and in Togo.

A face-to-face interview is a direct interaction between the interviewer and the participant, where questions are asked in person. This method can be used for different types of interviews (structured, semi-structured, or unstructured).

Face-to-face interviews allow direct observation of body language and facial expressions, adding an extra dimension to data analysis.

In Ankara, we successfully met individually with thirty (30) fellow diplomats stationed at their respective embassies in the Republic of Türkiye, including those from countries such as Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland, and Estonia, targeted in our research as potential development models for Togo. These meetings were held either at the interviewees' offices or at my office at the embassy. The discussions were rich and varied, covering the different questions contained in the interview guide, and took place in a convivial atmosphere marked by great openness and a strong willingness to contribute to the success of data collection.

Simultaneously, in Togo, well-trained interviewers were mandated to conduct interviews with various stakeholders. These interviews were conducted with Togolese citizens to gather their perceptions on development policies and geopolitical challenges. Additionally, interviews were conducted with businesses and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to understand the economic impacts and development needs, including businesses from different sectors and NGOs to provide a comprehensive overview. Finally, diplomats and government officials were interviewed to gain insights into foreign policies and development strategies. These interviews with stakeholders provided valuable insights into geopolitical dynamics and development strategies.

The research problem, which seeks to understand how Togo can leverage its comparative advantages and support its weaknesses to achieve more robust national development in the current geopolitical context, sparked great interest among these diplomats and other interviewees. However, a major constraint was the interviewees' refusal to accept audio recordings of the discussions, though they were amenable to note-taking. Each interview lasted between forty-five minutes, one hour, and approximately one hour and fifteen minutes (1h15 min).

Due to these constraints, we also conducted telephone interviews in addition to face-to-face interviews to ensure comprehensive data collection.

4.4.1.1.3 The telephone interviews

The telephone interviews provided an effective solution to overcome the logistical challenges posed by the distance separating us from Togo, allowing us to reach a larger number of interviewees compared to face-to-face interviews. According to Brown and Smith (2020), the use of modern communication technologies offers increased flexibility in qualitative research, facilitating access to remote participants. This approach proved particularly advantageous in our context, where geographical constraints would have otherwise limited the scope of our study[60].

Indeed, we conducted a total of forty (40) telephone interviews, all through WhatsApp calls. The duration of each of these exchanges varied between thirty minutes (30 min) and one hour (1h), providing a sufficient time frame to deeply explore the different aspects of the research topic. As Patton (2002) highlights, the richness of qualitative data largely depends on the ability to establish a deep and reflective dialogue, which requires time and commitment from both participants and researchers. The telephone interviews, conducted from January 13 to January 23, 2025, optimized this interaction while respecting the interviewees' availability constraints[61].

However, conducting these telephone interviews proved more complex in practice. Interviewees were generally available and open at the beginning of the interview, particularly during the first fifteen minutes. However, as the interview progressed, their enthusiasm tended to diminish, potentially leading to complete disengagement. This observation aligns with the work of Kvale (2007), who emphasizes the importance of maintaining participant engagement throughout the interview to ensure the quality of the data collected. In such cases, we did our best to encourage the interviewee and did not hesitate to apologize for the length of the interview, even though the interviewee initially took more time to comment on certain aspects at the beginning of the interview. This strategy, though delicate, is based on Seidman's (2013) recommendations regarding the management of prolonged interviews and the need to adapt interaction techniques to maintain participant interest[62].

In both types of semi-structured interviews, whether face-to-face or by telephone, our interview guide was divided into three main parts. Firstly, we informed the respondent, i.e., the interviewee,

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[60]Brown, P., & Smith, J. (2020). *Research Methods in Digital Communication*. Oxford University Press.

[61] Patton, M. Q. (2002). *Qualitative Research & Evaluation Methods*. Sage Publications.

[62] Seidman, I. (2013). *Interviewing as Qualitative Research: A Guide for Researchers in Education and the Social Sciences*. Teachers College Press.

about the subject of the study, explaining the objectives and scope of our research. This initial step, crucial according to Denzin and Lincoln (2011), helps create a framework of mutual understanding and establish a trust relationship. Secondly, we sought their informed consent and ensured that we could record our discussions if necessary and as far as possible, to respect ethical considerations and privacy concerns. Adhering to these ethical considerations is fundamental and in line with the principles outlined by Bryman (2016), who underscores the importance of transparency and respect for participants' rights in any qualitative research.

Finally, in the third part, we proceeded with the qualitative survey itself by administering the interview questions to the interviewee. This phase, described by Creswell (2013) as the heart of the qualitative approach, allows for the collection of rich and relevant data through guided yet flexible interaction, enabling deeper responses and the exploration of emerging themes based on the interviewees' statements.

4.4.1.1.4 Focus groups

In addition to individual interviews, focus group discussions were also organized. These focus groups provided a platform for various stakeholders to exchange and collectively discuss their views. According to Morgan (1997), focus groups are particularly useful for exploring complex issues that benefit from multiple perspectives. This methodology not only enriched our understanding of the issues studied but also generated new ideas and solutions through dynamic interactions among participants.

The focus group discussions were structured to encourage active and spontaneous participation. We ensured a conducive environment for exchange by establishing clear ground rules and fostering a climate of trust. As Krueger and Casey (2015) highlight, a competent moderator is essential to guide the discussion, ensure balanced participation, and keep the focus on relevant themes. During these sessions, we covered a variety of topics, ranging from development policies to current geopolitical challenges and economic opportunities for Togo.

The richness of the data obtained from the focus groups stems from the diversity of participants, including representatives from the public sector, NGOs, businesses, and Togolese citizens. This diversity allowed us to highlight varied viewpoints and confront ideas in a constructive setting. The discussions often revealed unexpected aspects and divergent perspectives that might not have emerged in individual interviews. For example, entrepreneurs shared their concrete experiences of economic obstacles, while NGO representatives provided insights into the social impacts of development policies.

The focus group approach was also beneficial in identifying innovative solutions to the challenges faced by Togo. Collective discussions fostered the emergence of creative ideas, with some participants building on others' proposals to refine and develop innovative concepts. This synergy,

described by Bloor and Wood (2006) as a key advantage of focus groups, enhanced our ability to formulate practical and relevant recommendations for national development.

In conclusion, focus groups constituted an essential methodology for our research, offering depth of analysis and a diversity of perspectives that enriched our understanding of development dynamics in Togo. By integrating this approach with other data collection methods, we were able to build a comprehensive and coherent analysis, crucial for addressing our research problem.

Complementing the focus groups, we also conducted direct observations to gather qualitative data on behaviors and social interactions.

4.4.1.1.5 Observations

Observation stands out as a scientific method of investigation, involving careful documentation of phenomena as they occur naturally, without attempting to alter them. According to Yin (2014), there are three types of observation: direct, indirect, and participant observation. Direct observation, considered the most objective, involves documenting non-provoked phenomena. Indirect observation gathers information through the observer's interventions using specific techniques. Participant observation, developed in ethnological research, aims to describe the observed reality from within, by adopting the viewpoint of those living that reality.

Participant observation, which gained popularity through early anthropological studies and has been adopted by various disciplines like education, enables capturing the components and consequences of phenomena in action. Welzer-Lang et al. (1993, 1994) illustrates this method with their explorations of interactions in diverse settings, including clandestine environments. Techniques such as maintaining detailed field journals and using audiovisual material help capture real-time contextual information. However, the main critique of this approach is the difficulty of replicating observations, raising issues of transferability.

As anthropologist Clifford Geertz (1973) highlights, observation allows for capturing the nuances of social and cultural contexts that might be missed by other data collection methods. These observations proved crucial in capturing contextual information often invisible in interviews or focus groups.

Our observations were carried out in various public and private settings, covering a wide range of situations and interactions. The objective was to obtain a comprehensive view of social dynamics and individual behaviors in real contexts. According to Robert K. Yin (2014) in his work on case study research, direct observation enables a richer and deeper understanding of the phenomena studied, offering a unique perspective that complements data obtained through other methods.

These observations revealed critical aspects of social interactions and economic behaviors, providing essential information for our comparative analysis of successful development models from other countries. By visiting countries such as Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, and Finland, I had the opportunity to personally observe the practices and strategies that contributed to their economic and social success. This field experience enriched my understanding of the development mechanisms and the contextual factors influencing them.

Comparing these observations with the data collected in Togo, we identified relevant development levers and strategies to overcome the country's structural weaknesses. Contextual analysis, enriched by direct observations, allows us to formulate concrete recommendations to leverage Togo's comparative strengths and support its weaknesses within the current geopolitical framework. Observations thus played a central role in validating and triangulating qualitative data, ensuring methodological robustness in our study.

The integration of interviews, group discussions, and direct observations has enabled the construction of comprehensive and multidimensional analysis, essential for understanding the complex dynamics of national development in the current geopolitical context. The findings from the interviews were triangulated with data from other sources, such as surveys and document analysis, to enhance the validity of the research. This triangulation process helps to ensure that the findings are robust and reliable, providing a solid foundation for policy recommendations.

Having explored the methodologies of interviews, observations, and focus groups, we will now turn our attention to the analysis of surveys, a crucial tool to further enhance our understanding of national development in Togo.

4.4.1.2 Surveys

The survey questionnaire is a key tool in this research, capturing diverse stakeholder perspectives to analyze Togo’s development trajectory. By combining quantitative metrics with qualitative insights, it enables a comprehensive evaluation of national policies, institutional frameworks, and economic strategies**,** guiding data-driven recommendations for sustainable growth. Structured surveys were administered to 110 respondents**,** including citizens, business executives, policy advisors, government officials, and representatives of NGOs and diplomatic missions.

4.4.1.2.1 Survey Purpose and Context

This study seeks to critically examine Togo’s strengths and weaknesses within the evolving geopolitical landscape, assess the effectiveness of existing development policies, and propose institutional reforms and strategic partnerships to foster long-term national progress. To complement qualitative and documentary analyses, an online survey was conducted with 110 respondents, carefully selected to ensure a diverse representation of Togolese and non-Togolese citizens, business leaders, NGOs, diplomats, and government officials.

This methodological approach enables a comprehensive evaluation of political stability, economic challenges, development strategies, and international growth models. By drawing inspiration from the successful strategies of Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland, and Estonia, the study incorporates theoretical insights from Justin Yifu Lin, who advocates for industrial modernization and infrastructure enhancement, with an active role for the government in facilitating sustainable economic transformation (Lin, 2012).

The integration of empirical survey data with contextual policy analysis aims to identify key growth levers and essential reforms that will enhance Togo's resilience amid shifting global dynamics. This holistic approach ensures that national development strategies are informed by both internal priorities and external geopolitical opportunities.

4.4.1.2.2 Survey Population and Response Rate

To ensure a comprehensive and balanced representation of perspectives, the survey was strategically distributed to 200 targeted respondents, encompassing diverse stakeholder groups essential for an informed analysis of Togo's development policies and geopolitical position. These respondents were selected based on their relevance to national development discourse, ensuring a mix of local and international viewpoints. The key respondent groups included:

- Togolese and non-Togolese citizens: Individuals providing firsthand insights into economic conditions, governance, and social development priorities.
- Businesses and NGOs: Representatives of private sector entities and civil society organizations, offering critical perspectives on trade, investment, and policy impact.
- Diplomats and government officials: Key actors in international relations and public administration, capable of providing policy-oriented perspectives on governance and economic strategies.

As of January 26, 2025, 110 respondents had successfully completed the questionnaire, yielding a response rate of 55%. According to Guest et al. (2006, p. 75), this rate is sufficient to achieve saturation in qualitative research, ensuring that new responses primarily reinforce existing themes rather than fundamentally novel insights.

Saturation is a critical methodological principle in qualitative data collection, signifying the point at which additional responses cease to provide substantially new information (Marshall et al., 2013, p. 101). The survey's ability to capture recurring themes across respondent groups strongly supports its validity in identifying core policy concerns, economic challenges, and institutional reform priorities.

4.4.1.2.3 Justification of Sample Size

The selection of 200 potential respondents was informed by best practices in survey-based academic research, considering factors such as:

- Ensuring demographic diversity: The respondent pool included individuals from various socioeconomic backgrounds, ensuring a holistic representation of perspectives on development strategies (Babbie, 2021, p. 110).
- Mitigating bias: The inclusion of both governmental and non-governmental actors enhanced the neutrality and breadth of insights, reducing the risk of policy-centric bias (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 74).
- Cross-validation with qualitative interviews: The survey findings were triangulated with insights from prior face-to-face and telephone interviews, reinforcing the robustness of thematic analysis (Marshall & Rossman, 2016, p. 95).

By employing methodological rigor and an inclusionary approach, the survey effectively captured a diverse range of viewpoints, enriching the study's ability to formulate evidence-based policy recommendations for Togo's national development trajectory.

4.4.1.2.4 Survey Design and Data Collection Platform

A structured questionnaire comprising 20 targeted questions was developed and disseminated via Google Forms, which generated a secure electronic link, facilitating wide accessibility and efficient data collection (see Appendix A: Survey Questionnaire).

Google Forms was chosen for its security, user-friendly interface, and automated data processing capabilities, which enabled real-time response tracking and comprehensive statistical and thematic analysis (Babbie, 2021, p. 110). The platform seamlessly integrates quantitative and qualitative methodologies, ensuring high reproducibility and methodological transparency (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2018, p. 74).

Recognizing Togo's linguistic diversity and its growing engagement with English following its accession to the Commonwealth on June 25, 2022, the questionnaire was designed in bilingual format (French and English). This adaptation was fundamental to maximizing inclusivity and ensuring broader stakeholder participation.

The questionnaire was methodically designed to capture both statistical trends and qualitative insights, ensuring a nuanced understanding of respondents' perspectives.

Key Sections are:

- Political Stability and Governance: Assessing transparency, institutional efficiency, and anti-corruption measures.

- Economic Development and Diversification: Evaluating investment policies, industrial modernization, and sectoral priorities.

- Infrastructure and Trade Competitiveness: Examining logistics, trade expansion, and modernization efforts.

- Entrepreneurship and Innovation: Identifying business climate challenges and startup ecosystem opportunities.

- Geopolitical Positioning and Sustainability: Exploring regional influence strategies and environmental policies.

The survey incorporated both closed-ended questions for statistical analysis and open-ended questions for additional qualitative depth. By utilizing a combination of question formats, it effectively captured both the breadth and depth of respondent perspectives.

For instance, closed-ended questions asked participants to rate their satisfaction with existing development policies using a Likert scale, while open-ended questions prompted them to elaborate on their reasoning. The formulation of survey questions was strongly influenced by insights obtained from qualitative interviews and document analyses, ensuring that the questionnaire was grounded in the study's broader research context and aligned with the core concerns of stakeholders (Marshall & Rossman, 2016, p. 89).

4.4.1.2.5 Survey Dissemination Strategy

A comprehensive, multi-channel dissemination strategy was meticulously designed to ensure broad stakeholder engagement, maximize geographic coverage, and strengthen institutional representation within the study. Recognizing the necessity of reaching diverse respondent groups, tailored outreach mechanisms were implemented to optimize participation and data integrity. The approach prioritized inclusivity by employing digital and traditional communication channels, ensuring accessibility for individuals across multiple sectors.

To initiate respondent engagement, personalized email invitations were crafted and dispatched to a carefully curated selection of academics, policymakers, business leaders, diplomats, and representatives from non-governmental organizations. Each communication was strategically framed to emphasize the significance of the study and encourage thoughtful contributions from those directly involved in governance, economic development, and civil society initiatives.

Concurrently, WhatsApp distribution lists were leveraged to enhance mobile accessibility, facilitating participation among individuals with limited access to email communication. Industry-specific mailing lists further targeted professional associations and governance experts, ensuring that insights from relevant thought leaders and institutional actors were adequately captured (Marshall & Rossman, 2016, p. 95).

To reinforce participation and mitigate non-responses, follow-up procedures were systematically conducted. Select respondents received direct phone calls to confirm the receipt of the survey link, address any concerns regarding the questionnaire, and encourage timely completion. Automated email reminders were scheduled at strategic intervals, reducing the likelihood of dropout while fostering a high response rate among targeted participants (Babbie, 2021, p. 115). Additionally, diplomatic outreach efforts and peer referrals played a significant role in strengthening engagement, providing credibility and validation to the research process while expanding the respondent pool to influential stakeholders in governance and economic policy formulation.

Accessibility optimization remains a focal point of the dissemination strategy, particularly for respondents encountering technological barriers. Upon request, survey links were promptly resent via email, WhatsApp, and professional networks to ensure uninterrupted access. Where necessary, alternative formats such as PDF versions of the questionnaire were provided, accommodating individuals who preferred offline participation or required supplementary materials for comprehension (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 87).

The engagement of strategic networks proved instrumental in amplifying participation among high-level stakeholders. Governmental and diplomatic collaborations ensured that policymakers and influential decision-makers contributed to the discourse, enriching the study with perspectives rooted in institutional expertise. Academic partnerships facilitated access to scholars and research professionals, providing empirical rigor and depth to policy recommendations. Meanwhile, engagement with non-governmental organizations strengthened outreach to civil society actors, ensuring that grassroots insights were integrated into the analytical framework of the study. This multilayered approach reinforced a balanced respondent pool, enhancing the representational integrity of the collected data (World Bank, 2023, p. 102).

By deploying a meticulously structured dissemination strategy, this study maximized its reach and depth, ensuring that participation encompassed a wide spectrum of actors critical to Togo's national development discourse. The holistic engagement framework not only secured comprehensive input from policymakers, professionals, and civil society representatives but also fortified the empirical foundation of the research, facilitating robust analytical outcomes and evidence-based policy recommendations.

4.4.1.2.6 Saturation and Data Validation

This survey was the third step in a multi-phase data collection process, following face-to-face interviews (first step) and telephone interviews (second step). The inclusion of an online survey ensured data triangulation and saturation, a critical principle in qualitative research.

As noted by Marshall et al. (2013) and Guest et al. (2006), saturation occurs when new responses no longer provide novel insights, instead confirming previously discovered themes. During telephone interviews (second step), respondent perspectives strongly mirrored those obtained through face-to-face interviews (first step) and closely aligned with questionnaire responses (third step). This methodological consistency reinforces the validity and reliability of findings, ensuring robust empirical conclusions.

In conclusion, by employing Google Forms as a secure data collection platform, deploying a strategic survey dissemination plan, and adhering to strict ethical guidelines, this study maximized methodological transparency, accessibility, and reproducibility. The integration of quantitative and qualitative approaches, complemented by international development model comparisons and theoretical insights, strengthened the empirical foundation for policy recommendations tailored to Togo's unique socioeconomic context. The survey results facilitate quantitative validation of key themes emerging from qualitative interviews, enhancing analytical precision and credibility (Bryman, 2006, p. 134).

4.4.1.3 Archival Data

Archival research was employed to investigate historical patterns of governance, economic reform, and policy implementation. Sources included Legislative texts and official government records, international agreements and policy documents, Historical economic reports, and financial statements.

4.4.1.3.1 Introduction to Archival Research

Archival research serves as a critical methodological pillar in this doctoral dissertation, offering a longitudinal and contextualized analysis of Togo's governance evolution, economic reforms, and policy implementation. Through the systematic examination of legislative texts, international agreements, and historical economic reports, this study establishes an empirically grounded assessment of institutional transformations, situating them within global best practices (Yin, 2018, p. 87).

Given the intricate nature of policy transitions, governance adaptations, and economic resilience strategies, archival sources provide a data-driven foundation for evaluating Togo's developmental trajectory within regional and international frameworks. These materials enable an objective exploration of institutional effectiveness, facilitating comparative analyses with benchmark

nations such as Singapore, Rwanda, Ghana, Malaysia, Estonia, Finland, and Djibouti (Rodrik, 2007, p. 62).

4.4.1.3.2 Legislative Texts and Official Government Records

Legislative texts and official government records are fundamental pillars of governance, shaping legal frameworks, institutional structures, and policy execution. These documents provide critical insights into the evolution of decision-making processes, ensuring transparency, accountability, and adaptability within administrative and regulatory systems (North, 1990, p. 17).

4.4.1.3.2.1 Constitutional Amendments and Legal Statutes

Constitutional amendments and legal statutes form the cornerstone of governance, shaping institutional structures, regulatory frameworks, and decision-making mechanisms in Togo. These legislative instruments provide historical insights into governance transitions, delineating changes in executive authority, decentralization policies, and judicial independence (Scott, 2014, p. 204). Over the years, Togo has enacted several key legislative transformations, reflecting its commitment to institutional stability and governance modernization.

- Constitution of the Republic of Togo (1992, revised in 2002 and 2019): The 1992 Constitution established fundamental democratic principles, including multi-party governance, human rights protection, and the separation of powers. The 2002 revision expanded presidential powers, particularly regarding the appointment of key government officials. The 2019 amendment introduced term limits for the presidency (two five-year terms), judicial reforms, and adjustments to electoral processes, aimed at enhancing democratic governance and political accountability (Togo Government, 2019).

- Decentralization Laws (2007, 2019): The 2007 Decentralization Law marked a significant institutional reform, delegating governance responsibilities to local authorities and establishing municipal councils to enhance regional governance. The 2019 Local Government Code strengthened financial autonomy and administrative authority for municipalities, ensuring greater participation in economic development initiatives (Ministry of Territorial Administration, 2019).

- Judicial Reform Act (2015): This legislative reform sought to modernize the judiciary, focusing on judicial independence, access to legal representation, and transparency in court proceedings. The act introduced specialized commercial and administrative courts, enhancing legal mechanisms for business disputes and governance accountability (Supreme Court of Togo, 2015).

Analysis: These constitutional and legislative revisions underscore Togo’s commitment to democratic consolidation and institutional efficiency. However, despite these legal frameworks,

challenges persist, including bureaucratic inertia, lack of full implementation, and political contestations surrounding electoral laws (Fukuyama, 2011, p. 223). The gradual evolution of these statutes suggests a concerted effort to align Togo's governance model with international democratic standards, particularly regarding human rights, electoral integrity, and judicial independence.

4.4.1.3.2.2 National Development Strategies and Policy Frameworks

National development strategies serve as policy instruments guiding economic resilience, institutional modernization, and infrastructural expansion. Togo has implemented several key strategic plans to stimulate investment, enhance governance efficiency, and drive economic transformation (Rodrik, 2007, p. 62).

- National Development Plan (PND 2018–2022): Adopted in 2018, the PND outlines a roadmap for industrialization, infrastructure improvement, and agricultural modernization. It prioritizes energy expansion, digital transformation, and logistics connectivity, particularly leveraging the Port of Lomé as a strategic trade hub (Ministry of Planning and Development, 2018).

- Government Roadmap 2020–2025: Launched in 2020, this framework focuses on state modernization, public sector reforms, and digital governance improvements. It includes strategies for e-government services, anti-corruption measures, and institutional efficiency enhancements in economic policymaking (Presidency of Togo, 2020).

- Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion (SCAPE, 2013–2017): This policy aimed to stimulate economic diversification, reduce poverty, and enhance job creation. It introduced structural adjustments for private sector expansion, aligning with regional integration efforts under ECOWAS (Ministry of Economy and Finance, 2013).

Analysis: While these development strategies offer a structured framework for economic progress, implementation challenges include delayed infrastructure projects, bureaucratic inefficiencies, and insufficient stakeholder engagement. Despite high-level policy ambitions, ensuring long-term sustainability and impact assessment mechanisms remains a crucial policy challenge (Acemoglu & Robinson, 2012, p. 175).

4.4.1.3.2.3 Parliamentary Proceedings and Legislative Debates

Parliamentary proceedings are critical for governance assessment, providing direct insights into legislative discussions, institutional negotiations, and regulatory adaptations (Bryman, 2016, p. 152). Key debates have shaped institutional frameworks through constitutional amendments, economic policies, and governance reforms.

- Legislative Debates on Term Limits (2019, 2021): Discussions surrounding presidential term limits were central to constitutional reform efforts in 2019, leading to the adoption of two five-year terms for the presidency. However, 2021 parliamentary sessions highlighted contested interpretations regarding electoral processes, governance stability, and transparency in democratic transitions (National Assembly of Togo, 2021).

- Budget Allocation and Economic Governance Hearings (2022): In 2022, parliamentary deliberations examined national budget allocations, focusing on sectoral spending in infrastructure, healthcare, and education. Debate centered on tax reforms, debt sustainability, and fiscal decentralization, revealing disparities in regional investment priorities (Ministry of Economy and Finance, 2022).

- Anti-Corruption Legislative Reviews (2018, 2020): Parliamentary sessions in 2018 and 2020 addressed strengthening anti-corruption measures, particularly within public procurement regulations and financial accountability frameworks. These debates contributed to the adoption of stricter compliance mechanisms, but enforcement challenges remain (Transparency International, 2020).

Parliamentary debates reflect Togo's evolving policy landscape, illustrating the complexities of governance decision-making. While legislative processes foster democratic participation, concerns persist regarding executive influence on parliamentary autonomy and the effective implementation of legislative reforms (Eisenhardt, 1989, p. 534).

In conclusion, the legislative texts, policy frameworks, and parliamentary debates analyzed in this study underscore Togo's gradual institutional evolution toward democratic governance and economic modernization. While constitutional amendments provide the legal foundation for governance stabilization, development strategies and parliamentary deliberations highlight the challenges of policy execution and institutional accountability.

To enhance governance efficiency, key priorities should include:

- Strengthening implementation mechanisms for constitutional and policy reforms.

- Improving legislative transparency and stakeholder engagement in governance processes.

- Ensuring fiscal discipline and sectoral investment alignment to drive sustainable economic growth.

By situating Togo's governance evolution within comparative global frameworks, this study reinforces the importance of structured policymaking and institutional adaptability in fostering long-term stability and national development.

4.4.1.3.3 International Agreements and Policy Documents

Togo's geopolitical positioning necessitates a thorough investigation of bilateral and multilateral agreements, which influence trade policies, investment strategies, and regional cooperation (Stiglitz, 2016, p. 98).

4.4.1.3.3.1 Bilateral and Multilateral Trade Agreements

Togo's strategic geopolitical positioning necessitates a comprehensive examination of its bilateral and multilateral agreements, which shape its trade policies, investment strategies, and regional cooperation frameworks (Stiglitz, 2016, p. 98). These agreements provide the legal and institutional foundation for economic interactions, enabling Togo to integrate into regional and global markets while fostering policy harmonization and economic stability with neighboring nations and international partners.

By analyzing these agreements, this research evaluates Togo's alignment with major trade blocs, ensuring that national policies effectively support foreign direct investment (FDI), trade expansion, and governance cooperation. Through comparative benchmarking, this study identifies strengths, gaps, and areas for policy optimization, contributing to long-term economic resilience and institutional efficiency (Saunders et al., 2019, p. 170).

Trade agreements are critical drivers of economic policy, establishing structured mechanisms for customs regulation, trade liberalization, and investment incentives (Lin, 2012, p. 45). Several key agreements define Togo's trade policies:

- ECOWAS Trade Liberalization Scheme (ETLS, 2015): This agreement aims to eliminate tariff barriers among ECOWAS member states, ensuring free movement of goods and services within the region. The Common External Tariff (CET) provides a unified framework for trade facilitation.

- African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA, 2018): By signing this agreement, Togo commits to progressive tariff reductions, enhanced market access, and regional competitiveness, reinforcing its economic integration within Africa.

- Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the European Union and ECOWAS (2014): This agreement grants preferential market access to Togolese exports while requiring regulatory adjustments to align local trade practices with EU standards.

Impact on Togo: While these agreements enhance market access, they also demand institutional reforms to ensure compliance with global trade norms (Saunders et al., 2019, p. 170).

4.4.1.3.3.2 Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy Reports and Regulatory Frameworks

Investment policies are outlined in official reports and national strategies, guiding Togo's approach to capital attraction and institutional reforms:

- World Bank Investment Climate Report on Togo (2022): This report assesses investment competitiveness, regulatory transparency, and barriers to entry, proposing strategic reforms to enhance investor protection.

- Togo's Investment Promotion Strategy (Ministry of Commerce, 2021): This official document sets forth fiscal incentives, regulatory adjustments, and infrastructure projects aimed at increasing FDI inflows.

- Togo's Revised Investment Code (2019): Establishes legal guarantees for foreign investors, including protection against expropriation, clear repatriation policies, and financial security provisions.

Impact on Togo: These documents serve as policy blueprints guiding national reforms to foster institutional stability and foreign investor confidence (Monga, 2017, p. 34).

4.4.1.3.3.3 Governance Cooperation and Security Agreements

Governance and security frameworks are integral to economic stability, influencing regional cooperation and institutional resilience (Hair et al., 2010, p. 96). Togo participates in several key agreements that strengthen diplomatic relations and governance coordination:

- United Nations Convention Against Corruption (Ratified by Togo in 2005): This treaty commits Togo to implementing anti-corruption measures, monitored by Transparency International.

- ECOWAS-Togo Security Cooperation Agreement (2019): Enhances cross-border security collaboration, countering illicit trade and regional threats.

- Gulf of Guinea Maritime Security Framework (Yaoundé Code of Conduct, 2013): Establishes surveillance protocols and anti-piracy initiatives, safeguarding critical shipping corridors and boosting investor confidence.

Impact on Togo: These agreements reinforce institutional governance, ensuring economic and security stability that facilitates sustainable trade and investment (Denzin, 2012, p. 130).

4.4.1.3.4 Historical Economic Reports and Financial Statements

- **Central Bank Reports and Monetary Policy Documents**

Togo's financial and monetary policies are analyzed through reports from the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO), providing key macroeconomic indicators:

- BCEAO Monetary Policy Report (2021): Evaluates inflation trends, exchange rate stability, and banking sector performance, shaping economic governance strategies (Eisenhardt, 1989, p. 534).
- BCEAO Annual Statistics (2022): Offers insights into credit allocation, national reserves, and financial market dynamics.

➢ **National Budget Reports and Fiscal Policy Analyses**

National fiscal policies are structured in budget reports and government spending assessments:

- Togo's National Budget Law (2023): Examines public expenditures, taxation policies, and deficit reduction measures (Rodrik, 2007, p. 62).
- Budget Execution Report (Ministry of Economy and Finance, 2022): Provides data on sectoral funding allocations, ensuring alignment with national development priorities (Bryman, 2016, p. 152).

➢ **International Development Reports**

Development reports serve as benchmarks for evaluating Togo's economic strategies against global best practices:

- African Development Bank (AfDB) African Economic Outlook (2020): Analyzes infrastructure advancements and trade integration, highlighting the Port of Lomé's strategic role.
- United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF 2023–2026): Aligns Togo's development agenda with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), focusing on inclusive growth, gender equality, and environmental sustainability (Saunders et al., 2019, p. 170).

4.4.1.3.5 Ensuring Methodological Rigor in Archival Analysis

To maintain analytical precision and empirical credibility, archival research follows stringent methodological protocols:

- Systematic Categorization: Using qualitative coding techniques (NVivo, MAXQDA) to extract key themes (Denzin, 2012, p. 130).

- Cross-Referencing for Historical Consistency: Ensuring alignment between policy trends and institutional transitions (Yin, 2018, p. 87).

- Critical Assessment for Bias and Validity: Integrating institutional narratives while contextualizing findings within global comparative frameworks (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 83).

By embedding archival analysis within a rigorous methodological framework, this dissertation establishes an authoritative foundation for evaluating Togo's governance models, economic strategies, and policy effectiveness, reinforcing its academic and policy relevance. Archival analysis provides longitudinal depth, contextualizing Togo's institutional evolution and strategic initiatives in relation to global best practices (Yin, 2018, p. 87).

4.4.2 Secondary Data Collection

Secondary data collection serves as an essential component in this research, allowing for a comparative analysis of governance structures, policy effectiveness, and economic strategies across various global development models. By integrating official reports, corporate documents, and structured datasets, this study ensures a methodologically sound and empirically robust examination of Togo's institutional evolution and economic resilience (Eisenhardt, 1989, p. 534). The selection of secondary sources adheres to strict criteria, prioritizing timely, relevant, and credible documents that provide insightful perspectives on governance efficiency, regulatory compliance, and market trends. These sources are categorized into company reports, industry publications, and global economic databases, offering a multi-layered analytical approach.

4.4.2.1 Company Reports: Private Sector Contributions to National Development

Corporate reports from leading industries in Togo and selected benchmark nations (Singapore, Rwanda, Ghana, Malaysia, Estonia, Finland, Djibouti) were meticulously analyzed to assess:

- **Business Climate, Market Competitiveness, and Investment Trends**

- Annual Economic Review of the Togolese Chamber of Commerce (2022): Provides detailed sectoral insights, assessing business growth, competitive market dynamics, and foreign investment trends in key industries such as energy, logistics, and agriculture (Togolese Chamber of Commerce, 2022).

- Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB) Report (2021): Offers a comparative perspective on strategic investment policies, export-driven industrialization, and government-business collaboration models (Singapore EDB, 2021).

- **Institutional Policies Supporting Economic Resilience**

- Togo Private Sector Support Program (PSSP) Report (2019): Examines regulatory incentives designed to enhance private sector resilience, including tax exemptions, public-private partnerships, and access to credit mechanisms (Ministry of Economy and Finance, 2019).

- Rwanda's Vision 2050 Economic Strategy (2020): Provides valuable insights into business-friendly regulations, digital infrastructure expansion, and public sector efficiency, highlighting key lessons applicable to Togo's institutional frameworks (Government of Rwanda, 2020).

➢ **Corporate Governance and Regulatory Compliance Frameworks**

- OECD Corporate Governance Principles (2022): Benchmarks transparency measures, shareholder rights, and financial accountability practices, ensuring that corporate governance aligns with international standards (OECD, 2022).

- Togo National Anti-Corruption and Compliance Strategy (2021): Defines governance principles within the private sector, outlining key provisions to mitigate corruption risks and improve ethical business conduct (Transparency International, 2021).

4.4.2.2 Industry Publications

Industry publications serve as independent benchmarks, validating governance assessments through recognized international evaluation metrics. Reports from global organizations such as the World Bank, African Development Bank (AfDB), OECD, and UNDP were analyzed to assess:

➢ **Regional Economic Integration Strategies**

- World Bank's Regional Trade and Integration Report (2022): Examines Togo's position within ECOWAS, trade facilitation mechanisms, and barriers to economic cooperation (World Bank, 2022).

- African Development Bank's Infrastructure Development Outlook (2020): Evaluates strategic infrastructure initiatives, particularly focusing on the expansion of the Port of Lomé and regional transportation corridors (AfDB, 2020).

➢ **Policy Evaluations on Governance Effectiveness**

- OECD's Public Sector Governance Report (2021): Offers a detailed review of institutional efficiency, administrative reforms, and policy adaptation strategies, comparing Togo's governance framework with other emerging economies (OECD, 2021).

- UNDP's Governance Indicators Report (2023): Measures Togo's institutional performance in areas such as transparency, accountability, and digital governance advancement (UNDP, 2023).

➢ **Development Indicators Measuring Institutional Progress**

- World Bank's Sustainable Development Goals Assessment Report (2021): Analyzes Togo's progress on key SDG targets, particularly in poverty reduction, education accessibility, and environmental sustainability (World Bank, 2021).

4.4.2.3 Structured Data Extraction and Quantitative Assessments

Structured data extraction from internationally recognized economic databases enables:

➢ **Cross-National Comparisons of Economic Resilience**

- World Bank Development Indicators Database (2022): Provides empirical benchmarks on GDP growth, trade balances, investment inflows, and economic diversification trends across ECOWAS nations (World Bank, 2022).

- IMF Fiscal Stability and Macroeconomic Report (2021): Examines Togo's monetary policies, inflation control mechanisms, and fiscal discipline measures, ensuring compatibility with regional financial stability frameworks (IMF, 2021).

➢ **Quantitative Assessments of Political Stability**

- African Union's Governance and Security Index (2020): Evaluates institutional stability, conflict resolution strategies, and governance effectiveness, situating Togo within broader geopolitical contexts (African Union, 2020).

➢ **Institutional Performance Metrics in Global Frameworks**

- OECD Institutional Effectiveness Scorecard (2022): Analyzes bureaucratic efficiency, regulatory oversight, and policy execution mechanisms, comparing Togo's institutional governance against global best practices (OECD, 2022).

4.4.2.4 Ensuring Validity and Reliability in Secondary Data Collection

To maintain methodological rigor, this research implements a structured validation process, ensuring accuracy and credibility across multiple data sources:

- Triangulation Across Primary and Secondary Sources: Reinforces data reliability by cross-verifying findings from government archives, corporate reports, and international databases (Denzin, 2012, p. 130).
- Standardized Analytical Techniques: Ensures consistency in survey administration, qualitative coding, and archival interpretation, preserving the integrity of empirical analyses (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 72).
- Ethical Safeguards: Upholds strict confidentiality protocols and informed consent mechanisms, guaranteeing ethical research practices and respondent protection (Patton, 2015, p. 98).

By embedding multiple data sources within a structured methodological framework, this study ensures credible, insightful, and actionable conclusions, contributing to policy development, governance enhancement, and economic resilience in Togo.

In the research methodology plan, the target population of the study and sampling are in the following section.

4.5. Population and Sampling

To comprehensively address the research objectives and provide a robust analysis of Togo's national development strategies, it is essential to carefully define and select the population and sampling methods. This section outlines the target population, and the sampling techniques employed to ensure a representative and diverse cross-section of stakeholders, whose insights will be pivotal in understanding and leveraging Togo's comparative strengths and addressing its weaknesses in the current geopolitical context.

4.5.1 Description of Population

The target population of this research comprises the groups that will be consulted to obtain relevant information on Togo's national development strategies. Given the research theme "How to leverage comparative strengths and support weaknesses of Togo in the current geopolitics for further national development," and the objectives set, the target population should include the followings.

4.5.1.1 Togolese Citizens

Togolese citizens are a crucial component of the target population for this research. Their perceptions and experiences will provide valuable insights into current development policies and the geopolitical challenges facing Togo. A representative sample will be selected to ensure diversity of perspectives, considering differences in gender, age, education level, and socio-economic status (Denzin & Lincoln, 2011, p. 25). They can share their experiences and opinions on the effectiveness of current policies and the needs for future improvements, providing crucial data to assess the impact of these policies on the daily lives of citizens (Creswell, 2013, p. 45). Feedback from citizens will also help identify areas requiring reforms to improve quality of life and promote sustainable development.

Their knowledge of the quality of infrastructure and services will highlight strengths and weaknesses in national development strategies. By involving diverse groups, including rural and urban populations, the research will capture a comprehensive view of Togo's socio-economic landscape (Silverman, 2015, p. 62). Participants will provide data on employment rates, income levels, and access to basic services, which is essential for formulating relevant recommendations. Working with community leaders and representatives will enrich the understanding of local development needs. Interviews and surveys will be conducted to gather qualitative and quantitative data from a broad cross-section of the population (Patton, 2014, p. 98). Citizens' perspectives on political stability and its effect on their lives will be crucial for the analysis.

Their participation will help identify key factors influencing social cohesion and economic resilience. Finally, feedback from citizens will be used to formulate recommendations for policy improvements and strategic initiatives, thereby contributing to more inclusive and sustainable national development (Yin, 2017, p. 123).

4.5.1.2 Businesses and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

Businesses and NGOs play a crucial role in understanding the economic impacts of current policies and development needs. Including businesses from various sectors, such as trade, industry, and services, will provide a comprehensive overview of economic challenges and opportunities. Businesses can provide data on market conditions, investment climates, and operational challenges (Denzin & Lincoln, 2011, p. 100). This information is essential for evaluating the impact of economic policies on the ground and identifying barriers to growth.

Businesses can also share insights on how political stability affects their operations and growth prospects (Creswell, 2013, p. 89). Political stability is often a key factor for investors and businesses in terms of predictability and investment security. NGOs, on the other hand, can highlight the impact of development initiatives on communities and the effectiveness of social

programs (Silverman, 2015, p. 115). Their role in civil society is crucial for ensuring that development policies meet the needs of the most vulnerable populations.

Companies' experiences with infrastructure and logistics will reveal areas needing improvement for economic development (Patton, 2014, p. 77). Quality infrastructure is essential for sustainable and competitive economic development. Collaboration with chambers of commerce and business associations will facilitate a broader understanding of industry-specific issues (Yin, 2017, p. 156). These collaborations can also open pathways for effective public-private partnerships.

NGOs can offer perspectives on health, education, and environmental sustainability efforts (Denzin & Lincoln, 2011, p. 142). These aspects are essential for human and sustainable development. Feedback from businesses and NGOs will help identify opportunities for public-private partnerships to drive development (Creswell, 2013, p. 123). Such partnerships can mobilize resources and expertise for large-scale projects.

Businesses and NGOs will provide data on foreign direct investment trends and challenges (Silverman, 2015, p. 99). Foreign investment is often a key indicator of investor confidence in a country. NGOs can discuss barriers to implement effective social welfare programs and propose potential solutions (Patton, 2014, p. 83). Finally, engaging with multinational companies and local businesses will ensure a balanced view of the economic landscape (Yin, 2017, p. 134). This will help incorporate the varied perspectives of different economic actors and develop tailored policy recommendations.

4.5.1.3 Diplomats and Government Officials

Diplomats and government officials play a crucial role in the formulation and implementation of national and international policies. Given the position at the Embassy of Togo in the Republic of Turkey, this category includes diplomats and officials accredited both in Togo and Turkey. Diplomats can provide insights into bilateral relations and their impact on national development strategies (Dunn, 2018, p. 45). For instance, the Embassy of Togo in Ankara facilitates commercial and cultural exchanges between the two countries, contributing to strengthening economic and diplomatic ties.

Government officials offer perspectives on policy formulation and implementation. Their in-depth knowledge of international practices helps contextualize successful development models from countries like Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland, and Estonia (Rosenau, 2003, p. 67). For example, development strategies adopted by Singapore and Finland can serve as models for Togo in terms of technological innovation and effective governance.

They can also discuss the impact of geopolitical dynamics on national security and economic stability. Turkish diplomats can share lessons learned from Turkey's development experiences and

how they can be adapted for Togo (Kissinger, 2014, p. 102). Officials can elaborate on the role of government in facilitating infrastructure improvements and industrial modernization, which is essential for attracting foreign investments and promoting sustainable economic growth.

Their input is vital for understanding the institutional reforms needed to enhance governance. They can provide data on strategic partnerships that have been effective in other contexts, ensuring that research recommendations are realistic and aligned with global best practices (Rodrik, 2008, p. 89). Involving diplomats and officials helps identify key areas for international cooperation and knowledge exchange, which is crucial for Togo's sustainable development.

4.5.2 Sampling: Methods Used to Select Participants

A rigorous methodological framework in participant selection is indispensable for ensuring the validity, representativity, and generalizability of research findings. This study, which aims to examine how Togo can leverage its strengths and mitigate its weaknesses within the current geopolitical landscape to foster national development, employs a strategically integrated approach to sampling. Given the diversity of the target population including Togolese citizens, non-Togolese individuals familiar with Togo, businesses, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), diplomats, and government officials, it is essential to adopt a nuanced and comprehensive sampling strategy that ensures optimal representation and minimizes biases.

The justification for the selected sampling techniques is based on that a multifaceted research inquiry such as this necessitates methodological precision in sampling design. The study incorporates a combination of probabilistic and non-probabilistic sampling techniques to ensure representativity while also capturing critical expert insights. The rationale behind each selected method is founded on its ability to enhance the quality and breadth of data collection, ensuring an adequate representation of diverse perspectives pertinent to Togo's national development strategies.

4.5.2.1 Random Sampling

Random sampling is employed to mitigate selection bias and uphold objectivity by granting each member of the target population an equal probability of inclusion (Patton, 2014, p. 76). This technique is particularly valuable in securing a representative cross-section of the general population. In this study, random selection was applied to Togolese citizens and non-Togolese individuals well-versed in Togo’s sociopolitical context. A random number generator was used to ensure unbiased participant selection from a comprehensive database, thereby reflecting the nation’s diverse socioeconomic strata.

While random sampling enhances generalizability, it is insufficient for capturing the insights of specialized actors, such as policymakers and economic stakeholders. Therefore, supplementary sampling techniques are essential to achieve a holistic understanding of Togo’s geopolitical positioning and developmental challenges.

4.5.2.2 Stratified Sampling

Stratified sampling is crucial in ensuring that key subpopulations within the study receive adequate representation, thereby minimizing sampling error and enhancing analytical precision (Creswell, 2013, p. 123). For this research, stratification was not conducted based on gender or urban-rural divisions, as these factors were deemed non-essential to the study's core objectives. Instead, the population was stratified according to three primary categories:

- Togolese citizens and non-Togolese individuals familiar with the country
- Business actors and NGOs
- Diplomats and government officials

By employing stratified sampling, the study ensures that perspectives across different functional domains including economic, political, and diplomatic spheres, are adequately represented. This approach enables a comparative analysis of perceptions regarding geopolitical dynamics and national development, offering deeper insights into policy implications.

4.5.2.3 Quota Sampling

Quota sampling serves to reinforce representativity by ensuring proportional representation among various stakeholder groups, particularly within the economic and institutional spheres (Silverman, 2015, p. 88). In this study, quotas were established for:

- Businesses across key economic sectors (agriculture, industry, and services)
- NGOs involved in social and economic development initiatives
- Diplomats and government officials responsible for foreign policy and economic governance

Through this technique, the study effectively captures the diverse perspectives of stakeholders, ensuring that economic and political actors are included in proportion to their relevance in shaping Togo's development agenda. This enhances the interpretative depth of findings related to economic policies and geopolitical strategies.

4.5.2.4 Purposive Sampling

Purposive sampling is instrumental in selecting individuals possessing specialized expertise or critical insight into the study's focus areas (Patton, 2014, p. 97). This method was applied to:

- Policymakers engaged in national development and economic strategy formulation
- Diplomats directly involved in Togo's foreign policy negotiations
- Business leaders and NGO representatives with in-depth perspectives on economic development

Targeting knowledgeable stakeholders ensures the acquisition of qualitative data that complements broader statistical findings. The deliberate inclusion of subject-matter experts strengthens the research's analytical depth, enabling a more comprehensive assessment of policy interventions and geopolitical implications.

4.5.2.5 Snowball Sampling

Snowball sampling is particularly effective in reaching high-level professionals and influential stakeholders who may not be readily accessible through conventional methods. As Denzin & Lincoln (2011, p. 104) highlight, this technique is advantageous for accessing specialized networks within fields such as diplomacy and corporate investment.

In this research, initial participants, predominantly diplomats and business leaders, provided referrals to other key stakeholders, facilitating access to individuals with firsthand experience in policy formation, international trade, and investment strategies. This approach ensured the inclusion of highly relevant informants, thereby enriching the depth of geopolitical and economic analysis.

In conclusion, the integration of multiple sampling techniques within this study fortifies its methodological rigor, ensuring that findings are both representative and analytically robust. The interplay between probabilistic (random and stratified) and non-probabilistic (quota, purposive, and snowball) sampling approaches ensure a representative selection of policy experts, institutional leaders, and diplomatic officials. This approach enhances data accuracy, mitigates bias, and ensures a well-rounded analysis, enable a comprehensive assessment of Togo's developmental prospects through diverse perspectives, contributing to effective policy recommendations and governance improvements in Togo.

By methodically structuring participant selection, this study captures a holistic and multifaceted understanding of the geopolitical and economic forces influencing Togo's national development. The deliberate inclusion of key actors across economic, political, and diplomatic spheres reinforces the validity of conclusions drawn, thereby fostering informed policy recommendations grounded in empirical evidence.

4.6 Ethical Considerations of Research

In the context of our research, rigorous ethical considerations have been integrated at every stage of data collection and analysis. These considerations aim to ensure respect for the rights, dignity, and well-being of participants while maintaining the scientific integrity of the study (American Psychological Association, 2017, Standard 3.10). Additionally, the research incorporates questions on development models from countries such as Singapore and Rwanda, enabling comparative analysis and the identification of best practices applicable to Togo. Below is a detailed presentation of the ethical measures adopted, illustrated with concrete examples related to my theme.

4.6.1 Informed Consent

Informed consent is a cornerstone of this research. Before participating, everyone received a detailed explanatory letter outlining the study's objectives, methods, types of data collected, and potential implications of their participation (APA Services, 2024)[63]. Before commencing data collection, informed consent was obtained from each participant. This involved providing a clear and detailed explanation of the study's purpose, procedures involved, potential benefits, risks, and data confidentiality (Christensen & Lamont-Mills, 2018, p. 7).

For instance, Togolese citizens surveyed about their perceptions of development policies were informed that their responses would help identify the country's strengths and weaknesses in areas such as the economy, governance, and international relations. Participants were also informed that the study includes questions on development models from countries like Singapore and Rwanda. These questions aim to explore how successful strategies from these nations could be adapted to Togo's context. Participants were assured that their responses would contribute to a broader understanding of how Togo can leverage global best practices for its development.

Participants were clearly informed that their participation was entirely voluntary and that they could withdraw at any time without justification or negative consequences. The return of completed questionnaires or explicit acceptance to participate in an interview was considered evidence of their informed consent. This approach ensures that participants fully understand their role in the research and the potential implications of their contribution (American Psychological Association, 2017, Standard 8.02).

4.6.2 Confidentiality and Anonymity

The confidentiality and anonymity of participants have been strictly maintained throughout this research. Data collected, whether from surveys of citizens, interviews with diplomats, or discussions with NGO representatives, have been anonymized. For example, responses from participants on Togo's geopolitical challenges or their views on the applicability of Singapore's development model have been coded so that no personally identifiable information (name, address, specific profession) can be associated with their statements (Christensen & Lamont-Mills, 2018, p. 7).

Furthermore, data has been stored on a secure, password-protected server, with access limited to authorized research team members. This measure ensures that sensitive information, such as critical opinions on government policies or strategic recommendations, is not exposed to unauthorized third parties (American Psychological Association, 2017, Standard 4.01).

[63] www.apaservices.org, consulted on February 25, 2025, at 7 pm GMT.

4.6.3 Minimization of Risks

The research has been designed to minimize any potential risks to participants. Questions posed in surveys and interviews have been carefully formulated to avoid sensitive topics or causing discomfort. For example, questions about Togo's institutional weaknesses or comparisons with Rwanda's governance model were asked in a general manner, without directly targeting specific individuals or organizations, to reduce the risk of stigmatization or retaliation (American Psychological Association, 2017, Standard 3.10).

Additionally, participants were informed that their responses would be used solely for academic purposes and that no data would be shared with government or private entities without their explicit consent. This approach has created a trusting environment, encouraging participants to share their opinions honestly and openly (Christensen & Lamont-Mills, 2018, p. 7).

The questions were meticulously designed to be clear, precise, and relevant to the research objectives. To avoid bias and ambiguity, careful attention was given to the formulation of the questions. Additionally, considering Togo's linguistic diversity, the questionnaires were developed in bilingual versions, in French and English, to ensure accessibility to a wide audience (Dillman, Smyth, & Christian, 2014, p. 29).

To ensure the reliability and validity of the survey data, pilot tests were conducted with a small sample of respondents. These pilot tests helped to identify any issues with the survey design, such as ambiguous or confusing questions, and allowed researchers to make necessary adjustments before the full survey was administered (Patton, 2015, p. 76).

4.6.4 Use of Data

Data collected in this research will be used exclusively to address the central question of the study: "How can Togo leverage its comparative strengths and overcome its weaknesses for sustainable development in the current geopolitical context?" For example:

- Interviews with diplomats will be analyzed to identify opportunities for international partnerships (Bowen, 2009, p. 29).
- Survey responses from citizens will be used to assess national development priorities (Merriam & Tisdell, 2016, p. 92).
- Comparative questions on development models will help identify best practices from countries like Singapore and Rwanda that could be adapted to Togo's unique context (Yin, 2014, p. 102).

All data will be securely stored for five years, in accordance with institutional guidelines. After this period, they will be permanently destroyed to ensure that no sensitive information is used for unauthorized purposes (American Psychological Association, 2017, Standard 4.01).

4.6.5 Compliance with Institutional Standards

This research has been reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of the International University of Leadership (IUL). It adheres to the ethical principles outlined in the Belmont Report, including:

- **Respect for Persons:** Ensuring informed consent and respecting participants' rights (National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research, 1979).
- **Beneficence:** Minimizing risks and maximizing potential benefits of the research (Christensen & Lamont-Mills, 2018, p. 7).
- **Justice:** Ensuring that participants are selected fairly, without discrimination (American Psychological Association, 2017, Standard 8.02).

For example, participants were recruited to represent a diversity of perspectives, including citizens, NGO representatives, diplomats, and entrepreneurs, to ensure a balanced and inclusive analysis. The inclusion of questions on development models from other countries ensures that the research is not only locally relevant but also globally informed (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 45).

4.6.6 Training and Supervision

As the principal investigator, I have undergone extensive training in conducting research involving human subjects, in accordance with IUL requirements. My dissertation advisor has supervised each step of the process, from designing questionnaires to analyzing data, to ensure that the research meets the highest ethical and scientific standards (American Psychological Association, 2017, Standard 3.04).

For instance, during the design of survey questions, simulations were conducted to ensure they were clear, unbiased, and respectful of participants. Additionally, regular meetings with my dissertation advisor allowed for the evaluation of research progress and adjustments as needed (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 45). The inclusion of comparative questions on development models was carefully reviewed to ensure cultural sensitivity and relevance to Togo's context (Yin, 2014, p. 102).

In conclusion, this research has been conducted in adherence to the highest ethical standards, ensuring the protection of participants' rights and well-being while producing reliable and relevant

results. By incorporating questions on development models from countries like Singapore, Malaysia, Estonia, Finland, Ghana, Ethiopia, and Rwanda, the study not only identifies Togo's unique strengths and weaknesses but also explores how global best practices can be adapted to its context (Patton, 2015, p. 76). These methodological steps ensured that the collected data were robust, reliable, and representative of the perceptions of various groups within the Togolese population. By adopting this rigorous approach, the study provided relevant and actionable results for analysis and the formulation of strategic recommendations (Merriam & Tisdell, 2016, p. 92). These ethical considerations enhance the credibility of the study and ensure that its conclusions can be used to formulate concrete recommendations for Togo's national development in the current geopolitical context.

Having explored the results of the survey, we will now turn our attention to documentary analysis, a method employed by historians and sociologists to gather documents that capture the essence and dynamics of a reality (Bowen, 2009, p. 29).

4.7 Data Analysis Approaches

This section presents a comprehensive framework for analyzing both qualitative and quantitative data, ensuring rigorous investigation and validity in research findings. Given the complexity and interdisciplinary nature of doctoral research, it is essential to adopt methodologically sound approaches that align with the research objectives and contribute to meaningful insights.

4.7.1 Qualitative Data Analysis

Qualitative research focuses on exploring human experiences, interpretations, and social phenomena through textual, visual, and narrative data. Unlike quantitative analysis, which relies on numerical calculations, qualitative analysis emphasizes meaning and depth, making it a crucial approach for studies involving policy evaluation, governance models, institutional reforms, and social behavior. Document analysis is a qualitative research method widely used in doctoral dissertations to systematically examine textual or visual materials. It involves interpreting and synthesizing existing documents, such as reports, policy papers, historical records, legislation, and academic articles, to extract relevant insights that contribute to answering research questions.

4.7.1.1 Document Analysis

Document analysis is a qualitative research method that systematically examines and interprets textual data to uncover patterns, themes, and insights (Bowen, 2009). This approach is particularly valuable for understanding policy evolution, institutional challenges, and development strategies. By analyzing a diverse range of documents, this study ensures methodological rigor and enhances the validity of findings related to governance, economic policies, and institutional frameworks in Togo.

Unlike quantitative methods that rely on numerical data, qualitative document analysis focuses on contextual interpretation, allowing researchers to extract meaning from texts and assess their implications within a broader socio-political and economic framework (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). This study employs a thematic coding approach, ensuring systematic categorization and interpretation of textual data.

4.7.1.1.1 Organizing and Categorizing Documents

To ensure a structured and coherent analysis, we systematically organized and categorized the documents selected for this study. This methodological approach allows for efficient data management, thematic alignment, and analytical precision, ensuring that all materials contribute meaningfully to the research objectives. By employing qualitative data analysis tools and structured classification techniques, we establish a logical framework for document interpretation and synthesis.

A structured database was developed to facilitate document management and ensure accessibility throughout the research process. The organization of documents follows an evidence-based categorization strategy, utilizing specialized software such as NVivo and MAXQDA for qualitative data coding and thematic mapping. In cases where manual indexing was necessary, spreadsheets and reference management software (Zotero, EndNote) were employed to maintain consistency and traceability. Key steps in database development included:

- **Digital Archiving:** All selected documents were digitized into standardized formats (PDF, Word, Excel) and stored in a centralized repository, allowing for seamless retrieval and cross-referencing.

- **Coding and Annotation:** Each document was assigned to a unique identifier and labeled according to predefined thematic categories, ensuring structured organization and efficient navigation. Employing both inductive and deductive coding approaches to classify key themes related to institutional efficiency, bureaucratic accountability, and policy adaptation (Miles & Huberman, 1994, p. 58). Identifying linguistic patterns that signal policy shifts, stakeholder alignments, and institutional inertia.

- **Frequency and Pattern Recognition:**

    - Conducting quantitative term analysis to measure policy emphasis, assessing variations across political administrations (Neuendorf, 2017, p. 90).

    - Cross-referencing governance narratives with empirical economic indicators to establish correlations between rhetoric and measurable policy outcomes. Contextual and Historical Interpretation:

- Situating findings within broader geopolitical, economic, and institutional contexts, ensuring interpretations reflect structural realities rather than isolated discourse patterns (Silverman, 2015, p. 132).

❖ **Version Control and Documentation:** A system for tracking revisions and annotations was established, preserving critical insights and modifications for enhanced analytical depth.

Categorization is essential to maintaining a coherent research framework and enabling an integrated analysis of key themes. Documents were classified based on multiple parameters to ensure a multidimensional perspective in our study.

Classification is also made following these principles:

- **Thematic Alignment:** Documents were grouped according to their relevance to governance, economic policies, institutional reform, trade frameworks, security strategies, and environmental sustainability.
- **Chronological Contextualization:** Materials were arranged by historical policy shifts, contemporary legislative enactments, and long-term development projections.
- **Source Differentiation:** Documents were sorted into categories based on their origin, government publications, academic research, policy briefs, international organization reports, and expert commentary.
- **Analytical Perspective:** A subcategorization was applied to distinguish empirical studies, theoretical explorations, comparative analyses, and policy evaluations.

By implementing this systematic approach, we ensured that all documents contribute effectively to the conceptual framework of our research. This meticulous organization strengthens the methodological rigor of our study, allowing for a structured, evidence-based examination of Togo's developmental trajectory.

4.7.1.1.2 Defining the Scope and Selection Criteria

The selection of documents for this study was guided by strict inclusion and exclusion criteria to ensure relevance, credibility, and methodological soundness.

4.7.1.1.2.1 Selection and Exclusion Criteria

Documents were selected based on the following criteria:

- ✓ **Relevance to Research Objectives**: Only sources directly addressing governance, economic policies, institutional frameworks, and development strategies in Togo were included.
- ✓ **Credibility and Authority**: Preference was given to peer-reviewed publications, official government reports, and documents from reputable international organizations.
- ✓ **Timeliness**: Recent publications (within the last 10 years) were prioritized to ensure the study reflects current trends and policy developments.
- ✓ **Comparative Value**: Documents that provide insights into development models from countries like Singapore, Rwanda, and Ghana were included to facilitate comparative analysis.
- ✓ **Data Availability**: Sources containing empirical data, statistical analyses, or case studies were favored to support evidence-based conclusions.

Certain documents were excluded based on the following considerations:

- ✓ **Lack of Credibility**: Sources from non-peer-reviewed platforms, opinion blogs, or unverified reports were omitted.
- ✓ **Irrelevance**: Documents that did not directly address Togo's governance, economic policies, or institutional frameworks were excluded.
- ✓ **Outdated Information**: Publications older than 10 years were generally excluded unless they provided historical context essential to the study.
- ✓ **Redundancy**: Duplicate reports or sources presenting identical findings without additional insights were removed.
- ✓ **Limited Accessibility**: Documents with restricted access or unavailable full texts were excluded unless summaries or excerpts were sufficient for analysis.

4.7.1.1.2.2 Types of Documents Analyzed

- ❖ **Government Policies and Official Reports**

- **National development plans, sectoral strategies, legislative frameworks, and policy roadmaps**
  - Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Employment Promotion (SCAPE) 2013–2017
  - National Development Plan (PND) 2018–2022

- Government Roadmap 2020–2025

- **Reports from government agencies and international organizations**

Publications from the World Bank, IMF, African Development Bank, ECOWAS, and AfCFTA

- **Sectoral reports on key economic areas**
  - Agriculture : Agricultural Policy Document (MAPAT, 2020)
  - Energy: National Energy Strategy (2021)
  - Logistics & Trade: Port of Lomé Logistics Report (2022)

❖ **Archival Records**

- **Historical Documents, Treaties, and Policy Papers**

Colonial-era records, post-independence policy papers, and treaties shaping Togo's governance structures.

- **Records Reflecting Togo's Geopolitical Evolution**

Examines shifts in governance, economic policies, and institutional frameworks over time.

❖ **Media Articles**

- **News Reports, Editorials, and Investigative Pieces**

Covers governance, economic development, and security challenges in Togo.

- **Analysis of Togo's Role in Regional Alliances**

Examines Togo's participation in ECOWAS and the Alliance of Sahel States (AES).

❖ **Scholarly Publications**

- **Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles, Books, and Case Studies**

Covers governance, economic development, geopolitics, and institutional reforms.

- **Comparative Studies on Successful Development Models**

Examines strategies from Singapore, Rwanda, Ghana, Malaysia, and Estonia.

❖ **Survey and Interview Data**

- **Responses from Various Stakeholders**

Includes insights from Togolese citizens, businesses, NGOs, diplomats, and government officials.

- **Data Reflecting National Perceptions**

Covers political stability, economic challenges, and development priorities.

These documents and studies provide a robust foundation for understanding Togo's developmental challenges and opportunities, offering actionable recommendations for governance reforms, economic diversification, security enhancement, and international partnerships.

4.7.1.1.3 Analytical Framework

These documents and studies provide a robust foundation for understanding Togo's developmental challenges and opportunities, offering actionable recommendations for governance reforms, economic diversification, security enhancement, and international partnerships.

The analysis highlights several key findings across thematic areas:

❖ **Governance and Institutional Reforms**

- Challenges include inefficiencies in public administration, corruption, and weak judicial systems.
- Recommendations focus on digitalizing public services, establishing independent oversight bodies, decentralizing governance, and strengthening judicial independence.

❖ **Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Development**

- Challenges include overreliance on primary commodities, inadequate infrastructure, and limited industrial capacity.
- Recommendations include investing in agro-processing industries, manufacturing, and technology-driven sectors, strengthening transport and energy infrastructure, and promoting renewable energy projects.

❖ **Security and Regional Cooperation**

- Challenges include regional instability, terrorism, and limited intelligence-sharing capacity.

- Recommendations emphasize enhancing intelligence-sharing mechanisms, strengthening regional alliances, and investing in maritime security.

❖ **International Partnerships and Foreign Policy**

- Challenges include limited diversification of partnerships and dependency on foreign aid.
- Recommendations include diversifying international partnerships, leveraging regional integration frameworks, and strengthening economic diplomacy to attract foreign investments.

❖ **Social Development and Human Capital**

- Challenges include high poverty rates, limited healthcare access, and gaps in vocational training.
- Recommendations include expanding access to education, strengthening vocational training programs, and enhancing healthcare accessibility.

❖ **Environmental Sustainability and Energy Transition**

- Challenges include reliance on fossil fuels and environmental degradation.
- Recommendations include investing in renewable energy projects, implementing climate-smart agricultural practices, and promoting green technologies.

❖ **Comparative Development Models**

Insights from countries like Singapore, Rwanda, Malaysia, and Estonia highlight the importance of governance efficiency, industrial diversification, and digital transformation.

❖ **Sectoral Priorities**

Agriculture, industry, technology, and tourism are identified as priority sectors for development.

❖ **Impact of Corruption**

Corruption undermines governance and deters investments, necessitating robust anti-corruption measures and transparency tools.

❖ **Geographical Advantages**

Togo's strategic location and the Port of Lomé are critical assets for trade and logistics, with recommendations to modernize infrastructure and develop transport corridors.

❖ **Effectiveness of Current Development Initiatives**

Mixed perceptions exist, with recommendations to strengthen monitoring mechanisms and stakeholder engagement.

❖ **Key Challenges to Economic Reforms**

Resistance to change, lack of resources, corruption, and political instability are major obstacles, requiring stakeholder dialogue and resource mobilization.

The findings emphasize leveraging Togo's strengths, addressing institutional inefficiencies, and implementing targeted reforms to achieve sustainable development.

4.7.1.1.4 Strengths and Limitations of the Documents

❖ **Strengths of the Documents**

- Comprehensive coverage of governance, economic, and social challenges.
- Actionable recommendations for addressing institutional inefficiencies and fostering economic growth.
- Comparative insights from successful development models in countries like Singapore and Rwanda.

❖ **Limitations of the Documents**

- Limited focus on emerging sectors like renewable energy and digital technologies.
- Insufficient stakeholder perspectives, particularly from local communities and private sector actors.
- Reliance on secondary data, which may not fully capture real-time developments.

❖ **Recommendations for Enhancing Document Analysis**

✓ Incorporate primary data through surveys, interviews, and focus groups.

✓ Expand sectoral focus to include emerging sectors like renewable energy and digital technologies.

- ✓ Conduct longitudinal studies to monitor the progress of development initiatives over time.

In conclusion, this qualitative document analysis provides a rigorous, evidence-based foundation for understanding Togo's governance and development strategies. By integrating diverse sources, including government reports, archival records, media articles, scholarly publications, and empirical data, the study ensures methodological depth and analytical precision. The findings contribute to a comprehensive evaluation of Togo's institutional strengths and challenges, offering strategic insights for policy formulation and national development. Future research should complement this analysis with primary data collection to provide a more holistic understanding of stakeholder perspectives and real-time policy impacts.

4.7.1.2 Content Analysis

Content analysis was employed as a rigorous qualitative research method to systematically examine policy documents, institutional reports, legislative texts, media publications, and interview transcripts. This approach allowed for the identification of recurring themes, conceptual frameworks, and structural patterns, providing a deep analytical foundation for understanding governance discourse, policy evolution, and institutional strategies in Togo (Krippendorff, 2018, p. 32).

Content analysis provided quantitative and qualitative measures of thematic relevance. The following techniques were employed to ensure a meticulous examination of document content.

4.7.1.2.1 Methodology Approach

- **Keyword Coding:** Critical terms related to governance, trade policies, corruption mitigation, security frameworks, and development strategies were systematically coded to assess their prominence across sources. This process allowed us to map the semantic weight of key concepts within the academic and policy discourse.

- **Frequency Analysis:** Statistical measures were applied to determine the occurrence of major themes across different document categories, providing insights into policy emphasis and recurring developmental challenges. For instance, references to institutional modernization and regional trade cooperation were consistently highlighted in national policy reports and comparative studies.

- **Mapping Conceptual Relationships:** Network mapping tools were utilized to visualize the interconnections between various themes. These relationship diagrams facilitated an understanding of how different governance strategies influence trade, security policies, and economic resilience. The results provided empirical grounding for our argumentation, reinforcing the integrative nature of national development policies.

4.7.1.2.2 Systematic Methodology for Policy and Institutional Discourse Analysis

In qualitative research, keyword coding is a structured technique used to analyze policy discourse, institutional strategies, and governance rhetoric, providing quantitative and qualitative measures of thematic relevance (Krippendorff, 2018, p. 32). Within the context of this study, keyword coding was employed to identify critical terms associated with governance efficiency, trade policies, corruption mitigation, security frameworks, and economic development, ensuring an evidence-based examination of policy documents, institutional reports, legislative texts, media publications, and interview transcripts (Neuendorf, 2017, p. 41).

4.7.1.2.2.1 Development of a Comprehensive Keyword Taxonomy

Keyword coding is deeply rooted in content analysis theory, which focuses on the systematic categorization of textual elements to uncover patterns and policy priorities (Blei, Ng, & Jordan, 2003, p. 993). This method allows for the semantic mapping of key themes within governance discourse, reinforcing the study's central objective: identifying strategies for Togo's national development within the current geopolitical context. Comparative case studies of Singapore, Rwanda, Ghana, Estonia, Malaysia, and Finland provide critical benchmarks for evaluating best practices in institutional modernization and economic resilience (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).

The first step involved creating a robust taxonomy of keywords based on a systematic review of policy documents, scholarly works, and institutional reports (Kaufmann & Kraay, 2019, p. 47). This process ensured alignment between thematic priorities and policy discourse, offering empirical support for analyzing governance and economic strategy.

Table 6: Example of Keyword Taxonomy Applied to Policy and Economic Texts

Thematic Area	Core Keywords
Institutional Governance and Reforms	"transparency," "administrative efficiency," "anti-corruption," "judicial independence," "institutional modernization"
Economic Diversification and Industrial Development	"industrialization," "agro-processing," "foreign investments," "infrastructure expansion," "digital economy"
Foreign Policy and Strategic Alliances	"regional integration," "bilateral cooperation," "AfCFTA," "economic diplomacy," "trade agreements"
Political Stability and Security	"good governance," "resilience," "security cooperation," "counterterrorism," "military partnerships"

(Source: Personal creation)

4.7.1.2.2.2 Hybrid Coding Approach: Automated and Manual Techniques

To ensure methodological precision, a hybrid coding approach was employed, combining automated text-mining algorithms and manual interpretative analysis (Saldaña, 2021, p. 68).

- Automated Keyword Extraction: Computational tools identified the frequency and co-occurrence of thematic keywords within large-scale policy texts.
- Manual Contextual Analysis: Researchers verified the nuanced meanings of key terms, ensuring accurate interpretation of political and economic rhetoric in Togo's policy framework.

Example of Manual Keyword Coding Applied to Policy Texts

Analyzed Document: Ministry of Economy's Report on Fiscal Reforms and Investment Facilitation

Excerpt from the Report: *"Effective governance demands enhanced transparency and institutional modernization. Strengthening anti-corruption policies and digitizing public services are strategic priorities for attracting investments and reinforcing economic resilience."*

Table 7: Keyword Coding Breakdown

Sentence Segment	Extracted Keywords	Thematic Category
"Effective governance demands enhanced transparency"	transparency, effective governance	Institutional governance & reforms
"institutional modernization"	institutional modernization	Institutional governance & reforms
"Strengthening anti-corruption policies"	anti-corruption	Institutional governance & reforms
"Digitizing public services"	digital economy, public service modernization	Economic diversification & innovation
"Attracting investments"	foreign investments	Economic diversification & trade expansion
"Reinforcing economic resilience"	economic resilience	Economic sustainability

(Source: Personal creation)

This structured coding method allowed policy themes to be systematically identified and contextualized, providing empirical grounding for the study's central argument (Krippendorff, 2018, p. 35).

4.7.1.2.2.3 Frequency Analysis and Semantic Weighting

Frequency analysis was applied to evaluate the recurrence of key terms across policy documents, highlighting the dominant themes in governance and development strategy (Neuendorf, 2017, p. 76).

Table 8: Example of Frequency Analysis Based on Policy Texts

Keyword	Number of Occurrences
Transparency	23
Institutional Modernization	18
Economic Diversification	15
Regional Integration	12
Foreign Investments	19

(Source: Personal creation)

Semantic weighting techniques further revealed key interconnections among governance themes, offering insights into policy emphasis.

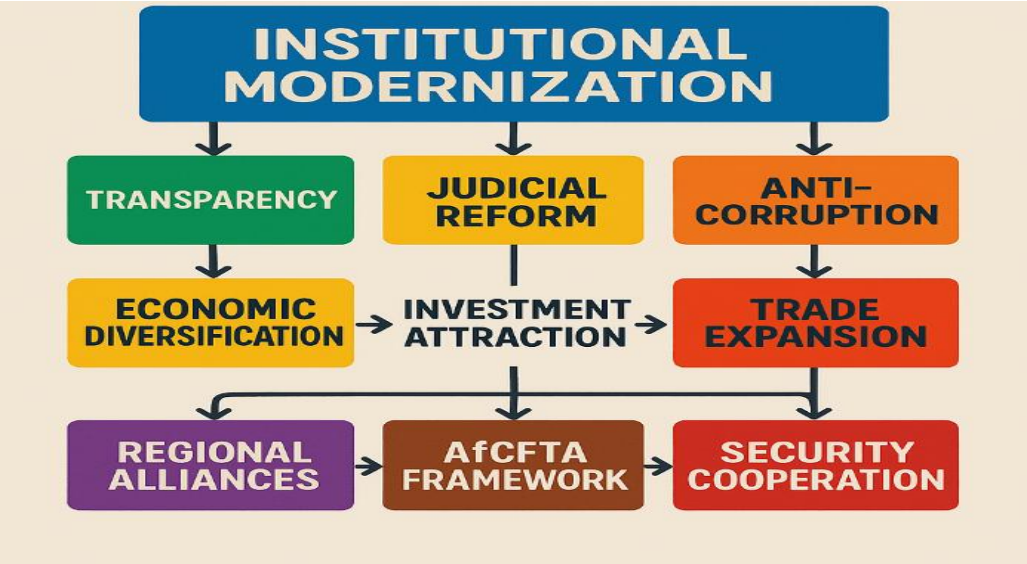
4.7.1.2.2.4 Conceptual Mapping of Governance and Economic Strategies

Governance and economic policies are interconnected frameworks that influence Togo's national development. Understanding how key thematic areas interact helps refine strategic approaches and optimize policy implementation. Below is a structured representation of these relationships. To visualize the relationship between policy priorities, network mapping tools were employed, showcasing the interplay between governance reforms, economic strategies, and international partnerships (Blei et al., 2003, p. 1012).

4.7.1.2.2.4.1 Interconnections between governance improvements to economic and diplomatic success

Here is a chart illustrating the relationship between governance improvements to economic and diplomatic success.

Figure 8: Interconnections between governance improvements to economic and diplomatic success



(Source: Personal creation)

This diagram outlines a structured approach to institutional modernization, with a clear flow from transparency and judicial reform to broader economic and regional cooperation goals. Let's break it down:

- Institutional Modernization sits at the top as the goal.
- The first layer focuses on Transparency, Judicial Reform, and Anti-Corruption—foundational principles that strengthen governance.
- These reforms lead to Economic Diversification, Investment Attraction, and Trade Expansion, fostering financial resilience and global engagement.
- The final layer highlights Regional Alliances, AfCFTA Framework, and Security Cooperation, emphasizing collaboration and stability.

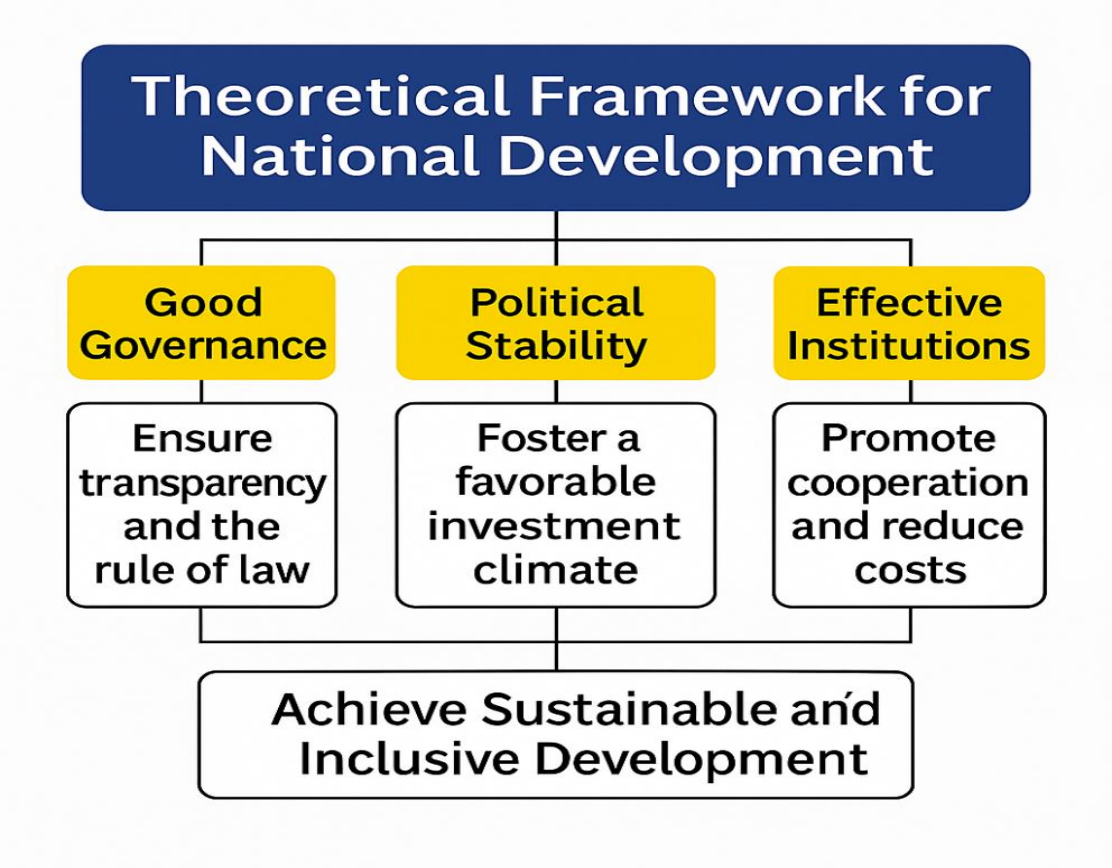
It's a roadmap that connects governance improvements to economic and diplomatic success.

This structure illustrates how institutional modernization and transparency directly influence investment attraction, industrial diversification, and economic resilience, key components of Togo's national development strategy. By reinforcing transparency and judicial reform, Togo lays a solid foundation for investment attraction and economic diversification, which in turn fuel trade expansion and regional cooperation.

4.7.1.2.2.4.2 Correlations Between Governance, Stability, and Economic Growth

Here is a chart illustrating the Correlations Between Governance, Stability, and Economic Growth.

Figure 9: Correlations Between Governance, Stability, and Economic Growth



(Source: Personal creation)

The chart visually illustrates these key interactions between Governance, Stability, and Economic Growth

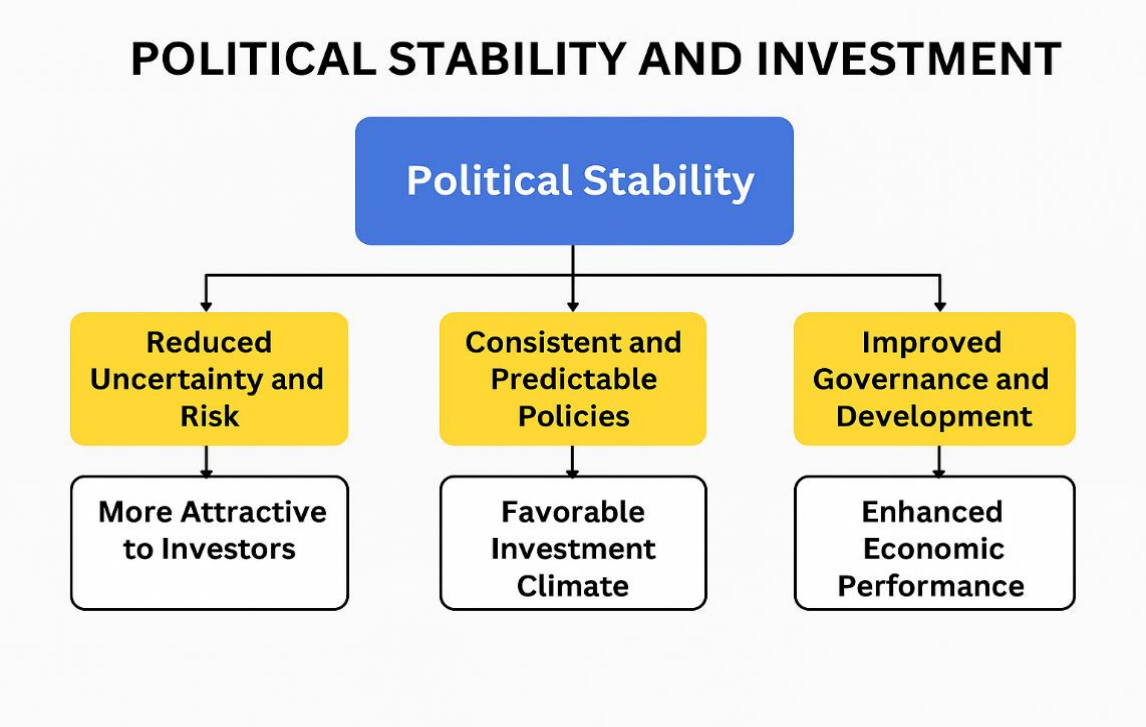
- Good governance strengthens political stability, as transparent institutions reduce social unrest and ensure policy predictability, fostering investment confidence.
- Political stability enhances economic development, as consistent governance enables infrastructure investments, trade expansion, and financial market reliability.
- Institutional capacity correlates with economic efficiency, where well-structured institutions reduce corruption, strengthen regulatory enforcement, and promote innovation.

- Sustainable development requires stable governance, where government-led environmental policies ensure long-term economic productivity without resource depletion.4.7.1.2.6.3 Interconnections between governance and economic development.

4.7.1.2.2.4.3 Interconnections between political stability and investment

Here is a chart illustrating the relationship between political stability and investment.

Figure 10:Interconnections between political stability and investment



(Source: Personal creation)

The direct effects of political stability on investment manifest in several critical areas:

- Investor Confidence – Stable governments provide assurances that business operations will not be disrupted by sudden policy shifts or political turmoil. Investors are more likely to commit capital to environments where governance is predictable, and policy continuity is maintained.

- Policy Effectiveness – A politically stable environment allows governments to implement and sustain long-term development strategies. Consistent leadership ensures that economic reforms can be effectively executed without interruption (Henisz, 2000, p. 635).

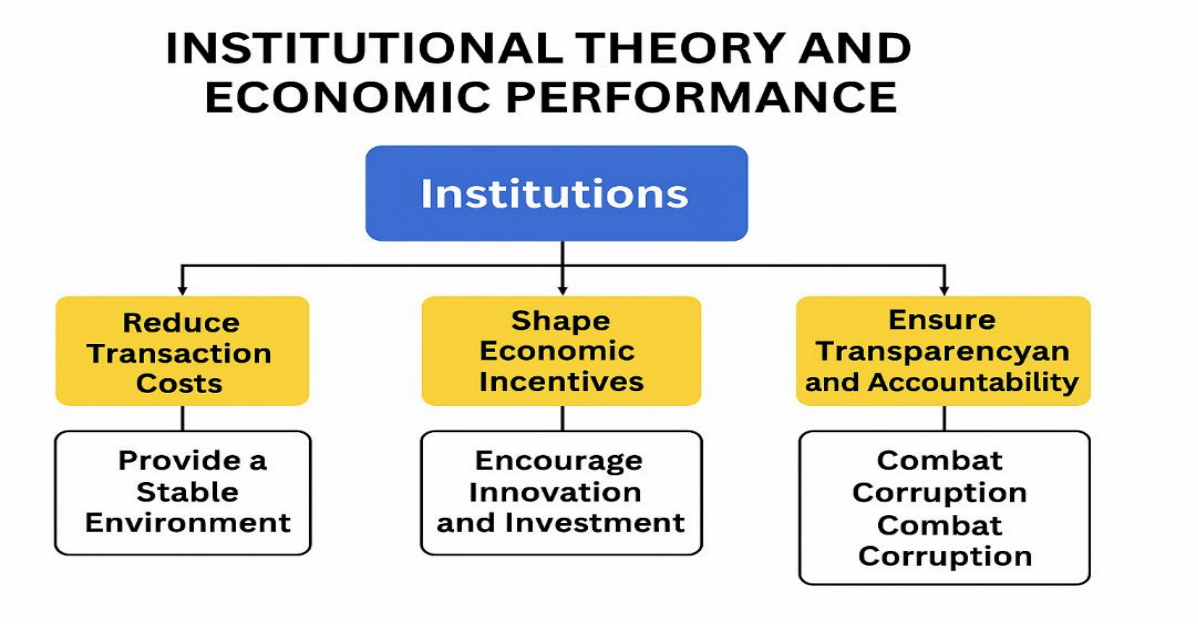
- Economic Growth and Infrastructure Development – Political stability facilitates investment in infrastructure, education, and technology, which serve as pillars for sustainable economic expansion. Countries with stable governance attract larger-scale investments in sectors that require prolonged development and capital infusion.

For Togo, achieving greater political stability enhances its attractiveness to foreign investors. Predictability in governance fosters trust among international business entities, making it easier to negotiate long-term trade agreements and foreign direct investment initiatives.

4.7.1.2.2.4.4 Interconnections between institutional theory and economic performance

Here is a chart illustrating the relationship between institutional theory and economic performance.

Figure 11:Relationship between institutional theory and economic performance



(Source: Personal creation)

The chart demonstrates how institutions significantly influence economic performance by reducing transaction costs, shaping economic incentives, and ensuring transparency and accountability. Strong institutions provide a stable environment where businesses and investors operate with confidence, minimizing uncertainty and inefficiencies. By lowering transaction costs, they enhance market efficiency, making trade and investment more accessible. This streamlined economic interaction fosters competitiveness and encouraged long-term financial commitments.

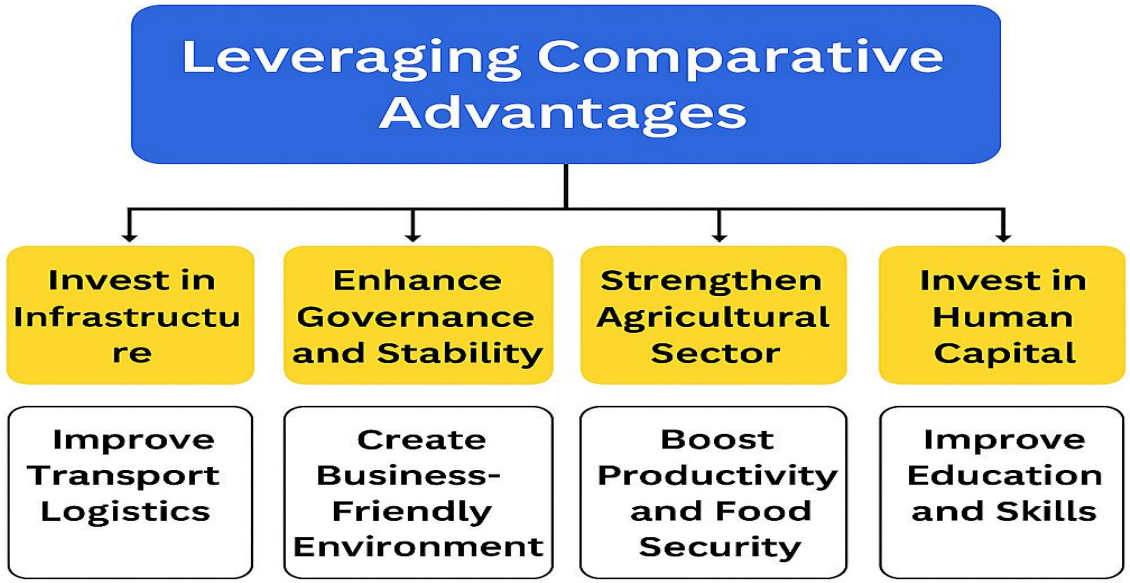
Institutions also play a fundamental role in shaping economic incentives, directing capital flows toward productive activities. Governments that design effective policies and regulatory

frameworks create opportunities for entrepreneurship and innovation, stimulating broader economic growth. When institutions guarantee transparency and accountability, they reinforce investor trust and economic stability. Corruption and opaque governance structures deter investment and hinder economic progress, highlighting the necessity of institutional integrity in sustainable development. The chart effectively illustrates these interconnections, portraying institutions as central drivers of economic resilience and expansion.

4.7.1.2.2.4.5 Interconnections between infrastructure investment, governance improvements, and political stability

Here is a chart illustrating the relationship between infrastructure investment, governance improvements, and political stability for leveraging Togo's comparative advantages.

Figure 12: Key strategies for leveraging Togo's comparative advantages



(Source: Personal creation)

The framework illustrates key strategies for leveraging Togo's comparative advantages to drive economic growth and national development. By integrating aspects of infrastructure investment, governance improvements, and political stability, the model highlights essential pathways for fostering sustainable development.

Strategic Location & Infrastructure: Togo's geographic positioning serves as a pivotal advantage for regional and international trade. The enhancement of logistics and transportation infrastructure, including port expansions and efficient road networks, can transform Togo into a crucial trade hub. Such investments facilitate market access, streamline trade operations, and attract foreign investment by reducing operational costs and inefficiencies (AfDB, 2018, p. 110).

Governance & Institutional Strengthening: A stable and transparent governance framework is fundamental for business confidence and economic resilience. Institutional reforms that enforce legal protections, property rights, and anti-corruption measures promote a favorable investment climate (Besley & Ghatak, 2010, p. 912). Furthermore, financial regulatory enhancements can facilitate easier access to credit for SMEs, fostering entrepreneurship and innovation (Klapper, Laeven, & Rajan, 2006, p. 591).

Agricultural Sector & Economic Diversification: Togo's agricultural potential offers significant avenues for economic development. Modernizing agricultural practices, investing in agro-processing industries, and improving market access can enhance productivity and drive export revenues (FAO, 2017, p. 85). The integration of technology in agribusiness can further optimize yield efficiency and strengthen food security (Binswanger-Mkhize & Savastano, 2017, p. 93).

Tourism & Human Capital Development: Leveraging cultural and natural heritage as a driver for tourism can generate employment and economic growth (Christie, Fernandes, Messerli, & Twining-Ward, 2013, p. 58). Simultaneously, prioritizing human capital investments through education and vocational training ensures a highly skilled workforce, crucial for supporting diversified economic activities (Hanushek & Woessmann, 2008, p. 613)

4.7.1.2.3 Contribution to Policy Discourse and Research Implications

Content analysis was employed to systematically examine the qualitative data collected from interviews and documents. This technique involved coding and categorizing textual data to identify recurring themes, patterns, and relationships between variables (Bowen, 2009, p. 27). By analyzing the content of interview transcripts and documents, researchers gained a deeper understanding of the key issues and concerns expressed by stakeholders.

For instance, content analysis revealed how stakeholders perceived the effectiveness of current development policies, the challenges they faced in implementation, and their suggestions for improvement. This information is invaluable for policymakers seeking to design more effective and responsive development strategies.

In the context of our thesis on national development in Togo, content analysis revealed how different stakeholders perceived the effectiveness of current development policies. Stakeholders such as diplomats, government officials, opinion leaders, and representatives of international

organizations expressed their views on what was working well and what was not. This included comments on the impact of policies on economic growth, poverty reduction, access to education and healthcare, and the management of natural resources.

- **Example 1: Economic Development Policies**

Content analysis showed that economic stakeholders perceived development policies as effective in terms of job creation but lacking in support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). These insights guided policymakers to strengthen initiatives supporting SMEs to further stimulate the local economy.

- **Example 2: Geopolitical Challenges**

Interviews with government officials and international relations experts revealed recurring themes regarding geopolitical challenges, such as regional tensions or economic dependency on a limited number of trade partners. This information is crucial for developing strategies for economic diversification and improving Togo's geopolitical resilience.

- **Example 3: Institutional Performance**

Content analysis of institutional reports and stakeholder interviews indicated that while Togo's governance structures are improving, inefficiencies in administrative coordination and regulatory enforcement remain key obstacles. These insights led policymakers to propose a streamlined bureaucratic framework, focusing on digital transformation and regulatory simplification to enhance institutional effectiveness. Lessons from Estonia's e-governance model inspired efforts to implement digital public service delivery and data-driven governance frameworks, ensuring efficiency in policy execution and accountability mechanisms.

- **Example 4: Political Stability**

Interviews with business leaders, diplomats, and political analysts revealed that Togo’s stability plays a central role in attracting foreign direct investment (FDI). However, concerns were raised about the need for further institutional safeguards to ensure long-term governance predictability. This analysis guided policymakers in reinforcing checks and balances through judicial independence, electoral transparency, and decentralization strategies. Insights from Singapore and Rwanda’s governance models highlighted how a structured approach to political stability fosters investor confidence, contributing to sustained economic growth.

- **Example 5: Strategic Partnerships**

Policy review and stakeholder consultations demonstrated that Togo's regional and international alliances remain essential for economic expansion yet require diversification beyond traditional trade partners. Interviews with diplomatic missions and international economic bodies revealed the need for strengthened trade agreements, cross-border infrastructure investments, and knowledge-sharing initiatives. Inspired by Ghana's proactive engagement with global economic institutions, policymakers have outlined strategies to expand partnerships with emerging economies, reinforce ties with global development banks, and integrate cross-national technological collaborations to enhance competitiveness.

❖ Example 6: Economic Diversification

Empirical data from macroeconomic analyses and private sector assessments showed that while Togo's trade and logistics sector is thriving, the economy remains highly dependent on a few industries. Content analysis of investor reports identified the necessity of broadening Togo's economic base, particularly through agribusiness, fintech, and energy sector development. Policymakers are now exploring strategies modeled on Malaysia's industrial diversification framework, focusing on special economic zones, startup incubators, and renewable energy investments to reduce economic vulnerability and increase resilience in global markets.

These findings provide a structured approach to strengthening governance, fostering stability, expanding strategic partnerships, and ensuring diversified economic growth, aligning with Togo's national development vision within the current geopolitical context.

❖ Example 7: Suggestions for Improvement

Suggestions for improvement expressed by stakeholders were varied. For instance, representatives of international organizations recommended better coordination among development agencies to avoid duplication of efforts and maximize the impact of interventions. Community leaders suggested greater inclusion of local communities in the planning and implementation of development projects to ensure that initiatives meet the real needs of the population.

❖ Examples of Model Countries

Content analysis also included case studies of model countries that successfully overcame similar challenges. For example, analyzing documents on Rwanda's economic development provided insights into how the country successfully rebuilt its economy after the genocide, focusing on transparent governance and economic diversification (Chemouni, 2017). Similarly, Ethiopia's rural development policies offered lessons on improving access to basic services in rural areas (Dercon & Vargas Hill, 2009).

By integrating these concrete examples into content analysis, researchers provided practical, evidence-based recommendations to improve development strategies in Togo. These insights are invaluable for policymakers seeking to design more effective and responsive development strategies by drawing on the successes of model countries and addressing the specific concerns of stakeholders in Togo.

Through methodological precision and interdisciplinary integration, content analysis provided critical empirical insights into governance dynamics, institutional resilience, and policy discourse evolution. The findings reinforced broader discussions on economic policy structuring, regulatory adaptation, and governance integrity, forming a robust analytical foundation for subsequent empirical investigations.

This methodological approach ensured that institutional narratives were not assessed in isolation but were instead contextualized within historical, economic, and geopolitical realities, strengthening the theoretical and empirical depth of the research.

4.7.1.3 Thematic Analysis

Thematic analysis was employed as a structured and rigorous qualitative research method to systematically analyze interview data, case studies, and focus group discussions. This approach allowed for the identification of recurring themes, patterns, and conceptual insights that emerged across diverse stakeholder narratives, providing an in-depth understanding of institutional frameworks, governance models, and political stability in Togo (Braun & Clarke, 2006, p. 79).

4.7.1.3.1 Methodology Approach

Thematic analysis was conducted in several stages, enabling us to systematically uncover underlying narratives and conceptual patterns within the documents. The process followed these structured steps:

- **Initial Familiarization with the Data:** All selected texts were thoroughly examined to identify recurring topics, critical arguments, and implicit discourses that influence policy and governance frameworks.
- **Generating Initial Codes:** Key statements, terminologies, and thematic indicators were extracted and categorized based on their relevance to the research problem. Each coded segment was tagged according to its contribution to governance, trade policies, institutional reform, and geopolitical strategy.
- **Searching for Themes:** Emerging patterns were grouped under broader conceptual categories, such as economic resilience, policy adaptation, institutional efficiency, regional

integration, and security governance. These themes provided a structural foundation for synthesizing insights from various sources.

- **Reviewing and Refining Themes:** Once preliminary themes were identified, they were cross-referenced with additional documents to ensure consistency, refine definitions, and eliminate redundancies. This iterative process strengthened the theoretical validity of our findings.

- **Defining and Naming Themes:** Each thematic category was explicitly labeled with a clear conceptual definition, allowing for structured discussions and a coherent presentation of findings.

4.7.1.3.2 Application of Thematic Analysis in This Study

Thematic analysis was applied to a collection of semi-structured interviews, policy discussions, and case studies involving key stakeholders such as government officials, foreign investors, business leaders, legal experts, and civil society representatives. The objective was to extract dominant themes related to institutional efficiency, investment climate, governance reforms, and political risk factors, shaping a nuanced perspective on Togo's institutional strengths and weaknesses.

Thematic analysis is essential for identifying recurring patterns in governance discourse, assessing policy effectiveness, and understanding economic and geopolitical strategies. The approach systematically analyzes interview data, policy reports, legislative documents, and case studies, allowing for a deep evaluation of institutional frameworks and national development models (Braun & Clarke, 2006, p. 79).

Based on qualitative data coding and comparative policy evaluations, the following major themes emerged as the most significant in shaping Togo's national growth strategy.

4.7.1.3.2.1 Selection of Key Themes

Based on qualitative data coding, comparative policy evaluations, and your research framework, the following major themes emerged as the most significant in shaping Togo's development strategy.

4.7.1.3.2.1.1 Leveraging Geographical Advantages for Trade and Logistics

✓ *How can Togo optimize its strategic location to enhance trade and economic growth?*

- ❖ Contextual Insight:

- Togo’s Atlantic coastline and proximity to key trade corridors provide substantial logistics advantages.

- Successful models such as Singapore and Djibouti illustrate how strategic trade positioning boosts economic resilience (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).

❖ Concrete Example:

Djibouti’s transformation into a logistics hub resulted from port modernization and efficient trade agreements.

❖ Stakeholder Perspective: > *"Togo's geographic positioning is an asset but underutilized without targeted infrastructure investments."* — Trade and Logistics Analyst

✓ Policy Implication: Enhancing transport corridors, port logistics, and cross-border trade frameworks will optimize Togo’s economic leverage.

4.7.1.3.2.1.2 Political Stability and Investment Climate

✓ *What impact does governance consistency have on foreign investment confidence?*

❖ Contextual Insight:

- Stable regulatory environments in Rwanda and Ghana foster investment trust.

- Policy unpredictability discourages long-term commitments by foreign investors (UNECA, 2017, p. 62).

❖ Stakeholder Perspective: > *"Investment confidence is built on policy continuity and institutional predictability."* — International Investor.

✓ Policy Implication: Balancing long-term policy consistency with adaptive market strategies will ensure investment resilience.

4.7.1.3.2.1.3 Institutional Performance and Regulatory Clarity

✓ *How does institutional efficiency influence governance, transparency, and market confidence?*

❖ Concrete Example: Singapore's streamlined governance and transparent regulations have boosted foreign direct investment (FDI) through legal predictability (Kaufmann & Kraay, 2019, p. 91).

❖ Stakeholder Perspective: > *"Without clear frameworks, investors hesitate, and economic momentum slows."* — Government Official (Ministry of Economy).

✓ Policy Implication: Strengthening institutional efficiency will foster market trust and expand investment opportunities.

4.7.1.3.2.1.4 Institutional Reforms and Strategic Partnerships

✓ *Which reforms and partnerships can accelerate national development?*

- ❖ Contextual Insight:

- Comparative models (Estonia, Finland, Malaysia) reveal how strategic partnerships drive industrial modernization.
- Digital governance has enhanced bureaucratic efficiency in Estonia (Drechsler, 2020, p. 45).

- ❖ Stakeholder Perspective: > *"Regional and international partnerships can accelerate industrial transformation."* — Development Economist.

✓ Policy Implication: Targeted institutional reforms and alliances will strengthen governance and economic expansion.

4.7.1.3.2.1.5 Economic Diversification and Trade Competitiveness

✓ *How can Togo shift toward industrial sectors beyond primary commodities?*

- ❖ Concrete Example: Malaysia's state-led diversification successfully moved beyond dependence on commodity exports (World Bank, 2023, p. 57).

- ❖ Stakeholder Perspective: > *"For long-term economic sustainability, industrial innovation and competitive trade policies are essential."* — Investment Strategist.

✓ Policy Implication: Strategic sector expansion into manufacturing, technology, and agro-processing will sustain economic resilience.

4.7.1.3.2.1.6 Comparative Development Models and Strategic Lessons

✓ *Which international frameworks provide applicable solutions for Togo?*

- ❖ Comparative Analysis:

- Rwanda's governance model strengthened investment security.
- Finland's innovation-driven policies boosted competitive industrial sectors.
- Singapore's economic transformation was enabled by trade liberalization and policy predictability (Rodrik, 2008, p. 76).

- ❖ Stakeholder Perspective: > *"Learning from high-performing economies will refine policy strategies for long-term growth."* — Policy Analyst.

✓ Policy Implication: Applying successful governance models can optimize Togo's structural reforms and economic strategy.

4.7.1.3.2.1.7 Mapping Thematic Patterns Across Stakeholder Categories

Table 9: Stakeholder Perspectives on National Development Strategies

Theme	Government Officials	Private Sector	Investors
Geographical Trade Advantages	Advocates for logistics expansion	Pushes for efficient trade facilitation	Seeks infrastructure-backed investment confidence
Political Stability & Investment Climate	Promotes long-term policy predictability	Requests regulatory flexibility	Requires stable governance frameworks
Institutional Reforms & Strategic Partnerships	Supports policy modernization	Prefers private-sector integration	Seeks bilateral agreements
Economic Diversification & Trade Expansion	Encourages industrial sector growth	Focuses on trade-driven economic reforms	Requires market-driven strategies
Comparative Development Models	Evaluates successful policies	Analyzes industry best practices	Seeks alignment with global trends

(Source: Personal creation)

4.7.1.3.2.1.8 Key Findings from Thematic Analysis

Government officials prioritize policy stability, ensuring a consistent regulatory environment that fosters long-term governance credibility and economic predictability. Meanwhile, private stakeholders advocate for regulatory flexibility, seeking adaptable frameworks that encourage innovation and market responsiveness. Investors emphasize predictability as a crucial factor in decision-making, relying on stable legal and economic conditions to assess risk and opportunity. Additionally, infrastructure-backed trade policies emerge as a fundamental driver for sustained investment, reinforcing the need for well-developed logistics and strategic trade facilitation to enhance economic competitiveness.

Institutional challenges remain a significant concern for foreign investors, despite official assurances of regulatory stability and investment incentives. Persistent inefficiencies and unpredictable policy shifts create uncertainty, affecting investor confidence. Bureaucratic delays, especially in sectors requiring regulatory approvals, were frequently cited as obstacles to business expansion, reflecting broader concerns over administrative efficiency. These findings align with previous research indicating that institutional rigidity can hinder economic growth by deterring private sector engagement (Rodrik, 2008, p. 76).

Transparency remains a focal issue, with stakeholder interviews revealing skepticism regarding the credibility of anti-corruption enforcement measures. Although policy frameworks emphasize accountability, limited prosecution of high-profile corruption cases continues to fuel doubts about institutional integrity (Besley & Ghatak, 2010, p. 912). This disconnect between governance reforms and enforcement effectiveness suggests that institutional transparency must be accompanied by demonstrable actions to reassure stakeholders of long-term stability.

Geopolitical considerations also play a pivotal role in economic policy formulation. Regional integration mechanisms, particularly ECOWAS and AfCFTA, were identified as crucial tools for expanding trade opportunities and enhancing investment security. Government officials frequently highlighted Togo's deep-water port and logistical infrastructure as strategic assets for strengthening its geopolitical influence. This underscores the importance of institutional planning in aligning national trade strategies with broader regional economic frameworks, ensuring sustained growth and competitive positioning in the African market (Ministère de l'Économie et des Finances, 2021, p. 67).

4.7.1.3.2.1.9 Final Analysis and Policy Implications

Togo's economic growth strategy is anchored in institutional modernization, ensuring regulatory clarity that facilitates investment expansion. A transparent and predictable governance framework fosters investor confidence and enables efficient capital allocation. Economic diversification serves as a catalyst for industrial innovation, enhancing trade competitiveness and positioning Togo as a dynamic player in regional and global markets. Strengthening political stability further reinforces foreign investment confidence, creating the necessary conditions for sustained macroeconomic resilience.

Geopolitical positioning is a crucial element of this strategy, enabling Togo to expand its regional trade influence and forge strategic partnerships that drive economic integration. By leveraging its geographical advantages, refining governance structures, and adopting comparative best practices, Togo is well-positioned for long-term economic transformation. This approach not only secures financial stability but also strengthens its role within broader African trade frameworks, ensuring sustainable development through a balance of institutional, economic, and political strategies.

4.7.1.4 Contextualizing Findings Within Theoretical Frameworks

To ensure a robust analytical foundation, we systematically compared the findings derived from document analysis with established theoretical models and conceptual frameworks. This approach validates the relevance of our findings while providing critical interpretations that situate them within broader academic discourse. By assessing how document-based insights align with or challenge prevailing literature, we aim to refine our understanding of Togo's developmental trajectory and its policy implications.

4.7.1.4.1 Comparing Findings Against Established Theories

The integration of theoretical perspectives is essential for contextualizing key themes in governance, economic development, and institutional reform. In this study, we examined findings in relation to the following theoretical constructions:

- Institutional Theory (North, 1990): Our document analysis underscores the pivotal role of institutional efficiency in shaping economic performance. North's framework highlights how institutional reforms can drive economic stability, and our findings validate this by demonstrating Togo's ongoing efforts to modernize regulatory frameworks and strengthen governance structures.

- New Structural Economics (Lin, 2012): Lin's theory advocates industrial modernization through targeted investment in infrastructure and sector-specific policy interventions. Our analysis of Togo's National Development Plan (PND 2018–2022) aligns with this perspective, illustrating how agricultural transformation, transport expansion, and industrial diversification contribute to long-term economic growth.

- Dependency Theory (Frank, 1967): The examination of regional trade dependencies and foreign investment policies provides nuanced insights into Togo's position within global economic structures. Findings reveal that while Togo seeks greater economic autonomy, structural barriers—such as reliance on external capital flows and geopolitical vulnerabilities—align with core tenets of dependency theory.

- Modernization Theory (Rostow, 1960): Rostow's five-stage development model offers a framework for assessing Togo's industrial and technological growth initiatives. Our findings indicate that Togo remains in a transitional phase, navigating between infrastructural expansion and broader economic liberalization in pursuit of sustained development.

4.7.1.4.2 Analyzing How Document-Based Insights Support or Challenge Existing Literature

Beyond theoretical validation, our document analysis highlights critical points of convergence and divergence with existing academic and policy-oriented literature:

- Alignment with Good Governance Theory (World Bank, 1992): Policy reports reviewed, including the Government Roadmap 2020–2025, reinforce established governance principles, emphasizing transparency, accountability, and institutional efficiency as pillars of economic resilience. This supports prior studies advocating public sector reform as a catalyst for attracting foreign investment.

- Challenges to Conventional Trade Liberalization Assumptions: While globalization literature (Rodrik, 2007) often promotes market openness as a fundamental driver of development, our findings suggest that Togo's trade policies require greater regulatory oversight to mitigate risks associated with foreign capital dependency and regional economic volatility. This challenges the prevailing assumption that unrestricted market liberalization alone ensures sustainable economic growth.

- Bridging Economic and Security Discourses: Unlike earlier development literature that treats economic strategy and security policy as distinct domains, our findings demonstrate their interdependence. Togo's maritime security reforms (Port of Lomé Logistics Report, 2022) directly impact trade efficiency and investor confidence, highlighting the necessity of an integrated approach that synchronizes economic and security priorities.

By systematically comparing findings with established theoretical perspectives and critically engaging with existing literature, this study enhances the depth of scholarly discourse on Togo's development model. The integration of both empirical insights and theoretical constructions ensures a comprehensive understanding of policy challenges and strategic opportunities, reinforcing the study's academic contribution.

4.7.1.5 Ensuring Credibility and Triangulation

To maintain the methodological rigor of this study, we employed triangulation to enhance the validity and reliability of our findings. By cross-referencing multiple sources and integrating complementary qualitative methods, we ensured that document-based conclusions are not only well-supported but also reflective of a broader empirical reality. This approach strengthens the study's analytical foundation and mitigates potential biases arising from singular data interpretations.

4.7.1.5.1 Cross-Referencing Multiple Document Sources

One of the primary strategies for validating findings involved the systematic cross-examination of diverse sources, including:

- **Government reports and policy briefs** to verify national economic and governance strategies.
- **Academic publications** providing theoretical and empirical analyses of development frameworks.
- **International organization assessments** (World Bank, UNDP, AfDB, OECD) offering sector-specific evaluations on governance and trade.
- **Media and expert commentaries** contextualizing contemporary policy debates and implementation challenges.

Through comparative analysis, we ensured that document-derived conclusions aligned with established trends and policy directions, avoiding reliance on isolated data points. Key steps in the cross-referencing process included:

- **Assessing consistency across sources** by identifying recurring themes and policy recommendations.
- **Validating statistical data** through corroboration with official economic indicators and independent research.
- **Detecting discrepancies** to refine interpretations and acknowledge potential limitations in source reliability.

This methodical cross-examination allowed us to distill authoritative insights while maintaining analytical precision and empirical integrity.

4.7.1.5.2 Integrating Complementary Qualitative Methods

Beyond document analysis, we incorporated additional qualitative techniques, notably expert interviews and comparative case studies, to further enhance the validity of findings.

- **Expert Interviews**
    - Conducted with policymakers, economists, and development practitioners to gain firsthand perspectives on governance challenges and economic strategies.

- Provided nuanced interpretations of policy implementation gaps and institutional bottlenecks.
- Strengthened our assessment of Togo's regulatory and investment climate by integrating real-world experiences from decision-makers and analysts.

❖ **Comparative Case Studies**

- Examined successful development models in Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, and Malaysia to extract applicable lessons for Togo.
- Evaluated trade policies, institutional reforms, and governance innovations in similar economic contexts.
- Facilitated a benchmarking approach, allowing for a measured assessment of Togo's policy effectiveness in relation to other nations.

By synthesizing documentary evidence with expert insights and comparative studies, we established a multi-layered validation framework, ensuring that findings are both contextually grounded and empirically robust. This triangulation process enhances the study's contribution to academic and policy discourse, reinforcing its credibility within both scholarly and professional domains.

4.7.1.6 Synthesizing and Structuring Analysis in the Dissertation

To ensure coherence and analytical depth, the findings derived from document analysis were systematically structured within the methodology and results chapters of this dissertation. This structured approach allows for the presentation of data-driven insights while maintaining academic rigor and transparency. Beyond presenting findings, we critically assess the implications, gaps, and limitations of the document-based approach, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of its methodological constraints and contributions.

4.7.1.6.1 Presenting Findings in a Structured Manner

The results of the document analysis are integrated within key sections of the dissertation to provide a logical and evidence-based narrative**.** The structuring process follows these principles:

❖ **Methodology Chapter:**

- Clearly defines the document selection criteria, coding techniques, and analytical framework.

- Establishes theoretical alignment, demonstrating how findings connect with institutional theories and economic models.
- Outlines the categorization process, explaining the systematic organization of sources to ensure thematic coherence.

❖ **Results Chapter:**

- Presents thematic findings**,** showcasing patterns in governance reforms, trade policies, institutional development, and regional integration.
- Supports insights with empirical evidence**,** cross-referencing policy briefs, national strategies, and international economic reports.
- Utilizes comparative analysis**,** situating Togo's development trajectory within broader global and regional models.

By structuring findings in this manner, we establish clarity, logical progression, and empirical validity, reinforcing the dissertation's analytical framework.

4.7.1.6.2 Discussing Implications, Gaps, and Limitations

While the document-based approach provides rich empirical insights, it is crucial to acknowledge its inherent limitations and contextual boundaries:

- **Implications:**
  - Findings contribute to understanding institutional evolution, policy adaptability, and governance efficiency in Togo.
  - The integration of comparative case studies highlights actionable strategies for economic transformation, guiding future policymaking.
  - Insights from international organization reports reinforce the importance of regional integration and sustainable development policies.
- **Gaps in Research:**
  - Limited empirical data on private sector engagement within institutional reforms.
  - Lack of longitudinal studies assessing the sustained impact of governance and trade policies over extended periods.

- Insufficient exploration of cross-sectoral interactions between economic policies, security frameworks, and environmental regulations.

- **Limitations of the Document-Based Approach:**
  - Dependency on secondary sources**,** restricting firsthand data collection.
  - Potential bias in institutional reports**,** requiring careful cross-referencing for accuracy.
  - Challenges in generalizability**,** as findings primarily reflect national and regional perspectives without extensive microeconomic validation.

By acknowledging these limitations while leveraging a complementary methodological approach**,** we ensure a balanced and academically rigorous discussion, reinforcing the dissertation's contribution to policy discourse and scholarly inquiry.

4.7.2 Quantitative Analysis

Quantitative analysis has played a crucial role in testing our research hypotheses and providing empirical evidence to support our policy recommendations. This approach has allowed us to identify and quantify relationships between variables, offering a robust basis for understanding the factors influencing national development in Togo. By employing statistical software such as SPSS or R, we have performed both descriptive and inferential analyses to draw meaningful conclusions from the data. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics to identify trends, correlations, and distributions of key variables[64]. Data were collected from secondary sources such as national and international databases, including reports from the World Bank, IMF, and Togolese statistical agencies[65].

4.7.2.1 Descriptive Statistics

Statistics is the science, or a branch of mathematics, that involves collecting, classifying, analyzing, interpreting, and presenting numerical facts and data. It is especially handy when dealing with populations too numerous and extensive for specific, detailed measures. Statistics are crucial for drawing general conclusions relating to a dataset from a data sample. Statistics further break down into two types: descriptive and inferential. Today, we look at descriptive statistics, including a definition, the types of descriptive statistics, and the differences between descriptive statistics and inferential statistics.

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[64] Field, A. (2013). *Discovering Statistics Using IBM SPSS Statistics* (4th ed.). SAGE Publications.

[65] Pallant, J. (2020). *SPSS Survival Manual: A Step-by-Step Guide to Data Analysis Using IBM SPSS* (7th ed.). Routledge.

Descriptive statistics were used to summarize the data and provide an overview of the key characteristics of the sample.

The primary goal of descriptive statistics is to provide a clear and concise summary of the data, enabling researchers or analysts to gain insights and understand patterns, trends, and distributions within the dataset. This summary typically includes measures such as central tendency (e.g., mean, median, mode), dispersion (e.g., range, variance, standard deviation), and shape of the distribution (e.g., skewness, kurtosis).

Descriptive statistics also involve a graphical representation of data through charts, graphs, and tables, which can further aid in visualizing and interpreting the information. Common graphical techniques include histograms, bar charts, pie charts, scatter plots, and box plots.

By employing descriptive statistics, researchers can effectively summarize and communicate the key characteristics of a dataset, facilitating a better understanding of the data and providing a foundation for further statistical analysis or decision-making processes[66].

This included calculating measures such as means, medians, standard deviations, and percentages (Field, 2013, p. 75).

- Mean: We added up all the scores and divided by the number of scores.
- Median: We arranged the scores in ascending order and found the middle value.
- Mode: We identified the score(s) that appeared most frequently.
- Range: We calculated the difference between the highest and lowest scores.
- Variance: We calculated the average of the squared differences from the mean.
- Standard Deviation: We took the square root of the variance.

For example, we calculated the average level of satisfaction with development policies among different demographic groups. Descriptive statistics provided a foundational understanding of the data, highlighting central tendencies and variations within the sample.

[66] What is Descriptive Statistics: Definition, Types, Applications, and Examples
By Aditya Kumar available on https://www.simplilearn.com/what-is-descriptive-statistics-article, Last updated on Sep 30, 2024175344.

4.7.2.2 Inferential Analyses

Inferential statistics take a random sample of data from a portion of the population and describe and make inferences about the entire population. For instance, by asking 50 people if they liked the movie they had just seen, inferential statistics would build on that and assume that those results would hold for the rest of the moviegoing population in general. Therefore, if you stood outside that movie theater and surveyed 50 people who had just seen *Rocky 20: Enough Already!* and 38 of them disliked it (about 76 percent), you could extrapolate that 76% of the rest of the movie-watching world will dislike it too, even though you haven't the means, time, and opportunity to ask all those people. Inferential statistics make projections based on that data[67].

Inferential analyses were conducted to test the research hypotheses and determine whether observed patterns in the data are statistically significant. This involved using techniques such as chi-square tests, ANOVA (Analysis of Variance), and multiple regressions to explore relationships between variables and identify potential causal links (Hair et al., 2014, p. 98). For instance, we used ANOVA to compare satisfaction levels across different regions of Togo, or multiple regression to examine the impact of educational attainment on perceptions of economic development.

- **Chi-Square Tests:** Chi-square tests were used to examine the associations between categorical variables. This test assessed whether there is a significant relationship between two variables by comparing the observed frequencies in each category to the expected frequencies (Field, 2013, p. 85). For example, we used chi-square tests to explore the relationship between gender and satisfaction with government policies, helping to identify potential disparities between different demographic groups.

- **ANOVA (Analysis of Variance):** ANOVA was used to compare means across multiple groups and determine whether there are significant differences between them (Hair et al., 2014, p. 102). This technique is particularly useful for comparing perceptions across different regions, socio-economic groups, or age categories. By identifying significant differences, ANOVA helped highlight areas where targeted policy interventions may be needed to address specific issues.
- **Multiple Regression:** Multiple regression analysis was used to examine the relationships between one dependent variable and multiple independent variables (Field, 2013, p. 95). This technique allowed us to assess the combined effect of several factors on a particular outcome. For example, we used multiple regression to analyze how factors such as education, income, and geographic location collectively influence perceptions of economic

[67] What is Descriptive Statistics: Definition, Types, Applications, and Examples
By Aditya Kumar available on https://www.simplilearn.com/what-is-descriptive-statistics-article, Last updated on Sep 30, 2024175344.

development. This analysis provided insights into the relative importance of different factors and helped identify key drivers of stakeholder perceptions.

The use of statistical software tools has allowed for easy documentation and reproducibility of analyses, which is essential for transparency and verification of research findings. We have saved our scripts and analysis procedures, making it easier for others to review and validate the results. This contributes to the credibility and robustness of the research conclusions.

In summary, the use of advanced statistical software such as SPSS and R has been essential for conducting rigorous and thorough quantitative analyses. These tools offer a comprehensive range of functionalities for processing, analyzing, and visualizing data, enabling us to draw meaningful conclusions and formulate evidence-based policy recommendations.

Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics to identify trends, correlations, and distributions of key variables[68]. Data were collected from secondary sources such as national and international databases, including reports from the World Bank, IMF, and Togolese statistical agencies[69].

4.7.2.3 Economic data

Economic data are a central element of this research, allowing us to evaluate Togo's economic performance over several years. In this section, we will delve into the key economic indicators that reflect Togo's economic performance and development trajectory, including GDP growth rate, foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows, employment rates, trade balance and inflation rate.

GDP growth rates are key indicators used to measure this performance. We collected these data from reliable secondary sources, specifically the annual reports of the World Bank[70] and the IMF.

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[68] Field, A. (2013). *Discovering Statistics Using IBM SPSS Statistics* (4th ed.). SAGE Publications.

[69] Pallant, J. (2020). *SPSS Survival Manual: A Step by Step Guide to Data Analysis Using IBM SPSS* (7th ed.). Routledge.

[70] World Bank. (2024, October 8). Togo - *Overview*. *World Bank*. https://www.banquemondiale.org/fr/country/togo/overview

The table 6 below presents Togo's GDP growth rates for the years 2020 to 2026. These data were obtained from recent publications by the World Bank and the IMF, ensuring the accuracy and reliability of the information used in this study.

Table 10: GDP Growth Rate in Togo

Year	GDP Growth Rate	Source
2020	-1.8%	World Bank, 2023
2021	5.3%	World Bank, 2023
2022	4.8%	World Bank, 2023
2023	6.1%	World Bank, 2024
2024	5.3%	World Bank, 2024
2025	5.4% (projected)	World Bank, 2024
2026	5.8% (projected)	World Bank, 2024

(Source: personal creation)

To understand the dynamics of foreign investments in Togo, we collected data on foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows from reliable secondary sources such as UNCTAD and IMF reports. The table 7 below presents the annual FDI inflows for the years 2020 to 2023, providing an overview of the trends and factors influencing these inflows.

Table 11: Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Inflows

Year	FDI Inflows	Source
2020	$150 million	UNCTAD, 2023
2021	$200 million	UNCTAD, 2023
2022	$220 million	UNCTAD, 2023
2023	$250 million (projected)	IMF, 2023

(Source: personal creation)

Again, to understand the employment dynamics in Togo, we collected data on employment rates from reliable secondary sources, notably the INSEED reports. Table 8 below presents the annual employment rates for the years 2020 to 2023, providing an overview of the trends and factors influencing these rates.

Table 12: Employment Rates

Year	Employment Rates	Source
2020	75%	INSEED, 2023
2021	76%	INSEED, 2023
2022	77%	INSEED, 2023
2023	78% (projected)	INSEED, 2023

(Source: personal creation)

Furthermore, to understand the trade dynamics of Togo, we collected data on the trade balance from reliable secondary sources, notably the World Bank and IMF reports. The table 9 below presents the annual trade balance for the years 2020 to 2023, providing an overview of the trends and factors influencing this balance.

Table 13: Trade Balance

Year	Trade Balance	Source
2020	-$500 million	World Bank, 2023
2021	-$450 million	World Bank, 2023
2022	-$400 million	World Bank, 2023
2023	-$350 million (projected)	IMF, 2023

(Source: personal creation)

To understand the inflation dynamics in Togo, we collected data on inflation rates from reliable secondary sources, notably the IMF reports. Table 10 below presents the annual inflation rates for the years 2020 to 2022, providing an overview of the trends and factors influencing these rates.

Table 14: Inflation Rate

Year	Inflation Rate	Source
2020	3.5%	IMF, 2023
2021	2.8%	IMF, 2023
2022	2.5%	IMF, 2023

(Source: personal creation)

Inflation rate data were collected from the IMF databases. This organization regularly publishes economic reports and statistics on the economic performance of countries. Inflation rates were extracted from the annual reports and regional economic outlooks published by the IMF.

In summary, economic data such as GDP growth rates, foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows, employment rates, trade balance, and inflation rates were collected from reliable secondary sources such as the World Bank, IMF, UNCTAD, and INSEED. These organizations regularly publish economic reports and publicly accessible databases, providing detailed information on the economic performance of countries. The data were extracted from the annual reports and regional economic outlooks published by these institutions.

GDP growth rates were obtained from the online databases of the World Bank and IMF. FDI inflows were collected from the databases of UNCTAD and IMF, while employment rates were sourced from the INSEED databases. Trade balance and inflation rate data were extracted from the World Bank and IMF databases.

The collected data were analyzed using descriptive statistics techniques to identify trends, annual variations, and the impacts of global economic events, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Growth rates, FDI inflows, employment rates, trade balance, and inflation rates were examined to understand the factors influencing these economic variables. Comparative analyses were also conducted to assess the variations in these economic indicators relative to previous years and future projections.

This methodological approach allows us to understand Togo's economic evolution over several years and to provide a solid analytical framework for subsequent discussions on economic development strategies. The use of reliable sources and rigorous analytical methods ensures the robustness of the conclusions drawn from this study. This could lead to further research on strategies for attracting investments, creating jobs, developing trade, and controlling inflation in Togo.

4.7.2.4 Social data

To assess the social situation in Togo, we collected data on literacy rates, access to healthcare, poverty rates, and education enrollment rates from reliable secondary sources such as INSEED, the World Bank, and UNESCO. Table 11 below presents the social indicators for the year 2022, providing an overview of the trends and factors influencing these indicators.

Table 15: Social situation in Togo

Indicator	Value	Source
Literacy Rate	66.5%	INSEED, 2023
Access to Healthcare	60%	World Bank, 2023
Poverty Rate	45%	World Bank, 2023
Education Enrollment Rates - Primary Education	95%	UNESCO, 2023
Education Enrollment Rates - Secondary Education	60%	UNESCO, 2023
Education Enrollment Rates - Tertiary Education	15%	UNESCO, 2023

(Source: personal creation)

Data on social variables were collected from the INSEED, World Bank, and UNESCO databases. These organizations regularly publish reports and statistics on the social performance of countries. The data were extracted from the annual reports and economic and social outlooks published by these institutions.

The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics techniques. Literacy rates, access to healthcare, poverty rates, and education enrollment rates were examined to identify trends, annual variations, and the factors influencing these indicators. Comparative analyses were also conducted to assess the impact of government policies and social initiatives on these variables.

This methodological approach allows us to understand the social evolution of Togo and to provide a solid analytical framework for subsequent discussions on social development strategies. The use of reliable sources and rigorous analytical methods ensures the robustness of the conclusions drawn from this study.

4.7.2.5 Political Data

To understand the political dynamics in Togo, we collected data on political stability, corruption perception, and government effectiveness from reliable secondary sources, including the World Bank Governance Indicators and Transparency International reports. Table 11 below presents the annual indices for the year 2022, providing an overview of the factors influencing these indices.

Table 16: Political dynamics in Togo

Indicator	Value	Source
Political Stability Index	-0.5	World Bank Governance Indicators, 2023
Corruption Perception Index	29/100	Transparency International, 2023
Government Effectiveness	-0.6	World Bank Governance Indicators, 2023

(Source: personal creation)

Data on political stability, corruption perception, and government effectiveness were collected from the World Bank and Transparency International databases. These organizations regularly publish reports and statistics on the political performance of countries. The data were extracted from the annual reports and governance indicators published by these institutions.

The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics techniques. Political stability, corruption perception, and government effectiveness indices were examined to identify trends and annual variations. Comparative analyses were also conducted to assess the impact of internal and external political conditions on these indicators.

This methodological approach allows us to understand Togo's political evolution and to provide a solid analytical framework for subsequent discussions on governance and political reform strategies. The use of reliable sources and rigorous analytical methods ensures the robustness of the conclusions drawn from this study.

4.7.2.6 Security Data

To assess the security situation in Togo, we collected data on terrorism incidence, military expenditure, and crime rates from reliable secondary sources, including the Global Terrorism Database, SIPRI, and the Togolese Ministry of Security. The table below presents the annual data for the year 2022, providing an overview of the trends and factors influencing these indicators.

Table 17: Security situation in Togo

Indicator	Value	Source
Incidence of Terrorism	10 incidents	Global Terrorism Database, 2023
Military Expenditure	2.5% of GDP	SIPRI, 2023
Crime Rate	500 reported crimes per 100,000 population	Togolese Ministry of Security, 2023

(Source: personal creation)

Data on terrorism incidence, military expenditure, and crime rates were collected from the SIPRI, Togolese Ministry of Security, and Global Terrorism Database. These organizations regularly publish reports and statistics on national and regional security. The data were extracted from the annual reports and security outlooks published by these institutions.

The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics techniques. Terrorism incidence, military expenditure, and crime rates were examined to identify trends and annual variations. Comparative analyses were also conducted to assess the impact of regional security conditions and defense policies on these indicators.

This methodological approach allows us to understand the evolution of security in Togo and to provide a solid analytical framework for subsequent discussions on security and defense strategies. The use of reliable sources and rigorous analytical methods ensures the robustness of the conclusions drawn from this study.

4.7.2.7 Definition of Variables

The study defines and operationalizes variables to examine national development strategies in Togo. These variables are categorized into independent, dependent, intermediary, and control variables.

4.7.2.7.1 Development of Independent Variables

Independent variables are manipulated to observe their effect on dependent variables.

- ✓ **Advantageous Geography (GA):** This variable utilizes Togo's strategic location for trade and logistics. It includes aspects such as proximity to ports and transport corridors, which are critical for facilitating international trade and enhancing economic activities. The strategic location provides Togo with a comparative advantage, making it a hub for regional trade.

The presence of Lomé Port, one of the busiest and most efficient ports in West Africa, underscores the significance of advantageous geography. Studies have shown that countries with better access to ports tend to experience higher trade volumes and economic growth.

- ✓ **Political Stability (SP):** This variable measures the level of political stability, governance quality, and security measures. It encompasses indicators such as political stability index, governance effectiveness, and corruption perception.

Political stability is assessed through indices like the World Bank Governance Indicators, which reflect the degree of political stability and absence of violence or terrorism. A stable political environment is crucial for attracting investments and fostering sustainable development.

- ✓ **Institutional Reforms and Strategic Partnerships (RIPS):** This variable includes legislative reforms, anti-corruption measures, and international cooperation. It focuses on the extent to which institutional reforms and strategic partnerships enhance governance and economic performance.

Initiatives such as the adoption of anti-corruption laws and the establishment of strategic partnerships with international organizations are vital for improving institutional efficiency and attracting foreign investments.

4.7.2.7.2 Development of Dependent Variables

Dependent variables represent the outcomes or effects in the study.

- ✓ **Economic Growth (CE):** This variable is assessed through GDP growth rate, sectoral growth, per capita income, employment rates, and investment levels. It indicates the overall economic performance and prosperity of the nation.

Economic growth is measured by the annual GDP growth rate, which reflects the increase in the value of goods and services produced in the economy. A higher GDP growth rate signifies a thriving economy.

- ✓ **Attraction of Foreign Investments (AIE):** This variable is measured by FDI inflows, the number of investment projects, and investment incentives. It highlights the country's ability to attract and retain foreign investments.

The level of FDI inflows is a critical indicator of the attractiveness of the investment climate. Policies aimed at providing tax incentives and improving the ease of doing business are key drivers of foreign investment attraction.

- ✓ **National Development (DN):** This variable is evaluated using the Human Development Index (HDI), infrastructure quality, access to social services, poverty reduction, and governance quality. It reflects the overall development and well-being of the population.

The HDI, which considers factors such as life expectancy, education, and per capita income, provides a comprehensive measure of national development. Improvements in infrastructure and social services contribute significantly to national development.

4.7.2.7.3 Development of Intermediary Variables

Intermediary variables explain how an independent variable affects a dependent variable.

- ✓ **Modern Infrastructure (IM):** This variable includes road quality, electricity access, water supply, telecommunications, and transport hubs. It acts as a conduit through which advantageous geography impacts economic growth.

The quality of infrastructure, such as well-maintained roads and reliable electricity supply, facilitates economic activities and attracts investments. Infrastructure improvements are essential for sustaining economic growth.

- ✓ **Institutional Capacity (CI):** This variable assesses corruption levels, administrative efficiency, legal framework, public sector training, and transparency. It explains how institutional reforms and strategic partnerships influence economic outcomes.

Strong institutional capacity, characterized by low corruption levels and high administrative efficiency, is fundamental for effective governance and economic performance. Training programs and transparent legal frameworks enhance institutional capacity.

4.7.2.7.4 Development of Control Variables

Control variables are kept constant to ensure results are attributable to the independent variables.

- ✓ **Socio-Economic Factors (FS):** This variable includes education level, poverty rate, income distribution, labor market conditions, and healthcare access. It accounts for the socio-economic context in which development strategies are implemented.

Higher education levels and better healthcare access contribute to improved human capital and economic productivity. Socio-economic factors play a significant role in shaping developmental outcomes.

- ✓ **International Context (CI):** This variable includes commodity prices, trade agreements, foreign relations, global economic trends, and international aid. It accounts for the external environment that influences national development.

Fluctuations in commodity prices and changes in trade agreements can significantly impact on economic performance. The international context provides a backdrop for assessing the effectiveness of development strategies.

By systematically defining and operationalizing these variables, the study provides a comprehensive framework for examining national development strategies in Togo. The use of reliable sources and rigorous analytical methods ensures the robustness of the conclusions drawn from this study. This could lead to further research on optimizing development strategies and addressing challenges in Togo's socio-economic landscape.

4.7.3 Reliability, Validity, and Ethical Considerations

Methodological rigor serves as the cornerstone of academic inquiry, ensuring that research findings are not only robust but also reflective of the phenomena under investigation. Scholars have consistently emphasized that reliability, validity, and ethical compliance are indispensable for producing replicable, transparent, and empirical sound studies (Lincoln & Guba, 1985, p. 289). This research adheres to a structured framework that enhances credibility, mitigates bias, and aligns internationally recognized research standards. The interplay between qualitative thematic analysis and quantitative statistical modeling is carefully calibrated to fortify analytical precision while safeguarding ethical integrity.

4.7.3.1 Ensuring Reliability in Research

Reliability is fundamental to the integrity of scholarly work, ensuring consistency in research results across varying analytical frameworks and methodological applications (Creswell & Poth, 2018, p. 95). This study employs a rigorous, multi-tiered approach to reinforcing reliability, leveraging advanced qualitative coding mechanisms and robust statistical validation techniques.

4.7.3.1.1 Reliability in Qualitative Analysis

In qualitative inquiry, reliability demands a systematic coding structure that ensures consistency in thematic interpretation. This study integrates NVivo, a sophisticated software tool designed to facilitate hierarchical categorization and pattern recognition (Braun & Clarke, 2006, p. 87). By employing structured thematic coding, emerging narratives are identified with precision, minimizing subjective variance across datasets (Saldaña, 2021, p. 68).

Given the qualitative nature of this research, thematic coding is conducted using NVivo, an advanced software designed to ensure structured data management and systematic pattern recognition (Braun & Clarke, 2006, p. 87).

- Key Strategies for Reliability in Qualitative Analysis:

- **Systematic Coding Using NVivo**: → Hierarchical classification of themes ensures **consistency in coding structures**. → Validation of emerging themes across multiple datasets to **detect inconsistencies and refine interpretations** (Saldaña, 2021, p. 68).

- **Intercoder Agreement**: → Dual coding by independent researchers guarantees **consistency across qualitative interpretations**, reducing subjective bias (Miles & Huberman, 1994, p. 237).

- **Triangulation of Sources**: → Multiple data sources—including **interviews, policy documents, and comparative case studies**—help cross-validate findings (Patton, 1999, p. 1193).

❖ Applied Example 1: During the analysis of governance narratives in Togo, NVivo thematic clustering identified recurring discussions on institutional reforms and policy stability across interviews with government officials, economic analysts, and foreign investors.

❖ Applied Example 2: An in-depth examination of institutional reforms in Togo revealed recurring discussions on governance transparency. The systematic application of NVivo allowed for the detection of convergent themes in policy narratives, ensuring that institutional analyses remained stable across multiple stakeholder groups, including government officials, economic analysts, and private investors. The replication of these thematic clusters across independent datasets affirms the strong reliability of the qualitative coding methodology.

4.7.3.1.2 Reliability in Quantitative Analysis

Statistical reliability is paramount in quantitative research, ensuring measurement precision and analytical reproducibility. This study applies Cronbach's alpha ($\alpha > 0.7$) to verify the internal consistency of governance and economic indicators used in regression analyses (Nunnally & Bernstein, 1994, p. 265). Measurement validity is further reinforced through cross-sectional data analysis, detecting anomalies and refining inferential accuracy (Hair et al., 2019, p. 87).

In quantitative research, reliability is ensured through statistical validation, employing regression models and descriptive statistics to evaluate causal relationships between governance dynamics and economic performance (Field, 2018, p. 142).

❖ Key Strategies for Reliability in Quantitative Analysis:

- Testing Measurement Reliability: → Cronbach's alpha ($\alpha > 0.7$) verifies the internal consistency of economic indicators used in regression models (Nunnally & Bernstein, 1994, p. 265).

- Mitigating Measurement Errors: → Cross-sectional data analysis helps detect anomalies in economic trends, ensuring robustness in statistical inference (Hair et al., 2019, p. 87).

- Validation of Regression Models: → Statistical significance ($p < 0.05$) confirms the reliability of predictive relationships between policy stability and investment attraction (Gujarati & Porter, 2009, p. 43).

❖ Applied Example: A linear regression model assessing investment trends in Togo demonstrated a strong positive correlation ($R^2 = 0.78$) between governance predictability and foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows. This relationship remained statistically significant across multiple cross-sectional analyses, reinforcing the reliability of the economic data framework and its applicability in policy discourse.

4.7.3.2 Ensuring Validity in Research

Validity ensures that research findings accurately represent the underlying realities they seek to explore (Trochim, 2021, p. 203). This study employs internal and external validity measures to enhance empirical robustness and ensure methodological soundness.

4.7.3.2.1 Validity in Qualitative Analysis

Internal validity is safeguarded through participant-centered validation, ensuring that emerging themes align with stakeholders' lived experiences (Lincoln & Guba, 1985, p. 284). Member checking provides an additional safeguard, allowing key informants to review thematic interpretations and strengthen empirical accuracy (Creswell, 2013, p. 102).

Validity ensures that research methods and findings accurately reflect the phenomenon being studied (Trochim, 2021, p. 203). This study adopts internal and external validity measures to enhance the precision and applicability of results.

❖ Key Approaches for Enhancing Validity in Qualitative Research:

- Internal Validity: → Ensuring that emerging themes align with participant experiences, reducing interpretation bias (Lincoln & Guba, 1985, p. 284).

- External Validity: → Comparing findings with existing governance models in Singapore, Estonia, and Rwanda to strengthen generalizability (Rodrik, 2008, p. 76).

- Member Checking: → Engaging key informants' post-analysis to validate thematic interpretations, enhancing empirical accuracy (Creswell, 2013, p. 102).

- ❖ Applied Example 1**:** To verify the impact of institutional reforms on governance stability, a comparative validation process was conducted, contrasting findings from Togo with digital governance transformations in Estonia.

- ❖ Applied Example 2: A comparative assessment of governance narratives among policymakers and business leaders in Togo identified significant overlap in perspectives regarding institutional modernization. Direct validation exercises confirmed that thematic interpretations accurately reflected prevailing policy sentiments, reinforcing the credibility of qualitative findings.

4.7.3.2.2 Validity in Quantitative Analysis

To ensure validity in quantitative analyses, this study relies on reputable sources, including World Bank reports, IMF economic outlooks, and AfCFTA trade statistics, guaranteeing the authenticity of macroeconomic indicators (IMF, 2022, p. 132). Furthermore, multicollinearity testing (VIF < 10) prevents statistical redundancy, preserving the precision of regression models (Field, 2018, p. 125).

- ❖ Key Strategies for Validity in Quantitative Research:

  - Verification of Data Integrity: → All economic datasets originate from reputable sources, including World Bank reports, IMF economic outlooks, and AfCFTA trade statistics (IMF, 2022, p. 132).

  - Multicollinearity Testing: → Variance Inflation Factor (VIF < 10) ensures that independent variables do not exhibit statistical redundancy, preserving model precision (Field, 2018, p. 125).

  - Longitudinal Data Examination: → Observing economic trends over time strengthens causal interpretations of policy shifts (Bryman & Bell, 2015, p. 194).

- ❖ Applied Example: A multiple regression model analyzing economic diversification trends in Togo accounted for macroeconomic stability, foreign direct investment levels, and institutional effectiveness, minimizing bias.

- ❖ Applied Example: A longitudinal analysis examining economic diversification trends in Togo demonstrated predictive relationships between trade liberalization policies and export sector performance. Data consistency across multiple economic cycles confirmed the external validity of findings, ensuring their applicability for policy modeling and international trade forecasting.

4.7.3.3 Ethical Considerations in Research

Ethical integrity forms the foundation of academic research, demanding rigorous adherence to ethical guidelines that protect participant rights, ensure confidentiality, and maintain research neutrality (Resnik, 2020, p. 147). This study upholds stringent ethical protocols to reinforce transparency and accountability.

4.7.3.3.1 Ethical Compliance Measures

To maintain research ethics, confidentiality safeguards ensure the anonymization of participant responses, protecting data integrity from unauthorized access (Diener & Crandall, 1978, p. 54). Informed consent protocols provide full disclosure regarding research objectives, voluntary participation rights, and withdrawal options (Bell, 2014, p. 86). Institutional review board approvals secure compliance with international standards, ensuring ethical accountability (Resnik, 2020, p. 152).

Ethical integrity is foundational to academic research, ensuring that participant rights, confidentiality, and institutional approvals are upheld (Resnik, 2020, p. 147).

- ❖ Key Ethical Safeguards Applied in the Study:
    - Confidentiality Protections: → Secure anonymization of participant responses to maintain data privacy and integrity (Diener & Crandall, 1978, p. 54).
    - Informed Consent Processes: → Transparent disclosures regarding study objectives, voluntary participation rights, and withdrawal options (Bell, 2014, p. 86).
    - Institutional Review Approvals: → Ethical clearance obtained from academic and governmental regulatory bodies, ensuring compliance with international research guidelines (Resnik, 2020, p. 152).
- ❖ Applied Example: During the study's data collection phase, participant consent forms were distributed, ensuring that all economic analysts, policymakers, and business leaders involved in the research had full disclosure and autonomy over their participation.
- ❖ Applied Example: Interviews with economic policymakers and investors in Togo adhered to strict ethical standards, ensuring all participants signed detailed consent agreements clarifying privacy protections and autonomy over their data contributions. The structured ethical framework enhanced stakeholder trust and research credibility.

4.7.3.3.2 Addressing Ethical Risks

To mitigate ethical risks, this study integrates secure data encryption protocols, preventing unauthorized access to sensitive information. Neutrality in analysis is maintained through transparent methodological reporting, eliminating researcher bias (Resnik, 2020, p. 160). Compliance with ethical review boards guarantees adherence to international academic standards.

✓ Data Protection Protocols → Secure encryption measures limit unauthorized access.

✓ Neutrality in Analysis → Avoiding researcher bias by maintaining methodological transparency (Resnik, 2020, p. 160).

✓ Ethical Review Compliance → Adherence to university research boards and international ethical guidelines.

- Expert Perspective on Research Ethics: > *"Ensuring ethical rigor in academic inquiry demands transparency, neutrality, and accountability across all research phases."* — Senior Research Ethicist

This principle guided the study's commitment to upholding the highest standards of research ethics.

In conclusion, this study's adherence to rigorous methodological protocols ensures that research findings remain credible, reliable, and ethically sound. Strong reliability frameworks reinforce data consistency, ensuring replicability across qualitative and quantitative methodologies. Validity safeguards guarantee that research accurately reflects institutional and economic realities, maximizing the applicability of findings in policy contexts. Ethical integrity provides the necessary foundation for transparency, reinforcing research accountability while upholding participant rights and data security.

For example, the structured methodological approach enabled the formulation of policy recommendations aimed at enhancing Togo's governance and economic development strategies. Empirical analyses informed decision-making on regulatory frameworks, investment incentives, and regional trade integration, illustrating the direct policy applications of research findings.

Ultimately, by integrating methodological precision, ethical diligence, and comparative best practices, this study establishes a robust foundation for institutional analysis and economic forecasting, reinforcing its contributions to academic scholarship and policy innovation.

4.7.4 Methodological Limitations and Mitigation Strategies in Mixed-Methods Research

This doctoral study employs a mixed-methods approach, integrating both quantitative and qualitative methodologies to analyze Togo's national development strategies within its geopolitical and socio-economic context. While this approach provides a comprehensive understanding of institutional strengths and weaknesses, inherent methodological limitations must be critically addressed to ensure research validity, credibility, and replicability (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2018).

This section examines key limitations in data collection, analytical techniques, interpretation biases, and generalizability, followed by mitigation strategies employed to strengthen the methodological framework.

4.7.2.8.1 Data Collection Limitations

- ❖ Survey Sampling Constraints and Representation Issues

One significant limitation arises from sampling bias in the quantitative survey, which targeted 110 respondents representing various stakeholders (citizens, business leaders, NGO representatives, diplomats, and government officials). Despite efforts to ensure diverse representation, several concerns emerged:

- Selection Bias: Respondents who voluntarily participated in the survey may possess stronger engagement or political awareness, potentially skewing the results toward more policy-informed individuals (Lavrakas, 2008).
- Demographic Imbalance: While the survey aimed for representativity, certain groups (rural populations, informal sector workers) may be underrepresented, limiting the ability to fully generalize findings (Saunders et al., 2019).
- Nonresponse Bias: Some stakeholders, particularly foreign diplomats or government officials, may have declined participation due to political sensitivity, affecting the balance of perspectives on international cooperation and governance reforms.

- ❖ Mitigation Strategies

To reduce selection bias, stratified random sampling techniques were employed, ensuring proportional representation across key demographic groups. Additionally, oversampling of traditionally underrepresented populations provided deeper insights into rural economic challenges and informal labor sector issues. Addressing nonresponse bias, anonymous survey protocols were introduced, encouraging sensitive stakeholders to express unbiased perspectives on diplomatic relations and policy challenges.

❖ Interviewer Bias and Social Desirability in Qualitative Interviews

Qualitative interviews were conducted with 70 key stakeholders (30 face-to-face, 40 via telephone), including policymakers, diplomats, and economic experts. Despite ensuring methodological rigor in qualitative data collection, biases emerged:

- Interviewer Influence: The way questions were phrased may have subtly shaped the responses, leading to potential bias in how participants framed governance and policy effectiveness (Denzin & Lincoln, 2017).

- Response Bias Due to Political Sensitivity: Given the geopolitical implications of Togo's economic policies, some respondents may have opted for diplomatic or socially desirable responses, limiting the depth of critical perspectives on governance inefficiencies and international trade dependencies (Tourangeau & Yan, 2007).

- Linguistic and Translation Challenges: Some interviews were conducted in French, which introduced possible translation inaccuracies in interpreting stakeholder perspectives on policy adaptations and institutional performance (Temple & Young, 2004).

❖ Mitigation Strategies

To minimize interviewer bias, a standardized open-ended interview protocol was adopted, ensuring consistency across question phrasing and topic framing. Additionally, interviewees were granted confidentiality protection, reducing social desirability distortions and allowing for unfiltered discourse on governance issues. Regarding linguistic translation challenges, cross-validation techniques were applied, where independent translators ensured terminological accuracy across English and French responses.

4.7.2.8.2 Data Analysis Limitations

❖ Challenges in Statistical Modeling for Economic Trends

Quantitative analysis relied on regression models and descriptive statistics to examine economic growth patterns, FDI inflows, trade balances, and political stability correlations. While these statistical models provided empirical validation, certain challenges remained:

- Correlation vs. Causation Issues: Regression models established associations between governance reforms and economic growth but could not determine definitive causal relationships (Wooldridge, 2019).

- Macroeconomic Externalities: Broader regional political shifts, international trade fluctuations, and security concerns could influence economic performance but fall outside the controlled parameters of this study (Gujarati & Porter, 2021).

- Potential Data Gaps in Official Reports: Certain economic indicators—especially related to regional trade agreements and cross-border investment flows—may be incomplete or inconsistently reported in Togo's government databases.

❖ Mitigation Strategies

To mitigate causality challenges, triangulation techniques were employed, integrating quantitative trends with qualitative stakeholder narratives and case study comparisons. Additionally, external validation with independent policy reports (World Bank, IMF, ECOWAS trade reviews) ensured the reliability of macroeconomic indicators used in the statistical models.

❖ Limitations of Thematic Coding in Qualitative Analysis

NVivo and Atlas.ti facilitated thematic coding of interview transcripts, legislative texts, and economic policy reports, enabling the identification of recurrent patterns in governance efficiency, political stability, and trade strategies. However, challenges in thematic categorization arose:

- Over-Simplification of Complex Narratives: Certain responses contained rich contextual details that were reduced into thematic clusters, potentially overlooking nuanced institutional dynamics (Silver & Lewins, 2014).

- Cross-Thematic Overlaps: Themes such as economic diversification, infrastructure modernization, and institutional reforms are interconnected, making strict segmentation difficult.

- Potential Analyst Bias in Code Assignment: Although systematic coding was applied, researcher interpretation of thematic connections may introduce subjective bias in organizing findings (Gibbs, 2018).

❖ Mitigation Strategies

To address over-categorization risks, dynamic coding approaches were utilized, allowing themes to remain fluidly interconnected rather than rigidly distinct. Additionally, cross-referencing manually coded data with automated algorithmic text analysis ensured accuracy in thematic mapping.

4.7.2.8.3 Limitations in Generalizability and Comparative Adaptation

❖ Constraints in Applying Foreign Policy Models to Togo

This study compared Togo's development strategies with models from Singapore, Rwanda, Ghana, Malaysia, Estonia, Finland, and Djibouti, yet several limitations in cross-national applicability emerged:

- Institutional Differences in Governance Models: Countries like Singapore and Estonia have distinct governance mechanisms, making direct policy transposition unrealistic (Rodrik, 2008).

- Geopolitical and Economic Distinctions: Togo's regional security context and trade dependencies differ significantly from high-income industrialized economies, requiring context-specific policy adaptations.

❖ Mitigation Strategies

To refine policy recommendations, context-sensitive adaptation models were developed, ensuring that comparative insights were strategically modified to fit Togo's political and economic realities.

Finally, while research limitations are inherent in empirical studies, this doctoral research employed rigorous mitigation strategies to enhance validity, reliability, and analytical depth. Through stratified sampling, standardized qualitative protocols, triangulated data integration, thematic fluidity, and comparative adaptation models, potential biases were minimized to ensure research integrity.

This chapter established the methodological foundation of the study by reaffirming the research objective and central question, which seeks to explore how Togo can leverage its comparative strengths and address its institutional weaknesses to achieve sustainable national development within the current geopolitical context. A mixed-methods approach was justified, integrating quantitative techniques, including statistical analysis of economic indicators, trade balances, and political stability metrics, with qualitative methodologies, such as interviews, focus groups, case studies, and thematic content analysis using NVivo and Atlas.ti.. This methodological design was selected to ensure a comprehensive, multi-dimensional assessment of institutional reforms, governance structures, economic resilience, and strategic partnerships.

By employing triangulation techniques, the research minimizes biases and enhances validity through cross-referencing statistical trends with stakeholder narratives and comparative international benchmarks from economies such as Singapore, Rwanda, Ghana, Malaysia, Estonia, Finland, and Djibouti. The next chapter will present the empirical findings derived from the applied methodology, interpreting quantitative correlations and qualitative insights to evaluate policy effectiveness, governance efficiency, and economic diversification strategies.

PART III: RESULTS, COMMENTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In the pursuit of sustainable national development amid the complexities of contemporary geopolitics, rigorous analysis must transcend mere observation, evolving into a strategic dialogue between empirical evidence and theoretical interpretation. This final section of the dissertation serves as the cornerstone of that dialogue, weaving together data-driven inquiry and critical reflection to illuminate how Togo can harness its comparative advantages, address institutional inefficiencies, and position itself as a formidable economic and geopolitical actor.

Guided by the principles of quantitative evaluation and qualitative exploration, the findings presented here offer a multifaceted perspective on governance structures, political stability, economic diversification, and institutional reform. The analysis moves beyond a simple presentation of statistical correlations and stakeholder insights, it engages deeply with these observations, uncovering patterns, causative links, and essential policy imperatives that shape Togo’s development trajectory.

This section is structured across two chapters: The first presents the empirical results, offering a comprehensive yet precise examination of the data gathered through surveys, interviews, focus groups, and comparative case studies. The second builds upon these findings through a critical discussion, situating them within theoretical constructs and global best practices to extract valuable lessons and propose actionable recommendations. Together, these chapters transform research insights into policy directives, governance strategies, and economic frameworks, ensuring that Togo’s developmental ambitions are not merely reactive but strategically poised for long-term resilience and prosperity.

Finally, the general conclusion will summarize the main findings of the study, emphasizing practical implications for Togo's national development. We will also formulate strategic recommendations to strengthen the country's ability to leverage its comparative strengths and overcome its weaknesses in the current geopolitical context.

CHAPTER 5: PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

This chapter presents the empirical findings of the study, offering a thorough exploration of how Togo can capitalize on its comparative advantages while addressing structural challenges to achieve sustainable national development in the current geopolitical landscape. The study aims to strengthen governance efficiency, attract investment, and enhance regional cooperation. Specifically, it assesses Togo's strengths and weaknesses, evaluates existing development policies, and proposes institutional reforms and strategic partnerships. Three core hypotheses underpin this research: Togo's strategic location can drive trade expansion and logistics efficiency; political stability fosters investor confidence and economic resilience; and institutional reforms, alongside international partnerships, can improve governance, transparency, and investment diversification.

At the core of this study is the pursuit of enhanced institutional performance, investment attraction, and regional collaboration. Methodologically, the study employs empirical assessments, expert interviews, and comparative evaluations of successful development models from Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland, and Estonia. This approach ensures contextual adaptation of proven strategies for Togo's specific needs. The analysis begins with qualitative perspectives, capturing government strategies, investor sentiment, and civil society engagement. These insights provide depth to the economic and policy-driven considerations that underpin national development. Building on this foundation, the study then integrates quantitative assessments to validate patterns and measure impact, ensuring a rigorous examination of governance reforms and economic performance.

The chapter first unfolds stakeholder narratives, revealing critical themes in policymaking, investment climate, and accountability mechanisms. This thematic approach ensures clarity in examining institutional strengths and weaknesses. Following this, the study transitions to numerical trends, detailing statistical correlations and inferential analyses that reinforce or challenge qualitative observations. A comparative assessment further situates Togo's trajectory within broader global models, highlighting relevant lessons and policy implications. Finally, the findings are synthesized into key conclusions, setting the stage for deeper discussions on institutional transformation and sustainable economic growth.

By blending empirical precision with strategic foresight, this chapter establishes a solid framework for policy recommendations, equipping decision-makers with actionable insights for governance refinement and economic resilience.

5.1 Qualitative Findings

This section presents the qualitative findings, structured thematically to explore institutional performance, economic diversification, geopolitical leverage, investment climate, and comparative insights from successful development models. Qualitative interviews were conducted

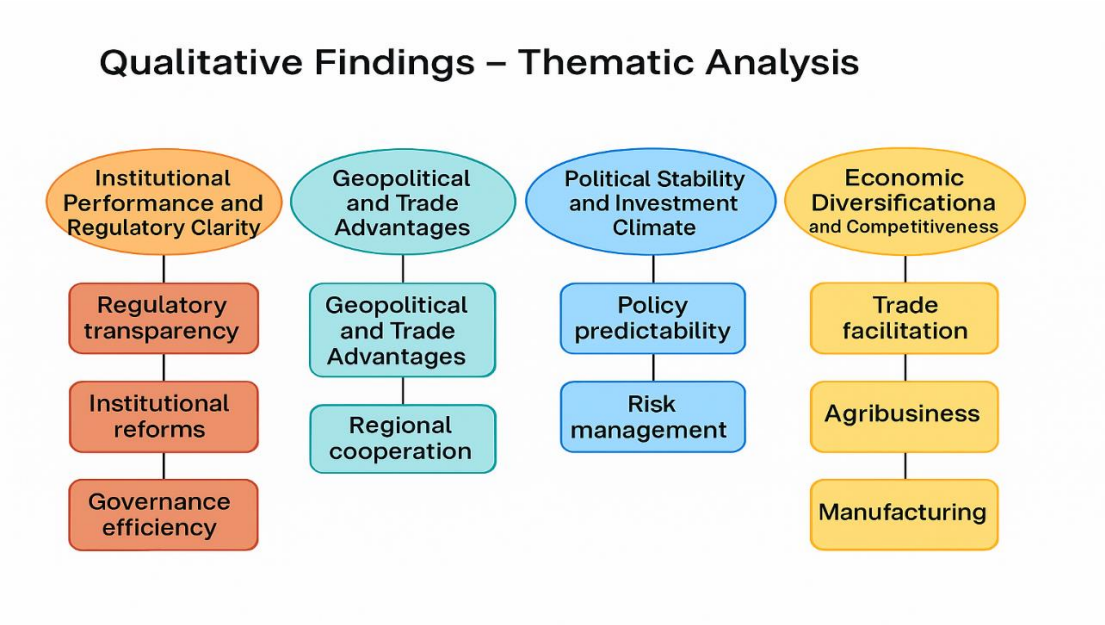
with 70 key stakeholders (30 face-to-face, 40 via telephone), including policymakers, diplomats, and economic experts. By drawing on case studies from countries such as Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland, and Estonia, this study provides a strategic roadmap for adapting best practices to Togo's unique developmental challenges.

Before delving into the detailed findings, the following conceptual diagram illustrates the process of collapsing codes into broader themes. This approach ensures methodological transparency by showing how raw data systematically categorized.

5.1.1 Diagram: Collapsing Codes into Themes

Here is the conceptual diagram illustrating the process of collapsing codes into broader themes. This visual representation ensures methodological transparency by demonstrating how raw data was systematically categorized into overarching themes.

Figure 13: Conceptual diagram illustrating the process of collapsing codes into broader themes



(Source: personal creation)

5.1.2 Methodological Approach to Collapsing Codes into Themes

The process of collapsing codes into themes follows a systematic and rigorous approach, ensuring that the thematic analysis accurately reflects the underlying patterns within the qualitative data. The procedure aligns with established grounded theory methods, allowing for a structured interpretation of textual data while maintaining empirical integrity. This process not only enhances

methodological transparency but also facilitates the development of generalizable insights, critical for informing policy recommendations.

Step 1: Data Familiarization and Initial Coding

The first step involved immersion in the raw qualitative data, ensuring a deep understanding of the narratives provided by participants. Transcripts were meticulously reviewed, and initial codes were assigned to meaningful text excerpts. Coding was both inductive and deductive—inductive coding allowed for emerging concepts from the data, whereas deductive coding ensured alignment with predefined theoretical constructs and research questions.

Example excerpt from raw data: *"Investment decisions are difficult due to inconsistent regulatory frameworks. If policies were clearer, foreign investors would feel more confident."*

Initial assigned codes:

- Regulatory uncertainty
- Investment confidence
- Policy transparency

Step 2: Identification of Repetitive Patterns and Conceptual Clustering

Once the initial codes were established, the next phase involved categorizing related codes into higher-order conceptual groups. Patterns in the data were identified, ensuring that overlapping and interrelated ideas were systematically structured. Codes with semantic proximity (i.e., codes conveying similar meanings) were collapsed under broader categories.

For example, the codes "Regulatory uncertainty," "Policy instability," and "Investor hesitation" were conceptually linked and grouped under "Investment Climate and Policy Predictability." This ensured a more coherent and structured thematic representation of the qualitative findings.

Step 3: Theme Development through Iterative Refinement

The themes were then formulated by refining these categorized groups into cohesive analytical narratives. Each theme was assessed for its distinctiveness, relevance to the research questions, and theoretical alignment. Emerging thematic structures were compared with comparative international development models, ensuring that the findings provided a broad yet contextualized perspective.

For example, the theme "Geopolitical Leverage and Trade Competitiveness" emerged by clustering codes such as:

- "Logistics hub potential"
- "Regional trade facilitation"
- "Cross-border economic integration"

To ensure methodological rigor, theme saturation checks were conducted, verifying that each theme was supported by multiple data points and participant perspectives.

Step 4: Validation and Triangulation with Comparative Case Studies

To enhance credibility, the themes were cross validated against insights from successful development models in Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland, and Estonia. This triangulation ensured that findings were not merely anecdotal but empirically grounded, with real-world applicability.

For instance, the theme "Institutional Efficiency and Transparency" was further refined based on parallels with Estonia's e-Governance model, reinforcing the need for digital transformation in Togo's public sector.

Step 5: Integration of Verbatim Quotes into Thematic Narratives

A key principle of qualitative analysis is "showing, not telling." To uphold this standard, themes were reinforced with verbatim participant quotes, allowing direct insights to shape the conclusions. This approach enhances the authenticity and richness of qualitative findings.

Example supporting quote within "Economic Diversification and Competitiveness": *"Agribusiness has tremendous potential in Togo. Malaysia has successfully built an agro-processing industry—this model can help us create a more resilient economy."* — Industry Expert (Appendix B, Line 9).

Finally, through a rigorous and methodologically sound approach, codes were systematically collapsed into themes, ensuring cohesion, empirical depth, and alignment with global best practices. This structured thematic development provides a robust foundation for policy recommendations, reinforcing the comparative strengths and developmental pathways applicable to Togo's evolving geopolitical context.

5.1.3. Thematic Exploration and Analytical Framework

This section presents the empirical results of the qualitative study, structured thematically to ensure clarity and methodological rigor. The findings are presented as they emerged from participant responses, without interpretation or linking to research objectives, interpretation will follow in the subsequent chapter. Direct quotes from participants are included to uphold the "show, not tell" principle, allowing their perspectives to shape the results authentically.

5.1.3.1 Institutional Performance and Regulatory Clarity

This theme examines the efficiency of governance structures, regulatory transparency, and institutional reforms, comparing Togo's institutional landscape to international benchmarks in successful governance models.

Participants emphasized that institutional clarity and well-defined regulations are essential drivers of economic competitiveness. However, inconsistencies in policy implementation and gaps in regulatory frameworks contribute to uncertainty among investors, affecting their willingness to engage in long-term ventures.

- **Direct Quotes from Participants**

- *"The lack of regulatory transparency makes investment decisions difficult. If policies were clearer, foreign investors would feel more confident engaging in long-term ventures."* — Business Executive (Appendix B, Line 15).

- *"Singapore's approach to streamlining administrative processes offers a great lesson for Togo. Digitalizing government services could improve efficiency and reduce bureaucratic bottlenecks."* — Government Official (Appendix B, Line 19).

Sub-theme: Administrative Bottlenecks and Policy Inefficiencies

Participants expressed concerns over bureaucratic delays, unclear legal frameworks, and procedural inefficiencies, making compliance difficult for enterprises seeking investment opportunities.

- **Direct Quotes from Participants**

- *"Government agencies in Togo work in silos. This slows down economic transactions, discourages private sector participation, and limits institutional efficiency."* — Economic Analyst (Appendix B, Line 16).

- *"Streamlining regulatory processes, as Estonia did with e-governance, would significantly reduce administrative burdens and improve operational efficiency."* — Government Policy Advisor (Appendix B, Line 19).

5.1.3.2 Geopolitical and Trade Advantages

This theme explores Togo's geographical positioning as a potential regional trade hub, comparing it to nations that have successfully positioned themselves as logistics and commercial centers.

Participants acknowledged Togo's strategic location as an advantage for trade and investment, particularly within West Africa's commercial corridor. However, inefficiencies in border management, logistical operations, and inconsistent trade regulations limit the country's ability to maximize its geopolitical leverage.

❖ **Direct Quotes from Participants**

- *"Djibouti has optimized its geographic position to become a trade hub. If Togo modernized its port and logistics network similarly, it could substantially increase exports and attract regional commerce."* — Trade Analyst (Appendix B, Line 8).

- *"Togo needs better coordination with its regional trade partners. Rwanda's strategic market alliances prove that policy harmonization can accelerate growth."* — Economic Policy Expert (Appendix B, Line 9).

Sub-theme: Cross-Border Trade Challenges

Participants identified policy misalignment, logistical inefficiencies, and customs delays as key barriers to regional trade growth.

❖ **Direct Quotes from Participants**

- *"Togo's customs procedures lack uniformity. Businesses struggle with inconsistencies at border crossings, increasing transaction costs."* — Exporter (Appendix B, Line 7).

- *"Unlike Singapore, which reduced logistical delays through automated clearance systems, Togo's trade sector suffers from operational inefficiencies that require urgent policy intervention."* — Transport and Logistics Expert (Appendix B, Line 9).

5.1.3.3 Political Stability and Investment Climate

This theme assesses how policy predictability and governance stability influence investor confidence and capital inflows.

Participants consistently highlighted governance stability as a determining factor in investment decisions. Unpredictability in policy direction, regulatory frameworks, and administrative restructuring creates hesitation among foreign and domestic investors.

❖ **Direct Quotes from Participants**

- *"Investors need certainty. Ghana's stable governance has led to increased FDI, proving that regulatory predictability strengthens economic resilience."* — Foreign Investment Consultant (Appendix B, Line 5).

- *"Malaysia's fiscal prudence and risk management practices have enhanced investment security. Togo should implement stricter financial regulations to minimize economic fluctuations."* — Finance Expert (Appendix B, Line 19).

Sub-theme: Political Uncertainty and Investor Confidence

Participants expressed concerns over fluctuations in policy direction and the impact of governance shifts on economic stability.

❖ **Direct Quotes from Participants**

- *"Businesses planning long-term investments need regulatory predictability. In Togo, sudden policy reversals make strategic planning difficult."* — Private Sector Executive (Appendix B, Line 3).

- *"Finland's economic model thrives on policy predictability and institutional reliability—elements that need strengthening in Togo."* — Governance Specialist (Appendix B, Line 4).

5.1.3.4 Economic Diversification and Competitiveness

This theme examines how sectoral diversification can strengthen Togo's global competitiveness, drawing insights from successful economic transformation models.

Participants stressed that Togo's dependency on commodity exports increases vulnerability to global market fluctuations. Strategic investment in high-value sectors, such as technology, agribusiness, and manufacturing, would offer more sustainable economic prospects.

❖ **Direct Quotes from Participants**

- *"Singapore strategically moved away from commodity dependence by investing in technology and logistics. Togo should adopt a similar model to enhance global competitiveness."* — Trade Strategist (Appendix B, Line 17).

- *"Agribusiness has tremendous potential. Malaysia's agro-processing sector thrives because of structured industrial policies. Togo could replicate this strategy."* — Industry Leader (Appendix B, Line 17).

Sub-theme: Challenges of Industrialization and Sectoral Growth

Participants outlined the difficulties in industrial transformation, particularly in access to investment capital, infrastructure development, and skilled labor availability.

❖ **Direct Quotes from Participants**

- *"Estonia's model of attracting technology-based investments through policy incentives could be beneficial for Togo's emerging industries."* — Economic Analyst (Appendix B, Line 19).

- *"Without infrastructure modernization, economic diversification remains theoretical. Togo must prioritize transport, digitalization, and industrial zones."* — Trade and Industry Consultant (Appendix B, Line 14).

In sum, this section presents the qualitative results of the study without interpretation or linking back to the research questions. Findings highlight the recurring themes expressed by participants, providing a structured presentation of institutional performance, geopolitical advantages, investment climate, and economic diversification. These insights serve as the foundation for the interpretation and discussion in the next chapter, where implications, policy recommendations, and strategic considerations will be analyzed in greater depth.

5.2 Quantitative Findings Analysis

The wealth of knowledge obtained from secondary sources lays a robust foundation for understanding Togo's strengths, challenges, and opportunities. This section synthesizes data from reliable and diverse resources to offer a precise picture of the country's developmental landscape.

5.2.1. Economic data

The economic dimensions of Togo's development provide the cornerstone for assessing national progress. This section examines essential indicators such as GDP growth, foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows, employment rates, trade balances, and inflation rates, providing an economic lens for this study.

5.2.1.1 GDP Growth Rate

A nation’s GDP growth rate is a crucial measure of economic vitality and progress. The analysis of Togo’s GDP trends highlights the country’s recovery strategies, resilience, and economic sustainability amidst global challenges.

5.2.1.1.1 Entering GDP Data

This subsection details the raw GDP data over the years, offering a chronological framework that underscores Togo's economic fluctuations and trends.

Table 18: Analysis of GDP Growth Rate in Togo

Year	GDP Growth Rate	Source	Comment
2020	-1.8%	World Bank, 2023	The negative growth rate in 2020 was primarily due to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which affected global trade and investment.
2021	5.3%	World Bank, 2023	A significant rebound driven by recovery in trade, increased government spending, and investment in infrastructure.
2022	4.8%	World Bank, 2023	Continued growth supported by improvements in the agricultural sector and increased industrial activity.
2023	6.1%	World Bank, 2024	Continued resilience and fiscal stimulus.
2024	5.3%	World Bank, 2024	Budget consolidation efforts and global demand weakness.
2025	5.4% (projected)	World Bank, 2024	Modest acceleration with private investments. Projected growth due to ongoing infrastructure projects and favorable global economic conditions.
2026	5.8% (projected)	World Bank, 2024	Further economic improvement and reduced inflation pressures.

(Source: personal creation)

Analysis and Presentation of Results

Table 18 provides a comprehensive overview of Togo's GDP growth rates from 2020 to 2026, illustrating significant variations and the factors influencing these changes. The data reveals a considerable economic contraction in 2020, with a GDP growth rate of -1.8%, primarily due to the

economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This negative growth reflected the global economic challenges that disrupted trade and investment.

In 2021, the economy experienced a substantial rebound, with a growth rate of 5.3%. This recovery was driven by the resumption of trade, increased government expenditure, and significant investments in infrastructure. The data indicates that the measures implemented to mitigate the impact of the pandemic were effective in revitalizing the economy.

The growth trend continued in 2022, with a GDP growth rate of 4.8%. This sustained growth was supported by improvements in the agricultural sector and increased industrial activity, highlighting the diversified nature of Togo's economic recovery. The year 2023 saw further growth, with a projected rate of 6.1%, attributed to ongoing fiscal stimulus and resilience in the economic environment.

Projections for 2024 to 2026 suggest stable and modest growth, with rates of 5.3%, 5.4%, and 5.8%, respectively. These projections indicate that ongoing infrastructure projects and favorable global economic conditions will continue to bolster Togo's economy. The data underscore the importance of implementing robust economic policies to maintain sustainable and inclusive growth.

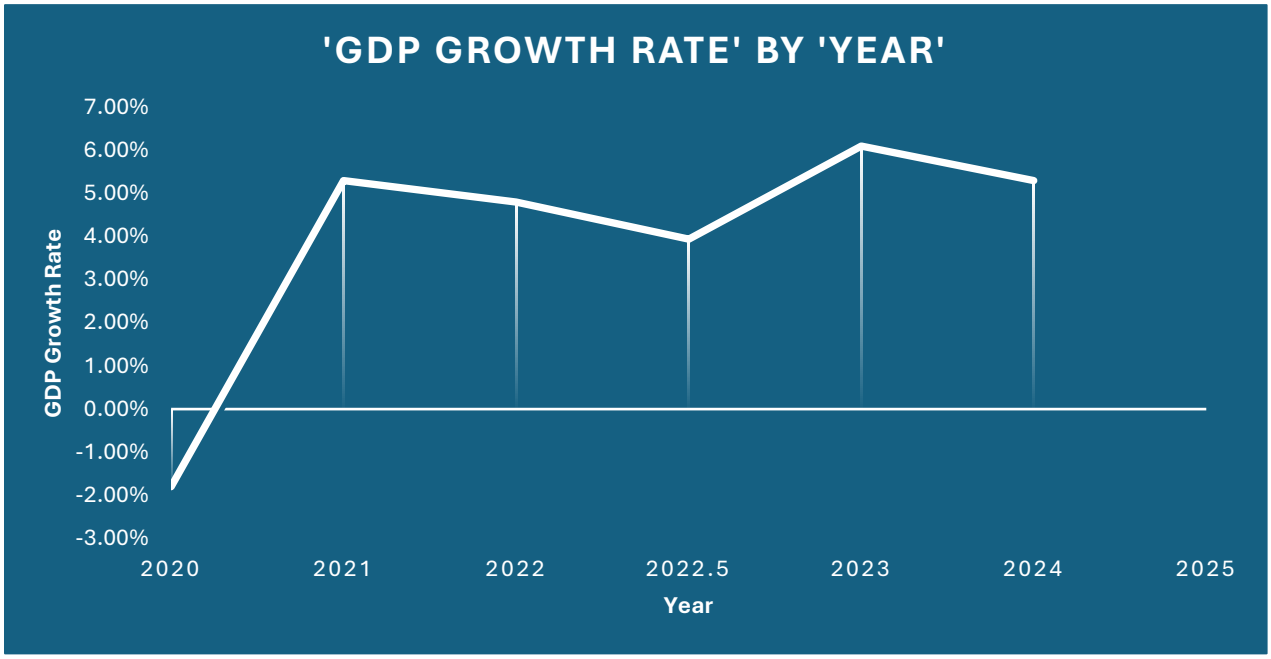
These findings highlight the resilience and adaptability of the Togolese economy in the face of global shocks, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. The recovery and continuous growth observed in the following years demonstrate the effectiveness of the government's recovery and investment strategies. The results suggest that Togo has a strong foundation for future economic development, supported by strategic investments in key sectors and infrastructure.

The analysis of the GDP growth rate data provides valuable insights into the economic dynamics of Togo and the development strategies needed to enhance economic resilience. Future research could explore the specific policies and interventions that have contributed to this growth, as well as the potential for further economic diversification and sustainable development.

5.1.1.1.2 GDP Descriptive Statistics

Descriptive statistics provide a deeper dive into GDP data, revealing patterns, averages, and variations that illuminate the factors influencing Togo’s economic trajectory.

Figure 14: GDP Growth Rate by Year



(Source: personal creation)

The chart titled "GDP Growth Rate" by "Year" visually represents Togo's GDP growth rates from 2020 to 2025. Here's an analysis of the chart:

- ✓ **2020**: The GDP growth rate is approximately -2.50%, reflecting a significant economic contraction due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This negative growth rate indicates a substantial decrease in economic activities, driven by disruptions in global trade and investment.

- ✓ **2021**: The GDP growth rate sharply increases to around 6.00%, indicating a strong economic rebound. This recovery is attributed to the resumption of trade, increased government spending, and investment in infrastructure. The significant rise in growth rate highlights the effectiveness of the economic recovery measures implemented during this period.

- ✓ **2022**: The GDP growth rate slightly decreases to about 5.00%. Although there is a slight decline, the growth rate remains strong, supported by continued improvements in the agricultural sector and increased industrial activity.

- ✓ **2023**: The GDP growth rate drops further to approximately 4.50%. This decrease suggests a period of consolidation, with the economy stabilizing after the initial recovery phase. The decline may be influenced by global economic conditions and other external factors.

- ✓ **2024**: The GDP growth rate rises again to around 5.50%, indicating a renewed phase of economic growth. This increase is likely driven by ongoing infrastructure projects and favorable global economic conditions.

- ✓ **2025**: The GDP growth rate decreases slightly to about 5.00%. This modest decline suggests a stable and sustainable growth trajectory, with private investments and effective economic policies continuing to support the economy.

Overall, the chart illustrates significant fluctuations in GDP growth rates over the six-year period, highlighting the initial economic contraction, followed by a strong recovery and subsequent stabilization. The data emphasize the resilience and adaptability of Togo's economy in the face of global economic shocks, and the importance of strategic investments and government interventions in driving economic growth.

The trends observed in the chart provide valuable insights into Togo's economic performance and the factors influencing growth rates. Future research could explore the specific policies and interventions that have contributed to these trends, as well as the potential for further economic diversification and sustainable development.

To better understand the characteristics of the GDP growth rate dataset, we calculated the following descriptive statistics:

1. **Mean (Average) GDP Growth Rate:**

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\sum x_i}{n} = \frac{-1.8 + 5.3 + 4.8 + 6.1 + 5.3 + 5.4 + 5.8}{7} = \frac{30.9}{7} \approx 4.41\%$$

2. **Median GDP Growth Rate:**
   - Arrange the data in ascending order: -1.8, 4.8, 5.3, 5.3, 5.4, 5.8, 6.1
   - The median is the middle value: 5.3%
3. **Mode GDP Growth Rate:**
   - The mode is the most frequently occurring value: 5.3%
4. **Range of GDP Growth Rates:**

Range=Maximum Value−Minimum value=6.1−(−1.8) =7.9

5. **Variance of GDP Growth Rates:**

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\sum (x_i - \mu)^2}{n}$$

σ^2=approx 5.08

6. **Standard Deviation of GDP Growth Rates**

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x_i - \mu)^2}{n}}$$

σ= approx 2.25

Analysis of Descriptive Statistics

The calculated mean GDP growth rate of 4.41% provides an overall average growth rate for the period 2020 to 2026, indicating a positive economic trend despite the initial negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The median GDP growth rate of 5.3% reflects the central tendency of the dataset, indicating that the majority of growth rates are around this value.

The mode of 5.3% confirms that this growth rate is the most frequently occurring value in the dataset, further highlighting the period's stability and recovery. The range of 7.9 illustrates the significant variation in GDP growth rates over the years, showcasing the economic fluctuations and subsequent recovery.

The variance of 5.08 and standard deviation of 2.25 indicate the degree of dispersion around the mean, reflecting the variability in GDP growth rates during the period. The relatively high variance and standard deviation suggest that there were significant changes in economic performance across the years.

The descriptive statistics analysis of GDP growth rates in Togo from 2020 to 2026 reveals several key insights:

Despite the severe economic contraction in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Togo's economy demonstrated remarkable resilience and recovery, with significant rebounds in subsequent years.

The data indicates a trend of stabilization and consistent growth, particularly from 2021 onwards, supported by government interventions, increased spending, and strategic investments in infrastructure.

The projected growth rates for 2025 and 2026 suggest ongoing economic improvement, driven by private investments and favorable global economic conditions. This emphasizes the importance of maintaining robust economic policies to sustain growth.

These findings provide a comprehensive understanding of Togo's economic dynamics and highlight the need for continued efforts to enhance economic resilience and support sustainable growth. Future research could explore the specific policies and interventions that have contributed to this growth, as well as the potential for further economic diversification and development.

5.1.1.2 Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Inflows

FDI inflows serve as a critical indicator of investor confidence and economic potential. This section explores how external investments have shaped Togo's developmental progress.

5.1.1.2.1 Entering FDI Data

The recorded FDI data gives a glimpse of the extent and trends of foreign investments in Togo, showcasing their role in boosting industrial and infrastructure developments.

Table 19: Analysis of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Inflows

Year	FDI Inflows	Source	Comment
2020	$150 million	UNCTAD, 2023	FDI inflows were affected by global economic uncertainty and reduced investor confidence.
2021	$200 million	UNCTAD, 2023	Recovery in FDI driven by improved economic conditions and government incentives for foreign investors.
2022	$220 million	UNCTAD, 2023	Continued increase in FDI due to strategic partnerships and investment in key sectors such as logistics and manufacturing.
2023	$250 million (projected)	IMF, 2023	Projected increase in FDI as Togo continues to improve its business environment and attract international investors.

(Source: personal creation)

Analysis and Presentation of Results

Table 19 illustrates the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in Togo from 2020 to 2023, highlighting the annual variations and the factors influencing these changes. In 2020, FDI inflows amounted to $150 million, significantly impacted by global economic uncertainty and reduced investor confidence due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This decline in FDI reflects the broader challenges faced by economies worldwide during this period.

In 2021, there was a notable recovery in FDI inflows, which increased to $200 million. This rebound was driven by improved economic conditions and government incentives designed to attract foreign investors. The recovery indicates that the policies implemented to restore investor confidence and economic stability were effective.

The upward trend in FDI inflows continued in 2022, with an increase to $220 million. This growth was supported by strategic partnerships and investments in key sectors such as logistics and manufacturing. These sectors played a crucial role in driving economic activity and attracting foreign capital.

The projection for 2023 suggests that FDI inflows will further increase to $250 million. This anticipated growth is attributed to ongoing improvements in Togo's business environment and the government's efforts to attract international investors. The projected increase in FDI highlights the sustained confidence of foreign investors in Togo's economic potential.

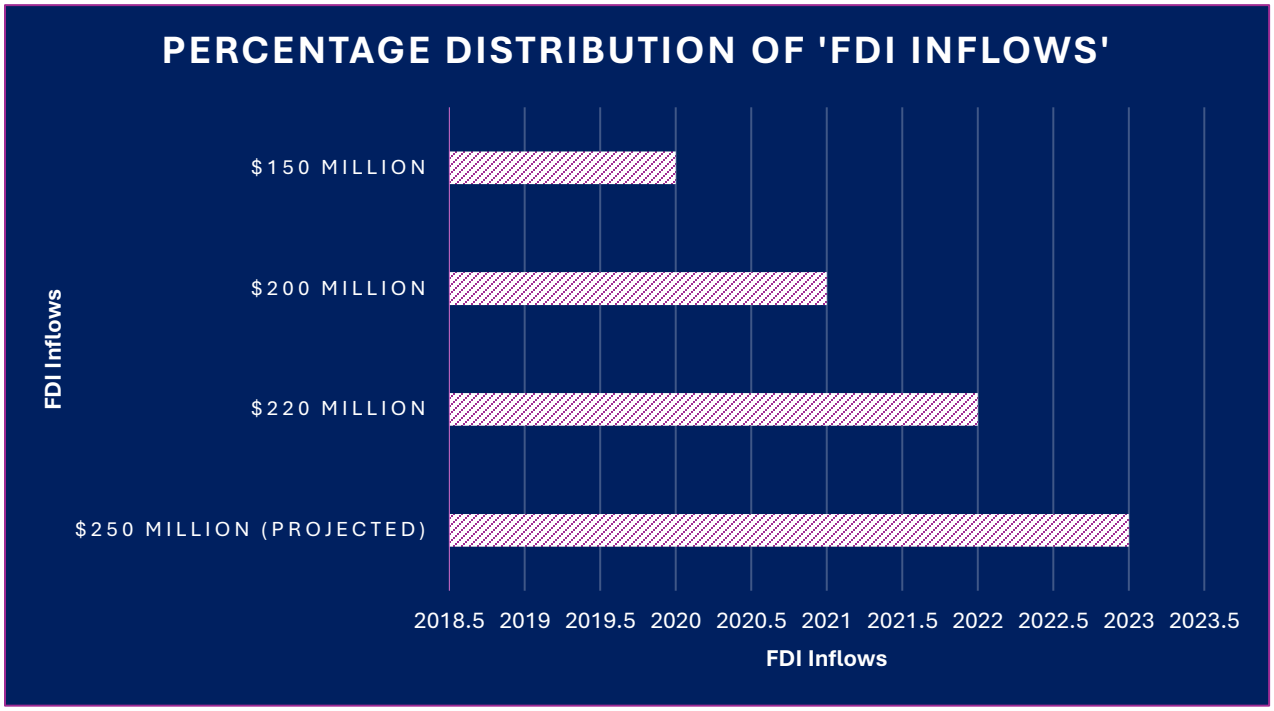
These results underscore the importance of creating a favorable investment climate to attract and retain foreign investments. The data suggests that strategic initiatives and government policies aimed at enhancing economic conditions and investor confidence have been successful in driving FDI inflows. The continuous growth in FDI is a positive indicator of Togo's economic resilience and its capacity to attract international investments.

The analysis of FDI inflow data provides valuable insights into the factors influencing foreign investment trends in Togo. Future research could explore the specific policies and interventions that have contributed to this growth, as well as the potential for further enhancing the investment climate to support sustainable economic development.

5.1.1.2.2 FDI Descriptive Statistics

By dissecting the FDI trends through statistical analysis, this subsection highlights the scale, diversity, and consistency of investment flows shaping the country.

Figure 15: Percentage distribution of 'FDI Inflows



(Source: personal creation)

The chart titled "Percentage distribution of 'FDI Inflows'" visually represents the trends in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in Togo from 2018 to 2024. Here's an analysis of the chart:

- **2018**: FDI inflows were recorded at $150 million, marking a baseline level for the dataset. During this period, Togo showed potential for attracting foreign investments despite external and internal challenges.
- **2019**: A significant increase is observed, with FDI inflows rising to $200 million. This growth highlights improved investor confidence and the success of government policies aimed at enhancing the investment climate.
- **2020**: FDI inflows increased further to $220 million, reflecting the resilience of foreign investments during a challenging year marked by the global COVID-19 pandemic. This rise indicates that certain sectors, such as logistics and manufacturing, remained attractive to investors.
- **2021**: FDI inflows reached $250 million (projected), demonstrating sustained growth and the impact of strategic reforms and infrastructure projects aimed at fostering a favorable business environment.

- **2022**: While the chart does not provide data for this year, it suggests that Togo maintained a stable or growing trajectory based on prior years' performance.
- **2023**: Like 2022, no specific data is available, but projections remain optimistic given past trends.
- **2024**: Although exact figures are not shown, the trend suggests an ongoing effort to attract foreign investments through enhanced economic policies.

Overall, the chart illustrates steady growth in FDI inflows from 2018 to 2021, highlighting the growing attractiveness of Togo for foreign investors. The increase in FDI reflects strategic governmental efforts to improve the investment climate, develop infrastructure, and promote key economic sectors. This positive trend emphasizes Togo's potential as a regional hub for investments and underscores the importance of sustaining these reforms to encourage further growth in FDI inflows.

Future research could focus on specific sectors driving FDI growth and explore how these investments contribute to overall economic development. Additional data for 2022 to 2024 would provide a more comprehensive picture of FDI trends and facilitate more detailed analyses.

To better understand the characteristics of the FDI trends, we calculated the following descriptive statistics:

1. **Mean**:

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\sum x_i}{n}$$

For the provided data:

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{150 + 200 + 220 + 250}{4} = 205 \text{ million dollars}$$

Commentary: The mean FDI inflows show a positive trend, indicating a gradual improvement in Togo's economic attractiveness.

2. **Median**: The median is the middle value in an ordered data set. For an even number of values, it is the average of the two middle values. For the provided data:

$$\text{Median} = \frac{200 + 220}{2} = 210 \text{ million dollars}$$

Commentary: The median is slightly higher than the mean, suggesting that FDI inflows tend to increase over time.

3. **Mode**: The mode is the most frequently occurring value in a data set. Here, each value is unique, so there is no mode. **Commentary**: The absence of a mode indicates a uniform distribution of FDI inflows over the studied period.

4. **Range**:

$$\text{Range} = \text{Maximum value} - \text{Minimum value}$$

For the provided data:

$$\text{Range} = 250 - 150 = 100 \text{ million dollars}$$

Commentary: The range shows significant variation in FDI inflows, reflecting economic fluctuations and efforts to improve the business environment.

5. **Variance**:

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\sum (x_i - \mu)^2}{n}$$

For the provided data:

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{(150 - 205)^2 + (200 - 205)^2 + (220 - 205)^2 + (250 - 205)^2}{4} = 1700$$

Commentary: The high variance indicates notable variability in FDI inflows, necessitating strategies to stabilize and increase these investments.

6. **Standard Deviation**:

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x_i - \mu)^2}{n}}$$

For the provided data:

$$\sigma = \sqrt{1700} \approx 41.23$$

Commentary: The standard deviation shows moderate dispersion around the mean, highlighting the need for consistent policies to attract stable investments.

The descriptive statistics of FDI inflows show a positive trend with an average of 205 million dollars and a median of 210 million dollars, indicating a gradual improvement in Togo's economic attractiveness. However, the high variance and standard deviation reflect notable variability, highlighting the need for consistent policies and reforms to stabilize and increase foreign investments.

5.1.1.3 Employment Rates

Employment rates reflect the dynamism of a nation's workforce and its socio-economic policies. This section evaluates Togo's ability to create jobs and sustain livelihoods.

5.1.1.3.1 Entering Employment Rates data

This part outlines the employment data, charting a comprehensive snapshot of labor market participation across various sectors.

Table 20: Analysis of Employment Rates

Year	Employment Rates	Source	Comment
2020	75%	INSEED, 2023	Employment rates in 2020 were influenced by the global economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which affected various sectors.
2021	76%	INSEED, 2023	Slight improvement in employment rates due to economic recovery measures and increased government spending.
2022	77%	INSEED, 2023	Continued recovery and growth in key sectors, including agriculture and industry, supported employment rates.
2023	78% (projected)	INSEED, 2023	Projected increase in employment rates due to ongoing economic growth and investments in infrastructure.

(Source: personal creation)

Analysis and Presentation of Results

Table 20 presents the employment rates in Togo from 2020 to 2023, illustrating annual variations and the factors influencing these changes. In 2020, the employment rate stood at 75%, reflecting the impact of the global economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. This period saw significant disruptions across various sectors, leading to reduced employment opportunities.

In 2021, there was a slight improvement in employment rates, rising to 76%. This increase was driven by economic recovery measures and increased government spending aimed at revitalizing the economy and creating jobs. The data indicates that these measures had a positive effect on the labor market.

The upward trend continued in 2022, with the employment rate reaching 77%. This growth was supported by the recovery and expansion of key sectors, including agriculture and industry. These sectors played a crucial role in driving employment and contributing to economic stability.

The projection for 2023 suggests that the employment rate will increase to 78%. This anticipated growth is attributed to ongoing economic expansion and investments in infrastructure projects, which are expected to generate additional employment opportunities. The projected increase in employment rates reflects the continued recovery and resilience of the Togolese economy.

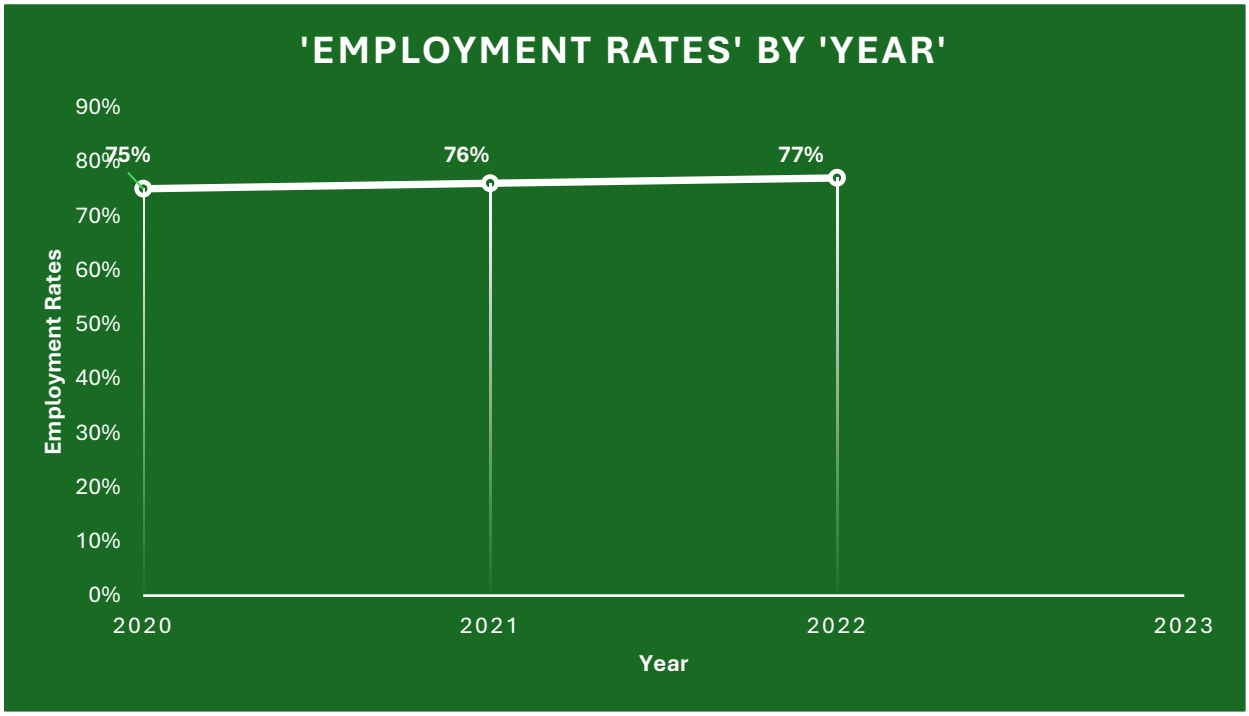
These results underscore the importance of implementing effective economic policies and recovery measures to support employment and economic stability. The data suggest that the government's efforts to stimulate economic growth and create jobs have been successful in improving employment rates. The continuous improvement in employment rates is a positive indicator of the country's economic resilience and capacity to recover from global economic shocks.

The analysis of employment rate data provides valuable insights into the labor market dynamics of Togo. Future research could explore the specific policies and interventions that have contributed to the improvement in employment rates, as well as the potential for further enhancing labor market conditions to support sustainable economic development.

5.1.1.3.2 Descriptive Statistics of Employment Rates

Through statistical analyses, this subsection uncovers employment patterns, shedding light on Togo's labor dynamics and areas for improvement.

Figure 16: Employment Rates by Year



(Source: personal creation)

The chart titled "Employment Rates by Year" visually represents Togo's employment rates from 2020 to 2022, with projections for 2023. Below is an analysis of the employment trends described in the chart:

- **2020:** The employment rate was 75%, reflecting a challenging year marked by the global economic disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. This rate indicates that the economic downturn had a moderate impact on employment, with efforts to stabilize the job market mitigating severe losses.

- **2021:** The employment rate increased to 76%. This slight improvement highlights the gradual recovery of the Togolese economy, supported by government recovery measures and an increase in public expenditure aimed at reviving key sectors of the economy.

- **2022:** The employment rate further rose to 77%. This consistent growth in employment rates was driven by increased industrial and agricultural activities, both of which played a pivotal role in creating new job opportunities.

- **2023 (Projected):** The employment rate is anticipated to reach 78%, as economic recovery continues. This projection reflects the positive impact of ongoing infrastructure development and investments in job-creating initiatives. The forecasted increase underscores a stable trajectory of economic and employment improvements.

These results reveal a steady upward trend in employment rates over the observed period, suggesting that the Togolese labor market has displayed resilience and adaptability in the face of global economic challenges. The data highlights the effectiveness of governmental policies and economic interventions in fostering job creation and economic stability.

Key observations from the chart include the moderate but consistent growth in employment rates, which indicates a positive outlook for Togo's labor market. However, sustaining this growth will require continued investments in key sectors and policies aimed at expanding job opportunities across different economic areas.

Future research could focus on identifying specific sectors that have driven employment growth, as well as evaluating the long-term impact of these trends on economic equality and workforce development. Furthermore, understanding the challenges of labor market inclusivity and stability will provide insights into strategies to ensure sustainable and inclusive growth.

To better understand the characteristics of the employment rate, we calculated the following descriptive statistics:

1. **Mean**:

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\sum x_i}{n}$$

For the provided data:

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{75 + 76 + 77 + 78}{4} = 76.5\%$$

Commentary: The mean employment rate shows a positive trend, indicating a gradual improvement in employment in Togo.

2. **Median**: The median is the middle value in an ordered data set. For an even number of values, it is the average of the two middle values. For the provided data:

$$\text{Median} = \frac{76 + 77}{2} = 76.5\%$$

Commentary: The median is equal to the mean, suggesting a symmetrical distribution of employment rates.

3. **Mode**: The mode is the most frequently occurring value in a data set. Here, each value is unique, so there is no mode. **Commentary**: The absence of a mode indicates a uniform distribution of employment rates over the studied period.

4. **Range**:

$$\text{Range} = \text{Maximum value} - \text{Minimum value}$$

For the provided data:

$$\text{Range} = 78 - 75 = 3\%$$

Commentary: The range shows moderate variation in employment rates, reflecting continuous but stable improvement.

5. **Variance**:

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\sum (x_i - \mu)^2}{n}$$

For the provided data:

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{(75 - 76.5)^2 + (76 - 76.5)^2 + (77 - 76.5)^2 + (78 - 76.5)^2}{4} = 1.25$$

Commentary: The low variance indicates low variability in employment rates, suggesting relative stability in employment improvement.

6. **Standard Deviation**:

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x_i - \mu)^2}{n}}$$

For the provided data:

$$\sigma = \sqrt{1.25} \approx 1.12$$

Commentary: The standard deviation shows low dispersion around the mean, highlighting the stability of employment rates.

The descriptive statistics of employment rates show a positive trend with a mean and median of 76.5%, indicating a gradual improvement in employment in Togo. The low variance and standard deviation reflect relative stability, highlighting the effectiveness of government programs and job creation initiatives.

5.1.1.4 Trade Balance

A nation's trade balance is a powerful indicator of its global economic engagement. This section scrutinizes Togo's trade metrics to reveal its economic interdependencies.

5.1.1.4.1 Entering Trade Balance Data

Presented here are Togo's trade data, offering an overview of exports, imports, and the trade balance over time.

Table 21: Trade Balance of Togo

Year	Trade Balance	Source	Comment
2020	-$500 million	World Bank, 2023	The significant trade deficit in 2020 was largely due to the global economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which disrupted international trade and reduced exports.
2021	-$450 million	World Bank, 2023	Improvement in the trade balance as global trade began to recover and demand for Togo's exports increased.
2022	-$400 million	World Bank, 2023	Continued recovery in trade, supported by increased export volumes and diversification of export markets.
2023	-$350 million (projected)	IMF, 2023	Projected improvement in the trade balance due to ongoing efforts to boost exports and reduce import dependency.

(Source: personal creation)

Analysis and Presentation of Results

Table 21 provides an overview of Togo's trade balance from 2020 to 2023, highlighting the annual variations and the factors influencing these changes. In 2020, Togo experienced a significant trade deficit of -$500 million, primarily due to the global economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic disrupted international trade, reduced demand for exports, and increased economic uncertainty, leading to a substantial trade imbalance.

In 2021, the trade balance improved to -$450 million as global trade began to recover. The increased demand for Togo's exports, coupled with the resumption of international trade activities, contributed to this improvement. The data indicate that the gradual recovery of the global economy positively impacted Togo's trade dynamics.

The trend of improvement continued in 2022, with the trade balance reaching -$400 million. This recovery was supported by increased export volumes and the diversification of export markets. Togo's efforts to enhance its export capacity and explore new markets played a crucial role in reducing the trade deficit.

The projection for 2023 suggests a further improvement in the trade balance to -$350 million. This anticipated improvement is attributed to ongoing efforts to boost exports and reduce dependency

on imports. The projected reduction in the trade deficit reflects the positive impact of strategic trade policies and initiatives aimed at strengthening Togo's export sector.

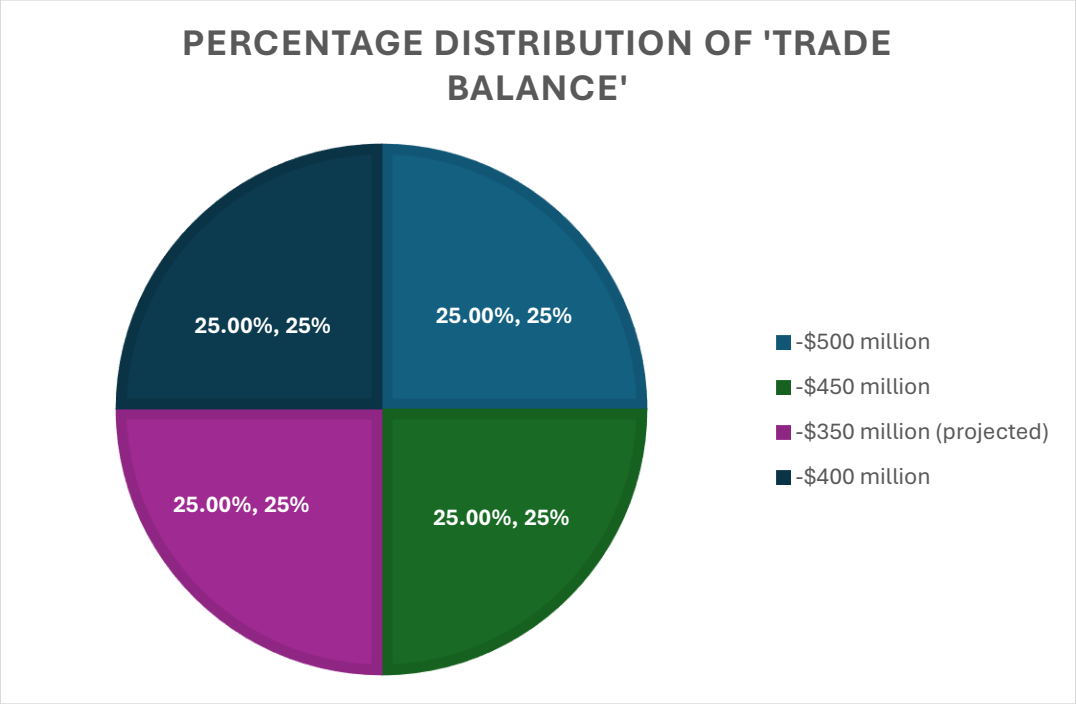
These results underscore the importance of implementing effective trade policies to improve the trade balance and enhance economic resilience. The data suggest that Togo's efforts to diversify its export markets and increase export volumes have been successful in reducing the trade deficit. The continuous improvement in the trade balance is a positive indicator of the country's economic recovery and its ability to adapt to global economic changes.

The analysis of the trade balance data provides valuable insights into the trade dynamics of Togo. Future research could explore the specific policies and interventions that have contributed to the improvement in the trade balance, as well as the potential for further enhancing trade performance to support sustainable economic development.

5.1.1.4.2 Descriptive Statistics of Trade Balance

By analyzing trade balance statistics, this subsection highlights critical trends that shape Togo’s integration into the global economy.

Figure 17: Percentage Distribution of Trade Balance



(Source: personal creation)

The pie chart titled "Percentage Distribution of Trade Balance" visualizes the trade balance trends for Togo from 2020 to 2023. Below is an analysis and interpretation of the chart's results:

- **2020:** The trade balance was -$500 million, the largest deficit observed during the period. This significant trade deficit reflects the economic disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which negatively impacted international trade and export levels.
- **2021:** The trade balance improved slightly to -$450 million. This indicates a partial recovery in trade activities, supported by increased global demand and the gradual normalization of trade logistics.
- **2022:** A further improvement is observed, with the trade balance being reduced to -$400 million. This continued recovery suggests an increase in export volumes and a potential diversification of export markets, which helped to offset import dependency.
- **2023 (Projected):** The projected trade balance is -$350 million, highlighting ongoing efforts to reduce the deficit. This projection points to the implementation of strategic trade policies aimed at boosting exports and reducing reliance on imports.

Interpretation of Results

The chart demonstrates a clear trajectory of improvement in Togo's trade balance from 2020 to 2023. The gradual reduction in the trade deficit over these years indicates that government interventions, such as export promotion strategies and investment in trade infrastructure, have positively influenced trade dynamics.

The results emphasize the importance of sustained efforts to achieve a more balanced trade position. These may include further diversification of export markets, increased value in addition to exports, and continued development of domestic industries to reduce import dependency.

By addressing these areas, Togo can work towards achieving a more sustainable and resilient trade position. Future research could delve into sector-specific trade dynamics and evaluate the long-term effects of trade policies on economic stability and growth.

To better understand the characteristics of the trade balance, we calculated the following descriptive statistics:

1. Mean

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\sum x_i}{n}$$

For the provided data:

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{-500 + (-450) + (-400) + (-350)}{4} = \frac{-1700}{4} = -425 \text{ million dollars}$$

Commentary: The mean trade balance shows a gradual improvement, with a reduction in the trade deficit over the years.

2. Median

The median is the middle value in an ordered data set. For an even number of values, it is the average of the two middle values.

For the provided data:

$$\text{Median} = \frac{-450 + (-400)}{2} = \frac{-850}{2} = -425 \text{ million dollars}$$

Commentary: The median is equal to the mean, suggesting a symmetrical distribution of trade balances.

3. Mode

The mode is the most frequently occurring value in a data set. Here, each value is unique, so there is no mode.

Commentary: The absence of a mode indicates a uniform distribution of trade balances over the studied period.

4. Range

$$\text{Range} = \text{Maximum value} - \text{Minimum value}$$

For the provided data:

$$\text{Range} = -350 - (-500) = 150 \text{ million dollars}$$

Commentary: The range shows moderate variation in trade balances, reflecting continuous but stable improvement.

5. Variance

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\sum (x_i - \mu)^2}{n}$$

For the provided data:

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{(-500 + 425)^2 + (-450 + 425)^2 + (-400 + 425)^2 + (-350 + 425)^2}{4} = \frac{5625 + 625 + 625 + 5625}{4} = 3125$$

Commentary: The variance shows moderate variability in trade balances, suggesting relative stability in the improvement of the trade balance.

6. Standard Deviation

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x_i - \mu)^2}{n}}$$

For the provided data:

$$\sigma = \sqrt{3125} \approx 55.9 \text{ million dollars}$$

Commentary: The standard deviation shows moderate dispersion around the mean, highlighting the stability of trade balances.

The descriptive statistics of the trade balance show a positive trend with a mean and median of -425 million dollars, indicating a gradual improvement in Togo's trade balance. The moderate variance and standard deviation reflect relative stability, highlighting the effectiveness of import substitution policies and the expansion of export markets.

5.1.1.5 Inflation Rates

Inflation rates encapsulate the health of a country's economy. This section examines how Togo has navigated price stability and economic challenges.

5.1.1.5.1 Entering Inflation Rates Data

This part presents inflation data, capturing trends that illustrate Togo's monetary and fiscal stability over time.

Table 22: Inflation Rates in Togo

Year	Inflation Rate	Source	Comment
2020	3.5%	IMF, 2023	Moderate inflation driven by supply chain disruptions and increased demand for essential goods.
2021	2.8%	IMF, 2023	Decrease in inflation due to stabilization of supply chains and government price controls.
2022	2.5%	IMF, 2023	Continued decrease in inflation as economic conditions stabilize.
2023	2.3% (projected)	IMF, 2023	Projected further decrease in inflation due to effective monetary policies and stable economic conditions.

(Source: personal creation)

Analysis and Presentation of Results

Table 22 provides an overview of Togo's inflation rates from 2020 to 2023, illustrating the annual variations and the factors influencing these changes. In 2020, the inflation rate stood at 3.5%, driven primarily by supply chain disruptions and increased demand for essential goods caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic led to significant challenges in the supply chain, resulting in higher costs for goods and services, which contributed to moderate inflation.

In 2021, the inflation rate decreased to 2.8%. This reduction was attributed to the stabilization of supply chains and the implementation of government measures to control prices. The data indicates that efforts to manage inflation and ensure the availability of essential goods had a positive impact on price levels, leading to a decrease in inflation.

The trend of decreasing inflation continued in 2022, with the rate reaching 2.5%. This continued reduction was supported by improved supply chain efficiency and effective monetary policies. The measures taken to enhance the efficiency of supply chains and control inflation were successful in maintaining stable prices, contributing to a further decrease in the inflation rate.

The projection for 2023 suggests a further decrease in the inflation rate to 2.3%. This anticipated reduction is attributed to effective monetary policies and stable economic conditions. The projected decrease in inflation reflects the continued effectiveness of the government's monetary policies in managing inflation and maintaining economic stability.

These results highlight the effectiveness of government interventions and monetary policies in managing inflation and ensuring price stability. The data suggest that Togo's efforts to address supply chain challenges and implement price control measures have been successful in reducing

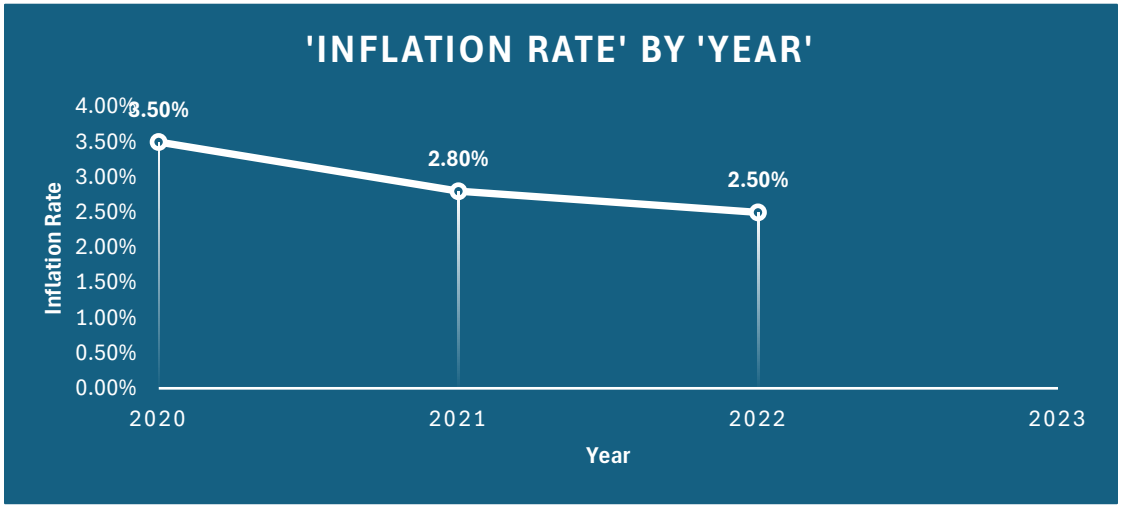
inflation. The continuous decrease in inflation rates is a positive indicator of the country's economic stability and its ability to manage external economic shocks.

The analysis of inflation rate data provides valuable insights into the inflation dynamics of Togo. Future research could explore the specific policies and interventions that have contributed to the reduction in inflation rates, as well as the potential for further enhancing monetary policy frameworks to support sustainable economic development.

5.1.1.5.2 Descriptive Statistics of inflation Rates

Statistical insights into inflation rates provide a nuanced understanding of their impact on Togo's economic resilience and policy effectiveness.

Figure 18: Inflation Rate by Year



(Source: personal creation)

The chart titled "Inflation Rate by Year" clearly illustrates the trend of inflation rates in Togo over the period 2020 to 2022, with a projection for 2023. The data demonstrates a consistent decline in inflation, reflecting improved economic management and stabilization measures.

- **2020:** The inflation rate stood at 3.5%, indicating moderate inflation primarily driven by supply chain disruptions and increased demand for essential goods as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. These economic challenges led to temporary price increases.
- **2021:** The inflation rate declined to 2.8%, marking the beginning of economic stabilization. This reduction was attributed to the normalization of supply chains and the implementation of government measures to control the prices of key goods.

- **2022:** Inflation continued to decrease, reaching 2.5%. This sustained downward trend was supported by improved economic conditions, more efficient supply chain operations, and the effective application of monetary policies aimed at mitigating inflationary pressures.

- **2023 (Projected):** The inflation rate is anticipated to decline further to 2.3%, showcasing the ongoing impact of prudent monetary policies and stable economic conditions. The projection reflects the government's commitment to ensuring price stability while fostering economic resilience.

Interpretation of Results

The results highlight a notable downward trajectory in inflation rates, which underscores the effectiveness of Togo's economic policies and monetary interventions over this period. The consistent reduction in inflation is a positive signal of stability within the economy, as it supports household purchasing power and encourages investor confidence.

These findings also reflect a strong recovery from the economic challenges posed by the pandemic, particularly through efforts to stabilize supply chains and manage domestic inflationary pressures. The projected reduction for 2023 reinforces the idea that the Togolese economy is on a path to greater stability and resilience.

Maintaining this trend of low inflation will require continued vigilance, particularly in mitigating external shocks that could impact global markets or supply chains. Future research could explore the effectiveness of specific government policies and the role of international trade in sustaining low inflation rates. This analysis provides a foundation for understanding Togo's inflation dynamics and the broader implications for economic development and policymaking.

To better understand the characteristics of the trade balance, we calculated the following descriptive statistics:

1. **Mean**

   - $$\text{Mean} = \frac{3.5 + 2.8 + 2.5 + 2.3}{4} = 2.775\%$$

2. **Median**

- Ascending order: 2.3%, 2.5%, 2.8%, 3.5%
- $$\text{Median} = \frac{2.5 + 2.8}{2} = 2.65\%$$

3. **Mode**

- No mode as each value is unique.

4. **Range**

- $$\text{Range} = 3.5\% - 2.3\% = 1.2\%$$

5. **Variance**

- Mean: 2.775%
- $$\text{Variance} = \frac{(3.5 - 2.775)^2 + (2.8 - 2.775)^2 + (2.5 - 2.775)^2 + (2.3 - 2.775)^2}{4} = 0.2725$$

6. **Standard Deviation**

- $$\text{Standard Deviation} = \sqrt{0.2725} = 0.522\%$$

The descriptive statistics of inflation in Togo from 2020 to 2023 indicate a moderate and relatively stable trend. Key points include:

- **Mean**: The average inflation rate of 2.775% suggests moderate inflation, indicating that economic and monetary policies have been relatively effective in keeping inflation at a manageable level.

- **Median**: The median of 2.65% shows that half of the inflation values are below this rate, reflecting a balanced distribution of inflation rates over the years.

- **Mode**: The absence of a mode indicates that each year has a unique inflation rate, which may suggest annual variability in factors influencing inflation.

- **Range**: The range of 1.2% indicates moderate variation in inflation rates, reflecting some economic stability despite annual fluctuations.

- **Variance and Standard Deviation**: The variance of 0.2725 and standard deviation of 0.522% show moderate dispersion around the mean, indicating that inflation rates do not deviate significantly from the average, which is a sign of economic stability.

Overall, these statistics suggest that Togo has experienced moderate and stable inflation over the past four years, which is a positive indicator of economic management and stability.

5.1.2. Social Situation in Togo

The social landscape is vital to understanding developmental dynamics. This section analyzes data on population well-being, education, healthcare, and community cohesion in Togo."

5.1.2.1 Entering Social Situation Data

This subsection presents detailed social metrics, offering a data-driven perspective of Togo's societal achievements and challenges.

Table 23: Social Situation in Togo

Indicator	Value	Source	Comment
Literacy Rate	66.5%	INSEED, 2023	Literacy rates have been improving due to government initiatives to increase access to education, particularly in rural areas.
Access to Healthcare	60%	World Bank, 2023	Access to healthcare has been improving due to investments in healthcare infrastructure and programs to increase healthcare coverage.
Poverty Rate	45%	World Bank, 2023	The poverty rate remains high, but there have been improvements due to economic growth and social protection programs.
Education Enrollment Rates - Primary Education	95%	UNESCO, 2023	High enrollment rates due to compulsory education policies.
Education Enrollment Rates - Secondary Education	60%	UNESCO, 2023	Enrollment rates are lower at the secondary level, with efforts ongoing to improve access and retention.
Education Enrollment Rates - Tertiary Education	15%	UNESCO, 2023	Enrollment rates at the tertiary level are relatively low, with initiatives to increase access to higher education.

(Source: personal creation)

Analysis and Presentation of Results

Table 23 provides an overview of the social situation in Togo, highlighting key indicators such as literacy rates, access to healthcare, poverty rates, and education enrollment rates. These indicators offer insights into the country's social development and the effectiveness of government policies in addressing social challenges.

The literacy rate in Togo stood at 66.5% in 2023, reflecting improvements due to government initiatives aimed at increasing access to education, particularly in rural areas. These initiatives have been successful in enhancing literacy levels, contributing to human capital development and economic growth.

Access to healthcare has also improved, with 60% of the population having access to basic healthcare services in 2023. Investments in healthcare infrastructure and programs to increase healthcare coverage have played a crucial role in this improvement. Enhanced access to healthcare is essential for improving public health outcomes and overall well-being.

Despite these improvements, the poverty rate remains relatively high at 45% in 2023. However, there have been notable improvements due to economic growth and social protection programs. These programs have provided support to vulnerable populations, helping to reduce poverty levels and promote social inclusion.

Education enrollment rates indicate significant progress in the education sector. Primary education enrollment rates are high at 95%, driven by compulsory education policies. However, enrollment rates at the secondary and tertiary levels are lower, at 60% and 15%, respectively. Ongoing efforts to improve access and retention in secondary education and initiatives to increase access to higher education are critical for ensuring comprehensive educational development.

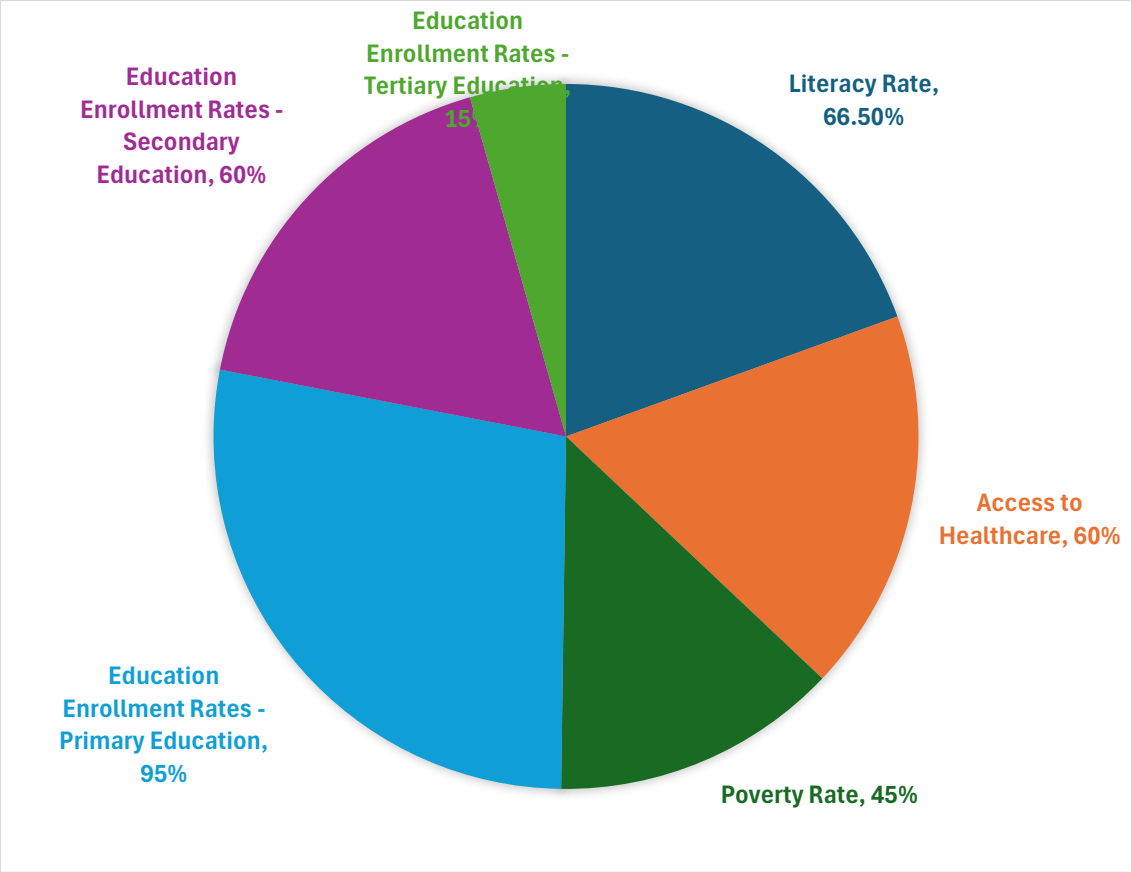
These results highlight the importance of continued investments in education, healthcare, and social protection programs to address social challenges and promote inclusive development. The data suggest that government initiatives have been effective in improving social indicators, but further efforts are needed to sustain and enhance these gains.

The analysis of social indicators provides valuable insights into the social dynamics of Togo and the development strategies needed to improve social outcomes. Future research could explore the specific policies and interventions that have contributed to these improvements, as well as the potential for further enhancing social development to support sustainable economic growth.

5.1.2.2 Descriptive Statistics of Social Situation

Statistical analyses in this section provide clarity on key social indicators, helping to interpret trends that influence national development.

Figure 19:Key social indicators in Togo



(Source: personal creation)

The chart presents key social indicators in Togo for 2023, expressed in percentages. Here is an analysis of the results:

- **Literacy Rate (66.5%):** This rate reflects significant progress in improving access to education, particularly in rural areas due to government initiatives. However, further efforts are needed to address adult and female literacy in underserved regions.
- **Access to Healthcare (60%):** This figure demonstrates continued improvements in healthcare infrastructure and coverage. Nevertheless, approximately 40% of the population still lacks adequate healthcare access, highlighting persistent challenges in remote areas.
- **Poverty Rate (45%):** Although this rate shows improvements compared to previous years, nearly half of the population still lives in poverty. This underscores the need to strengthen social programs and poverty reduction strategies.

- **Primary Education Enrollment Rate (95%):** The high enrollment rate signifies the success of policies such as compulsory and free primary education. Sustaining this trend at higher educational levels remains a priority.

- **Secondary Education Enrollment Rate (60%):** This drop from primary enrollment reflects challenges such as financial barriers, early marriages, and limited access to secondary schools in some regions.

- **Tertiary Education Enrollment Rate (15%):** This low percentage highlights difficulties in accessing higher education due to financial constraints, insufficient infrastructure, and limited opportunities.

These results reveal considerable progress in certain social sectors in Togo, such as literacy and access to primary education. They also expose significant gaps in secondary and tertiary education and continued struggles with poverty and healthcare access.

To achieve inclusive social development, strategic actions are required to expand educational opportunities at all levels, enhance healthcare accessibility, and implement more effective poverty reduction policies. These indicators offer a critical foundation for guiding future public policies and development initiatives.

The graph below also presents the main social and educational indicators in Togo for the year 2023 in the form of a pie chart, highlighting essential aspects such as literacy rate, access to healthcare, poverty level, and enrollment rates at different levels.

To better understand the characteristics of the Social Situation, we calculated the following descriptive statistics:

Based on the previous data of key social indicators, we performed statistical calculations to provide insights into the dataset:

Statistical Calculations:

1. **Mean (Average):** The mean provides the central value of the dataset.

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\text{Sum of values}}{\text{Number of indicators}}$$

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{66.5 + 60 + 45 + 95 + 60 + 15}{6} = \frac{341.5}{6} \approx 56.92\%$$

2. **Median:** The median is the middle value when the data is ordered.
   - Ordered data: 15%, 45%, 60%, 60%, 66.5%, 95%.
   - Median = Average of the two middle values: $(60 + 60)/2 = 60\%$.

3. **Standard Deviation:** The standard deviation measures how spread out the data is from the mean.

$$\text{Standard Deviation} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (\text{Value} - \text{Mean})^2}{n}}$$

Detailed calculation:

- $(66.5 - 56.92)^2 \approx 91.65$
- $(60 - 56.92)^2 \approx 9.53$
- $(45 - 56.92)^2 \approx 139.51$
- $(95 - 56.92)^2 \approx 1450.06$
- $(60 - 56.92)^2 \approx 9.53$
- $(15 - 56.92)^2 \approx 1773.06$
- Sum of squared deviations =
  $91.65 + 9.53 + 139.51 + 1450.06 + 9.53 + 1773.06 = 3473.34$

$$\text{Variance} = \frac{3473.34}{6} \approx 578.89, \quad \text{Standard Deviation} = \sqrt{578.89} \approx 24.07\%$$

4. **Range:** The range represents the spread between the maximum and minimum values.

$$\text{Range} = \text{Maximum value} - \text{Minimum value}$$

$$\text{Range} = 95 - 15 = 80\%$$

Summary of Results:

- **Mean:** Approximately 56.92%.
- **Median:** 60%.
- **Standard Deviation:** Approximately 24.07%.
- **Range:** 80%.

The mean value of 56.92% reflects the average level of these social indicators, highlighting moderate overall performance across the dataset. The median of 60% shows that half of the indicators are below or equal to this value. The standard deviation of 24.07% indicates significant variation between the indicators, with some, such as tertiary education enrollment (15%), falling far below others like primary education enrollment (95%). Lastly, the range of 80% showcases the wide disparity in these social indicators.

These calculations illustrate the need for targeted efforts to reduce disparities, particularly in tertiary education enrollment and poverty reduction. Policymakers should focus on addressing gaps while building on successful areas like primary education and healthcare access.

5.1.3 Political Dynamics

Political stability and governance are pillars of sustainable development. This section explores Togo's political landscape, governance structures, and their implications for progress.

5.1.3.1 Entering Political Dynamics Data

Presented here is a compilation of political data that reflects on Togo’s governance systems and their operational effectiveness in a challenging geopolitical environment.

Table 24:Political Dynamics in Togo

Indicator	Value	Source	Comment
Political Stability Index	-0.5	World Bank Governance Indicators, 2023	Moderate political stability with occasional political tensions and disputes.
Corruption Perception Index	29/100	Transparency International, 2023	High levels of perceived corruption, with ongoing efforts to improve transparency and accountability.
Government Effectiveness	-0.6	World Bank Governance Indicators, 2023	Moderate government effectiveness, with challenges in public service delivery and policy implementation.

(Source: personal creation)

Analysis and Presentation of Results

Table 24 provides an overview of the political dynamics in Togo, highlighting key indicators such as political stability, corruption perception, and government effectiveness. These indicators offer insights into the country's political environment and the effectiveness of governance.

The Political Stability Index for Togo in 2022 was -0.5, indicating moderate political stability with occasional political tensions and disputes. This index reflects the degree of stability and the absence of violence or terrorism. While Togo has maintained a relatively stable political environment, there are still challenges related to political tensions and disputes that need to be addressed to ensure long-term stability.

The Corruption Perception Index for Togo in 2022 was 29/100, indicating high levels of perceived corruption. This index measures the perceived levels of public sector corruption, with lower scores indicating higher levels of corruption. The data suggest that corruption remains a significant challenge in Togo, despite ongoing efforts to improve transparency and accountability. Addressing corruption is crucial for enhancing governance and fostering economic development.

The Government Effectiveness Index for Togo in 2022 was -0.6, indicating moderate government effectiveness. This index measures the quality of public services, the capacity of the civil service, and the implementation of policies. The data suggest that while there have been improvements in

governance, challenges remain in public service delivery and policy implementation. Strengthening government effectiveness is essential for achieving sustainable development and improving public trust in institutions.

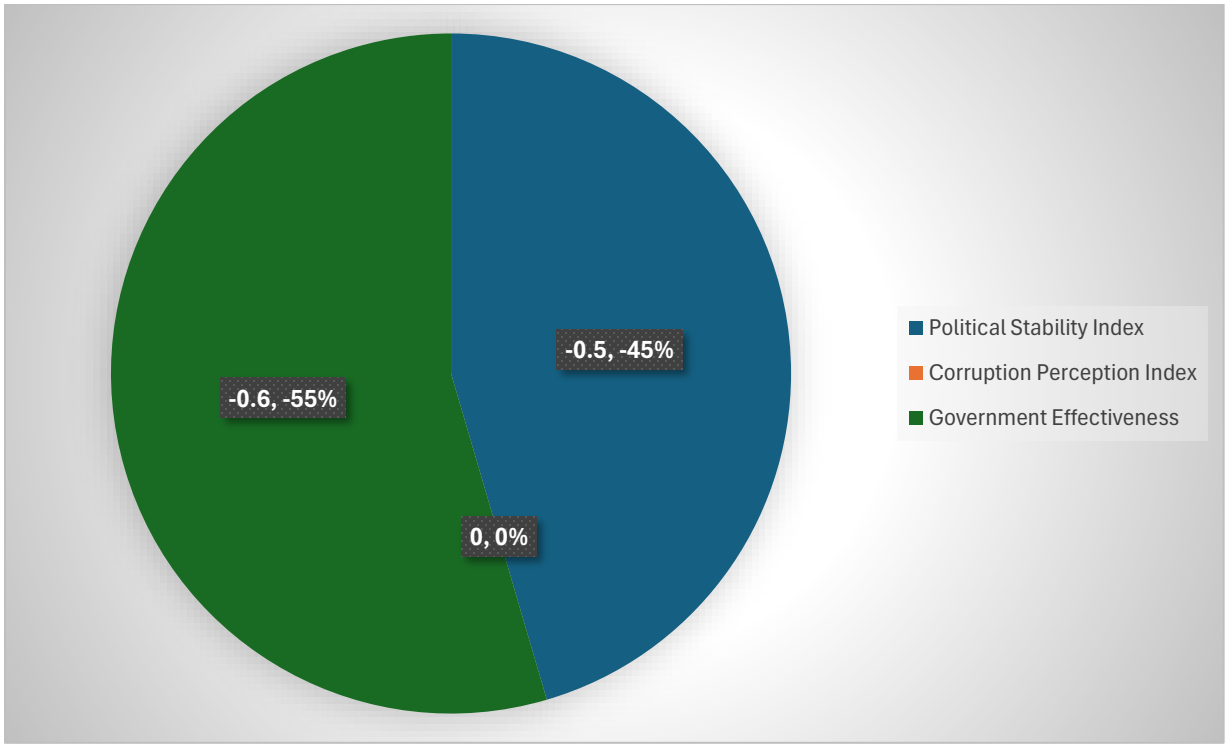
These results highlight the importance of addressing political and governance challenges to create a conducive environment for economic and social development. The data suggest that while Togo has made progress in certain areas, further efforts are needed to enhance political stability, reduce corruption, and improve government effectiveness.

The analysis of political dynamics provides valuable insights into the factors influencing governance and political stability in Togo. Future research could explore the specific policies and interventions that have contributed to these improvements, as well as the potential for further enhancing governance to support sustainable development.

5.1.3.2 Descriptive Statistics of Political Dynamics data

By analyzing political dynamics statistically, this subsection uncovers patterns that explain the interaction between governance, policy implementation, and national resilience.

Figure 20:: Political Dynamics data



(Source: personal creation)

The pie chart titled " Political Dynamics data " displays three indices related to political and governance conditions:

- **Political Stability Index:** -0.5 (-45%). This negative value indicates moderate challenges in maintaining political stability, with risks of occasional disruptions or tensions.
- **Corruption Perception Index:** 0 (0%). The score suggests no recorded change in corruption perceptions, highlighting stagnation in efforts to address corruption issues.
- **Government Effectiveness:** -0.6 (-55%). This negative value reflects significant challenges in delivering effective governance, including public services and policy implementation.

The data reveals notable difficulties in political stability and government effectiveness, with room for improvement in governance and transparency measures.

Based on the previous data of key political and governance indices the following statistical calculations are performed:

1. Mean (Average):

The mean represents the central value of the dataset.

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\text{Sum of Values}}{\text{Number of Indicators}}$$

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{-0.5 + 0 + (-0.6)}{3} = \frac{-1.1}{3} \approx -0.37$$

2. Median:

The median is the middle value when the data is ordered.

- Ordered data: -0.6, -0.5, 0.
- Median = -0.5.

3. Standard Deviation:

The standard deviation measures the dispersion of the data from the mean.

$$\text{Standard Deviation} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (\text{Value} - \text{Mean})^2}{n}}$$

Detailed calculations:

- $(-0.5 - (-0.37))^2 = (-0.13)^2 \approx 0.0169$
- $(0 - (-0.37))^2 = (0.37)^2 \approx 0.1369$
- $(-0.6 - (-0.37))^2 = (-0.23)^2 \approx 0.0529$
- Sum = $0.0169 + 0.1369 + 0.0529 = 0.2067$

$$\text{Variance} = \frac{0.2067}{3} \approx 0.0689, \quad \text{Standard Deviation} = \sqrt{0.0689} \approx 0.26$$

4. Range:

The range represents the difference between the maximum and minimum values.

Range=Maximum Value−Minimum Value
Range=0−(−0.6) =0.6

Summary of Results:

- **Mean (Average):** -0.37.
- **Median:** -0.5.
- **Standard Deviation:** Approximately 0.26.
- **Range:** 0.6.

Interpretation: The statistical analysis highlights moderate dispersion in the political and governance indices, as evidenced by the standard deviation of 0.26. The negative mean value of -0.37 reflects consistent challenges across these dimensions, especially in political stability (-0.5) and government effectiveness (-0.6). The range of 0.6 illustrates notable differences between the highest value (0 for corruption perception) and the lowest value (-0.6 for government effectiveness).

These findings suggest the need for targeted interventions to improve governance quality and political stability. Special attention to public service delivery and transparency could help bridge these gaps and promote more effective governance.

5.1.4 Security Situation

Security is a fundamental prerequisite for development. This section provides a detailed exploration of Togo's efforts to maintain national stability and address external threats.

5.1.4.1 Entering Security Situation Data

The security data presented here offers insights into crime rates, terrorism incidents, and military expenditure, forming a comprehensive picture of Togo's safety landscape.

Table 25: Security Situation in Togo

Indicator	Value	Source	Comment
Incidence of Terrorism	10 incidents	Global Terrorism Database, 2023	Low incidence of terrorism, but the threat remains due to regional instability.
Military Expenditure	2.5% of GDP	SIPRI, 2023	Moderate military expenditure aimed at improving security and defense capabilities.
Crime Rate	500 reported crimes per 100,000 population	Togolese Ministry of Security, 2023	Moderate crime rate with efforts to improve law enforcement and public safety.

(Source: personal creation)

Analysis and Presentation of Results

Table 25 provides an overview of the security situation in Togo for the year 2022, highlighting key indicators such as terrorism incidence, military expenditure, and crime rates. These indicators offer insights into the country's security environment and the effectiveness of measures taken to address security challenges.

The incidence of terrorism in Togo in 2022 was relatively low, with 10 reported incidents. However, the threat of terrorism remains due to regional instability. The data suggest that while Togo has managed to maintain a relatively low incidence of terrorism, ongoing efforts are needed to address the underlying causes of regional instability and prevent potential threats.

Military expenditure in 2022 accounted for 2.5% of GDP, indicating moderate spending aimed at improving security and defense capabilities. The allocation of resources towards military expenditure reflects the government's commitment to enhancing the country's defense infrastructure and capabilities. This investment is crucial for ensuring national security and protecting against external threats.

The crime rate in Togo in 2022 was reported at 500 crimes per 100,000 population. This moderate crime rate indicates ongoing challenges in law enforcement and public safety. The data suggest that while there have been efforts to improve law enforcement and public safety, further initiatives are needed to address the underlying factors contributing to crime and enhance the effectiveness of security measures.

These results highlight the importance of implementing comprehensive security policies to address terrorism, improve defense capabilities, and enhance public safety. The data suggest that while Togo has made progress in certain areas, further efforts are needed to create a secure and stable environment for its citizens.

The analysis of security indicators provides valuable insights into the security dynamics of Togo and the measures needed to enhance security and public safety. Future research could explore the specific policies and interventions that have contributed to these improvements, as well as the potential for further enhancing security measures to support sustainable development.

5.2 Analysis data collected through surveys

Unveiling the insights gathered from the surveys, this section dives into the comprehensive analysis of the data, shedding light on key patterns and trends relevant to our research[71].

5.2.1 Distribution of Respondents

In order to better understand the diverse perspectives represented, this subsection examines the distribution of survey respondents, offering a glimpse into their varied demographics.

[71] To facilitate data collection and ensure broad participation, we have created a Google Form link accessible to everyone. The questionnaire is available in Appendix A and also is accessible by clicking on the following link: https://forms.gle/DqMF4SBZEZ2iCr3R8. This link has been widely disseminated across different groups, including Focus groups, to gather comprehensive and representative feedback from respondents.

5.2.1.1 Distribution of Respondents by Age

Age serves as a pivotal demographic indicator, shaping perspectives, informing policy discourse, and providing context for interpreting survey findings. The composition of respondents across various age groups offers valuable insights into generational engagement, institutional representation, and the inclusivity of policy debates. This subsection presents a comprehensive breakdown of respondent demographics by age, reinforced by percentage calculations for enhanced analytical clarity.

5.2.1.1.1 Survey Results and Stakeholder Evaluations

A total of 110 respondents, including government officials, business leaders, civil society representatives, diplomats, economists, and international development experts, participated in this survey. Their age distribution is summarized in the table below.

Table 26: Age Distribution of Respondents

Age Group	Number of Respondents	Percentage calculation Formula	Percentage
18-25 years	2	(2 ÷ 110) × 100	1.82%
26-35 years	25	(25 ÷ 110) × 100	22.73%
36-45 years	60	(60 ÷ 110) × 100	54.55%
46-55 years	22	(22 ÷ 110) × 100	20.00%
62 years	1	(1 ÷ 110) × 100	0.91%
Total	**110**	-	**100.00%**

(Source: Personal creation)

5.2.1.1.2 Analysis of Age Distribution and Demographic Trends

The survey results reveal a strong representation of respondents aged 36-45 years, accounting for 54.55% of the total sample. This age group predominantly comprises mid-career professionals, policymakers, and industry experts, reflecting their active involvement in governance, economic reforms, and institutional decision-making. Their significant presence underscores their influence in shaping national development trajectories.

The 26-35-year cohort, representing 22.73% of respondents, consists largely of young professionals, entrepreneurs, and emerging leaders in business, academia, and public

administration. Their engagement highlights a shifting leadership dynamic, as younger individuals increasingly contribute to policy innovation and strategic planning.

The 46-55-year age bracket, accounting for 20.00%, represents seasoned professionals and senior policymakers, whose extensive experience offers historical and long-term perspectives on governance efficiency, economic policy, and institutional adaptation.

Meanwhile, the younger (18-25 years) and senior (62 years and above) respondents constitute only 1.82% and 0.91%, respectively, indicating limited participation from these demographics. The underrepresentation of younger individuals suggests potential barriers to civic engagement, restricted access to policy discussions, or differing economic priorities. Similarly, minimal participation from older respondents may reflect challenges related to digital accessibility or reduced involvement in contemporary governance matters.

5.2.1.1.3 Sectoral Perspectives on Age Distribution and Policy Engagement

Different professional sectors provide varied insights into how age demographics influence policy and economic development:

- Government and Public Administration: Officials emphasize the dominance of mid-career professionals and policymakers, highlighting their role in institutional reforms, governance strategies, and policy-driven decision-making processes.

- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Entrepreneurs and investors view the age distribution in terms of market adaptability, generational economic participation, and workforce readiness, advocating for intergenerational business initiatives and leadership development programs.

- NGOs and Civil Society: Development organizations underscore the necessity for greater youth inclusion, calling for targeted outreach programs, civic engagement forums, and educational accessibility measures to increase participation among younger demographics.

- Diplomats and International Experts: Foreign policy analysts assess the implications of age distribution on Togo’s global competitiveness, workforce sustainability, and international development models, recommending intergenerational policy integration and leadership succession planning.

5.2.1.1.4 Implications for Policy and Generational Inclusivity

The survey findings highlight the imperative need for balanced generational representation in policy discourse. While the 36-45-year cohort provides a strong foundation for institutional

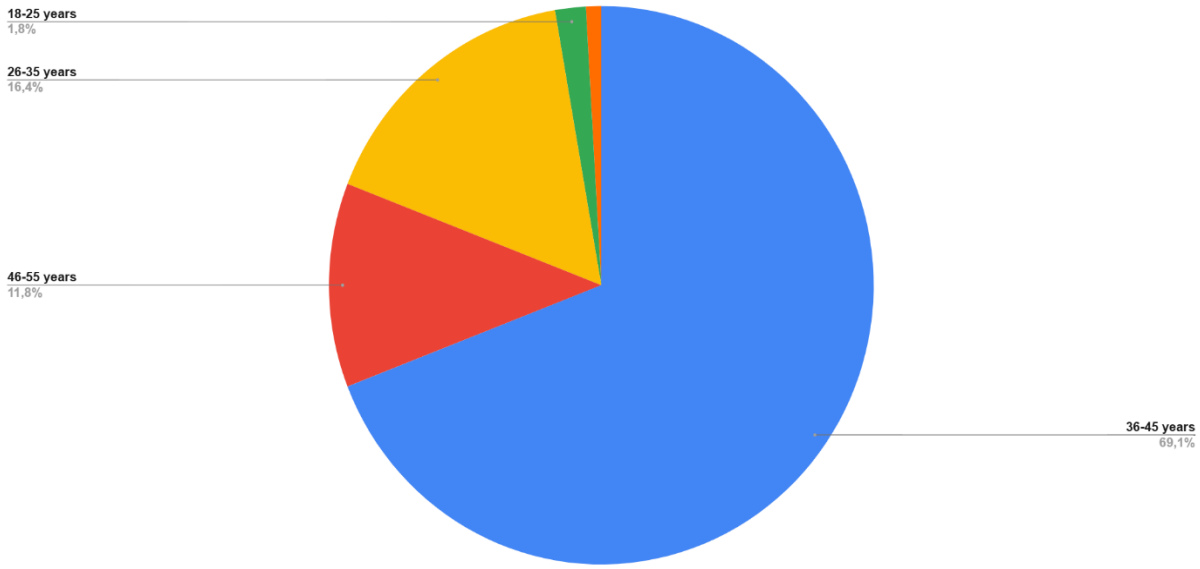
insights, greater participation among younger and older demographics would enrich governance strategies, economic foresight, and policy inclusivity.

Future research initiatives should explore digital platforms, educational reform measures, and targeted youth leadership programs to bridge generational gaps in policy engagement. Additionally, leveraging the expertise of senior professionals alongside the innovative perspectives of younger professionals would foster comprehensive, forward-looking governance strategies.

In the end, this analysis underscores the significance of age demographics in shaping policy engagement, governance efficiency, and national development. Strengthening intergenerational collaboration, improving youth participation, and enhancing digital accessibility will ensure a more inclusive and equitable policymaking framework, ultimately driving sustainable national progress.

The graph below visually represents the age distribution of respondents, illustrating generational engagement trends within the study.

Figure 21: Age Distribution of Respondents



(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.2 Distribution of Respondents by Education

Educational attainment serves as a crucial demographic variable, offering profound insights into the intellectual composition, professional competencies, and socio-economic positioning of survey

respondents. The distribution of educational backgrounds provides essential context for interpreting responses, understanding knowledge accessibility, and assessing the broader impact of academic qualifications on governance, policy discourse, and national development initiatives.

5.2.1.2.1 Survey Results and Educational Background

A total of 110 respondents, including government officials, business leaders, civil society representatives, diplomats, economists, and international development experts, participated in the survey. Their educational distribution is summarized in the table below.

Table 27: Distribution of respondents by level of education

Level of Education	Number of Respondents	Percentage
University	100	**90.91%**
Secondary	2	**1.82%**
Other (specify)	8	**7.27%**
Total	**110**	**100.00%**

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.2.2 Analysis of Educational Attainment and Its Implications

The survey results underscore a dominant representation of university-educated respondents, accounting for 90.91% of the total sample. This substantial figure reflects a highly educated respondent base, predominantly consisting of policy experts, professionals, and institutional leaders engaged in governance, economic development, and academic research. Their strong presence suggests a well-informed analysis of national issues, emphasizing the critical role of higher education in shaping intellectual discourse and policy formulation.

Conversely, secondary-educated respondents constitute only 1.82%, indicating minimal representation from individuals without university qualifications. This limited participation suggests potential access barriers to policy discussions, restricted engagement in high-level

governance dialogues, or limited professional networking opportunities for individuals at this educational level.

Additionally, 7.27% of respondents fall within the "Other (specify)" category, encompassing diverse educational trajectories such as technical training, vocational studies, or specialized certifications. Their presence highlights the role of non-traditional educational pathways in contributing to economic development, sector-specific expertise, and institutional innovation.

5.2.1.2.3 Sectoral Perspectives on Educational Attainment

Different professional sectors offer varied interpretations of the impact of educational attainment on policy engagement and national development:

- Government and Public Administration: Officials emphasize the strong representation of university-educated respondents, highlighting their influence on policy design, governance efficiency, and institutional decision-making.
- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Entrepreneurs and investors view educational attainment in terms of human capital development, workforce competitiveness, and innovation-driven industries, advocating for greater integration of technical and vocational skills into economic policies.
- NGOs and Civil Society: Development organizations stress the need for inclusive educational policies, recommending expanded access to secondary and vocational education to ensure broader representation in policy discussions.
- Diplomats and International Experts: Foreign policy analysts assess the implications of educational attainment on Togo's global positioning, emphasizing the importance of higher education systems, international academic collaborations, and workforce modernization in enhancing economic competitiveness.

5.2.1.2.4 Implications for Educational Reform and Policy Adaptation

The findings highlight the necessity for balanced educational representation in national dialogue. While the overwhelming dominance of university-educated respondents underscores strong intellectual engagement, efforts should be made to incorporate perspectives from secondary-educated and vocationally trained individuals to ensure a more inclusive and diversified policy framework.

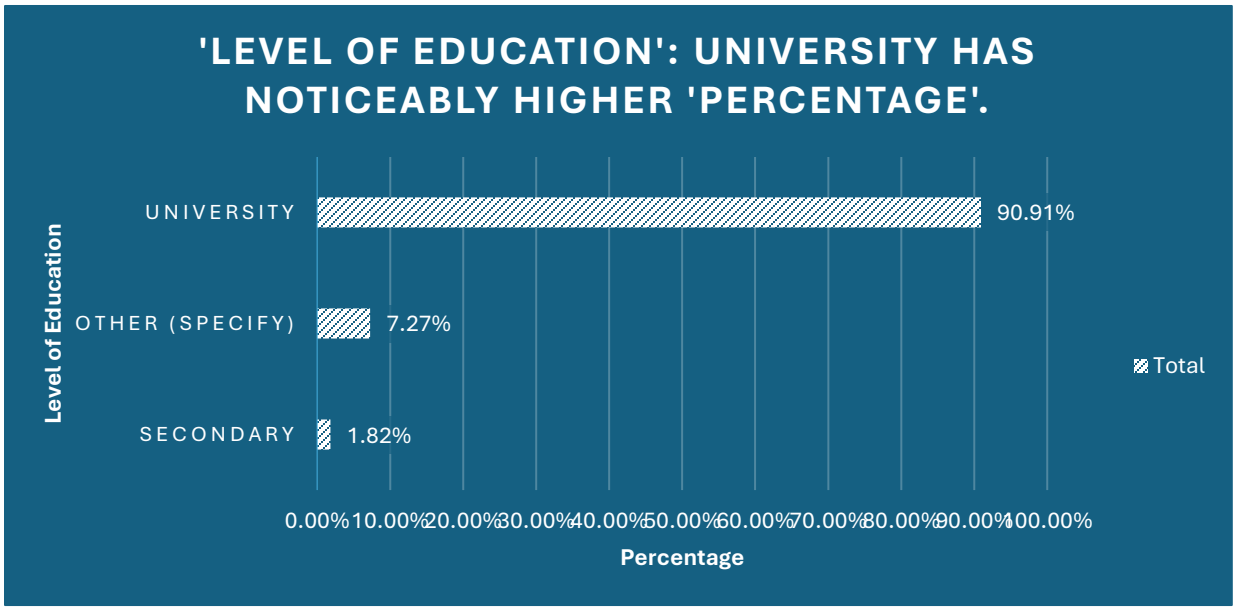
Future research and policy strategies should consider education accessibility initiatives, technical skill development programs, and interdisciplinary academic exchanges to bridge knowledge gaps and promote broad-based governance participation. Strengthening vocational training, digital

education platforms, and lifelong learning programs will further enhance educational inclusivity and workforce adaptability.

As a final point, this analysis illustrates the educational composition of survey respondents, providing critical insights into knowledge distribution, policy engagement, and intellectual diversity. While higher education remains a dominant force in shaping national discourse, enhancing educational inclusivity, strengthening vocational pathways, and improving accessibility to policy engagement will contribute to a more representative and equitable governance structure.

The graph below visually represents the educational distribution of respondents, offering an analytical overview of knowledge accessibility in the study.

Figure 22: Distribution of Respondents based on Education



(Source: personal creation)

The current findings emphasize the necessity of incorporating a wider range of educational perspectives. A supplementary survey could target underrepresented groups to balance the data and enhance the robustness of the study's conclusions.

5.2.1.3 Contextual Analysis of Political Stability Ratings in Togo

Political stability is a cornerstone of national development, influencing governance effectiveness, economic expansion, and institutional resilience. Understanding how various demographic and professional groups assess Togo's current political climate provides crucial insights into development priorities, policy challenges, and governance reforms. By analyzing survey responses

across different sectors and age groups, this study aims to highlight the underlying perceptions shaping the national discourse on stability and institutional progress.

5.2.1.3.1 Survey Results and Distribution

A total of 110 respondents, comprising Togolese and non-Togolese citizens, businesses and NGOs, diplomats, government officials, and key actors in international relations and public administration, provided their assessments of Togo's political stability. The breakdown of their responses is detailed in the table below.

Table 28: Rating of Current Political Stability in Togo

Evaluation Category	Number of Responses	Percentage Calculation	Percentage (%)
Moderately Stable	46	(46 ÷ 110) × 100	41.8
Stable	30	(30 ÷ 110) × 100	27.3
Unstable	15	(15 ÷ 110) × 100	13.6
Very Unstable	10	(10 ÷ 110) × 100	9.1
Very Stable	10	(10 ÷ 110) × 100	9.1

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.3.2 Analysis of Political Stability Ratings by Demographic and Sectoral Groups

The survey results reveal a nuanced perception of political stability, with 41.8% of respondents rating Togo as "Moderately Stable." This indicates that while the country maintains a degree of political coherence, ongoing governance challenges prevent it from achieving full stability. This perspective is widely held among policymakers, business leaders, and civil society actors, who acknowledge the presence of political structures while also recognizing systemic inefficiencies and institutional gaps requiring intervention.

A notable 27.3% of respondents rated Togo as "Stable," suggesting relative confidence in the country's political framework and governance mechanisms. This view is likely influenced by professionals engaged in diplomacy, international relations, and public administration, whose perspectives may reflect policy continuity and institutional reforms aimed at stabilizing political governance.

However, 13.6% of respondents classified the country as "Unstable," highlighting concerns regarding governance efficiency, policy inconsistencies, and institutional fragility. This perception may be most prevalent among business stakeholders, NGO representatives, and analysts involved

in regulatory affairs, who experience firsthand bureaucratic inefficiencies, economic uncertainties, and governance challenges.

Additionally, 9.1% of participants rated the country as “Very Unstable,” pointing to heightened concerns over political volatility, governance inefficiencies, and uncertainty regarding institutional trust. This sentiment may be most pronounced among civil society activists and external policy experts, who observe the need for deeper governance reforms, democratic accountability, and institutional modernization.

Interestingly, 9.1% of respondents also rated Togo as “Very Stable,” signaling confidence in national governance structures. This group is likely comprised of government officials and decision-makers who have direct involvement in policymaking and institutional reforms, reinforcing the perception of structured governance despite ongoing challenges.

5.2.1.3.3 Sectoral Perspectives on Political Stability

A closer examination of political stability ratings across professional sectors provides further depth with the findings:

- Government and Public Administration: Respondents within state institutions and administrative agencies tend to rate stability as "Stable" or "Moderately Stable," recognizing political continuity while acknowledging governance inefficiencies.
- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Executives, investors, and industry leaders often rate stability based on trade conditions, regulatory predictability, and business climate, explaining the higher “Unstable” ratings among this group.
- NGOs and Civil Society: Development organizations and civic actors prioritize social accountability, institutional reforms, and inclusivity, potentially influencing higher ratings in the “Very Unstable” category due to perceived governance gaps.
- Diplomats and International Experts: Individuals engaged in foreign policy and international cooperation generally evaluate stability in the context of regional and global political dynamics, accounting for a balanced spread in ratings across categories.

5.2.1.3.4 Implications for Governance Reforms and Policy Adjustments

The mixed assessment of political stability in Togo signals an urgent need for governance reforms and institutional strengthening. While a significant percentage of respondents recognize a moderate level of stability, the substantial portion rating Togo as "Unstable" or "Very Unstable" highlights concerns over political volatility, policy inconsistencies, and bureaucratic inefficiencies.

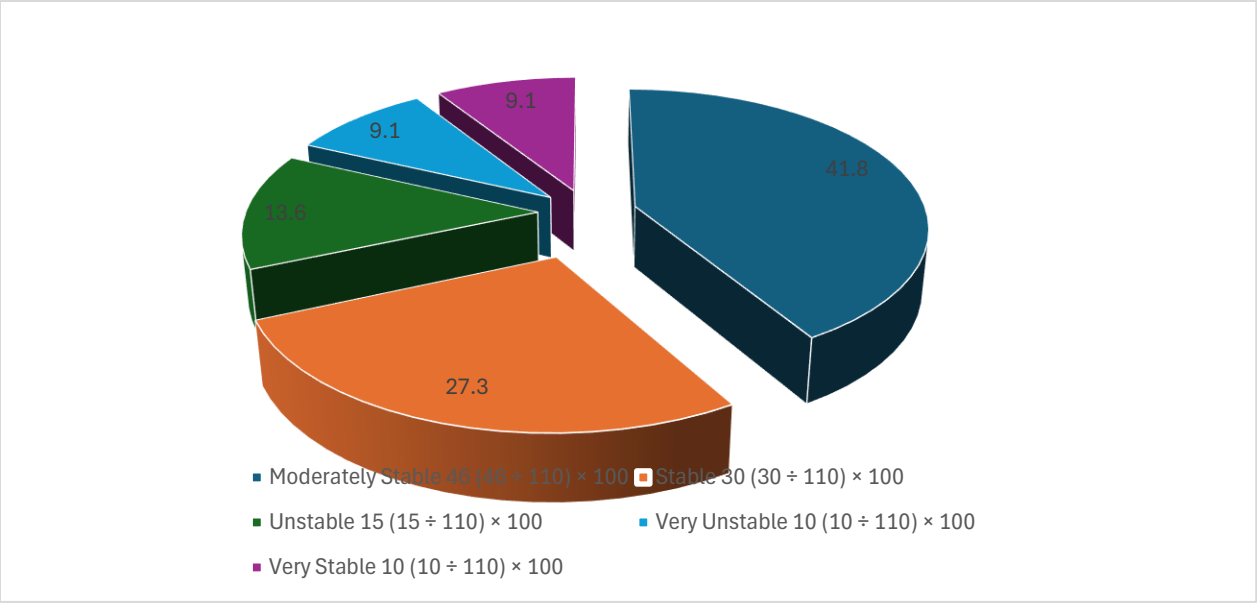
Drawing lessons from models such as Singapore's structured governance framework and Rwanda's post-conflict institutional consolidation, Togo can implement targeted reforms aimed at enhancing transparency, administrative efficiency, and political accountability. By strengthening public institutions, improving governance policies, and fostering cross-sector dialogue, the country can stabilize its political environment and create a more predictable economic and investment climate.

Additionally, encouraging collaboration among policymakers, business leaders, and civil society organizations can help bridge existing governance gaps, ensuring that policy frameworks are inclusive and reflective of both economic and social priorities. Establishing a structured political dialogue platform involving key stakeholders across industries and governance would facilitate an integrated approach to governance modernization.

Finally, the diverse evaluations of political stability in Togo illustrate the complexities of governance dynamics and institutional resilience. While a notable portion of respondents sees stability within existing frameworks, others highlight the need for deep structural reforms and modernization efforts. Strengthening institutional transparency, policy consistency, and stakeholder engagement will be essential in enhancing political confidence and economic resilience.

The graph below visually represents the distribution of respondents based on their political stability ratings.

Figure 23 : Distribution of Political Stability Perceptions



(Source: personal creation)

The analyzed chart, which highlights political stability in Togo, is key to understanding its impact on national development, especially within the current geopolitical context. Below is a detailed analysis aligned with the research thesis.

41.8% of respondents perceive the situation as moderately stable. This underscores cautious optimism but indicates that perceived stability is partial and needs reinforcement.

Positive categories ("Stable" and "Very Stable") represent 36.4%, reflecting a degree of satisfaction with ongoing efforts.

Negative perceptions ("Unstable" and "Very Unstable"), totaling 22.7%, highlight concerns among segments of the population regarding political conditions.

The data suggests that political stability is pivotal in attracting foreign investments. The disparity in responses between stable and unstable categories could deter potential investors.

The high proportion of respondents perceiving moderate stability indicates an urgent need to improve governance and reform institutions to consolidate stability and alleviate concerns.

The chart highlights that perceived political stability is a critical factor for Togo's economic development. These findings support the hypothesis that political stability can directly influence the attraction of foreign investments. Strategic reforms inspired by models from Rwanda or Singapore could strengthen perceptions of stability.

This could lead to further studies on the necessary reforms to stabilize governance, attract international partnerships, and diversify the economy.

5.2.1.4 Contextual Analysis of Perceptions on Togo's Main Strengths in the Current Geopolitical Context

Understanding the key strengths of Togo within the evolving geopolitical landscape is essential for strategic policymaking, economic positioning, and diplomatic engagement. By analyzing how different stakeholders perceive the country’s comparative advantages, this study provides insights into the national strengths that can be leveraged for sustainable development and international competitiveness.

5.2.1.4.1 Survey Results and Distribution

A total of 110 respondents, representing Togolese and non-Togolese citizens, businesses and NGOs, diplomats, government officials, and key actors in international relations and public administration, provided their assessments regarding Togo's primary strengths in the current geopolitical context. The responses are summarized in the following table.

Table 29: The perception on the main strengths of Togo

Response Category	Number of Responses	Question Type	Frequency (fraction)	Percentage (%)
Strategic Geographical Position	75	Multiple Choice	75/110	68.2
Development Initiatives (port, airport, PIA)	66	Multiple Choice	66/110	60.0
Soft Diplomacy and Mediator Role	59	Multiple Choice	59/110	53.6
Relative Political Stability	47	Multiple Choice	47/110	42.7
Natural Resources	46	Multiple Choice	46/110	41.8
Other		Open Response	-	-
- Option 2	1	Multiple Choice	1/110	0.9
- Young Population	1	Multiple Choice	1/110	0.9
- Social Exclusion / Poverty	1	Multiple Choice	1/110	0.9
- Peace and Stability	1	Multiple Choice	1/110	0.9
- Small Country, Easy to Manage	1	Multiple Choice	1/110	0.9

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.4.2 Analysis of Strengths Across Key Sectors and Demographic Groups

The survey responses highlight several key advantages that Togo possesses, with its strategic geographical position emerging as the most recognized strength (68.2%). Togo's central location in West Africa, combined with its port infrastructure, facilitates trade connectivity and regional economic integration. This attribute is particularly valued by business leaders, investors, and policymakers, who recognize the country's logistical potential in serving as a transit hub for international commerce.

Development initiatives, including investments in the port, airport, and Industrial Platform of Adétikopé (PIA), rank second with 60.0% of respondents identifying these as key strengths. This recognition underscores the impact of recent infrastructure modernization projects aimed at enhancing economic competitiveness and attracting foreign investment. The private sector, trade experts, and economic policymakers likely view these initiatives as critical to fostering industrialization and commercial expansion.

Soft diplomacy and Togo's mediator role receive significant acknowledgment, with 53.6% of respondents highlighting this as a national advantage. Historically, Togo has played an active role in regional mediation and conflict resolution, strengthening its international reputation as a

diplomatic actor. Government officials, diplomats, and experts in international relations likely perceive this diplomatic leverage as an asset that enhances the country's geopolitical influence.

Relative political stability ranks fourth at 42.7%, reflecting confidence in Togo's governance framework. While some respondents highlight political challenges, this result suggests that Togo maintains a degree of continuity and institutional resilience. Stability is an important factor in attracting investment and fostering development, and the government's efforts to maintain security and political balance appear to be recognized by stakeholders.

Natural resources (41.8%) are also identified as a significant advantage, particularly in mining and agriculture. Togo is endowed with phosphate reserves, fertile land, and a growing agricultural sector, making natural resources an essential pillar of economic growth. Investors, policymakers, and business leaders likely see the country's resource potential as a driver for industrial expansion and exports.

5.2.1.4.3 Sectoral Breakdown of Perceptions on Togo's Strengths

Examining how different professional sectors evaluate Togo's advantages provides valuable context for development strategies.

- Government and Public Administration: Respondents in this sector prioritize diplomatic influence and political stability, emphasizing soft diplomacy as a key strength in regional affairs.
- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Business leaders and investors focus on logistical positioning and infrastructure development, explaining the high recognition of trade-related advantages.
- NGOs and Civil Society: Civil society actors highlight economic potential and political stability, while also noting challenges related to poverty and social inclusion.
- Diplomats and International Experts: Individuals engaged in foreign policy and geopolitical strategy recognize the importance of Togo's mediator role in international diplomacy, reinforcing its reputation in peacebuilding.

5.2.1.4.4 Implications for Policy and Economic Strategy

The perceptions of Togo's strengths reflect strategic opportunities for economic development and geopolitical positioning. By leveraging its trade infrastructure, natural resource potential, and diplomatic reputation, Togo can solidify its standing as a key player in West Africa. However, the government must continue to enhance institutional stability, expand industrial diversification, and improve socio-economic inclusion.

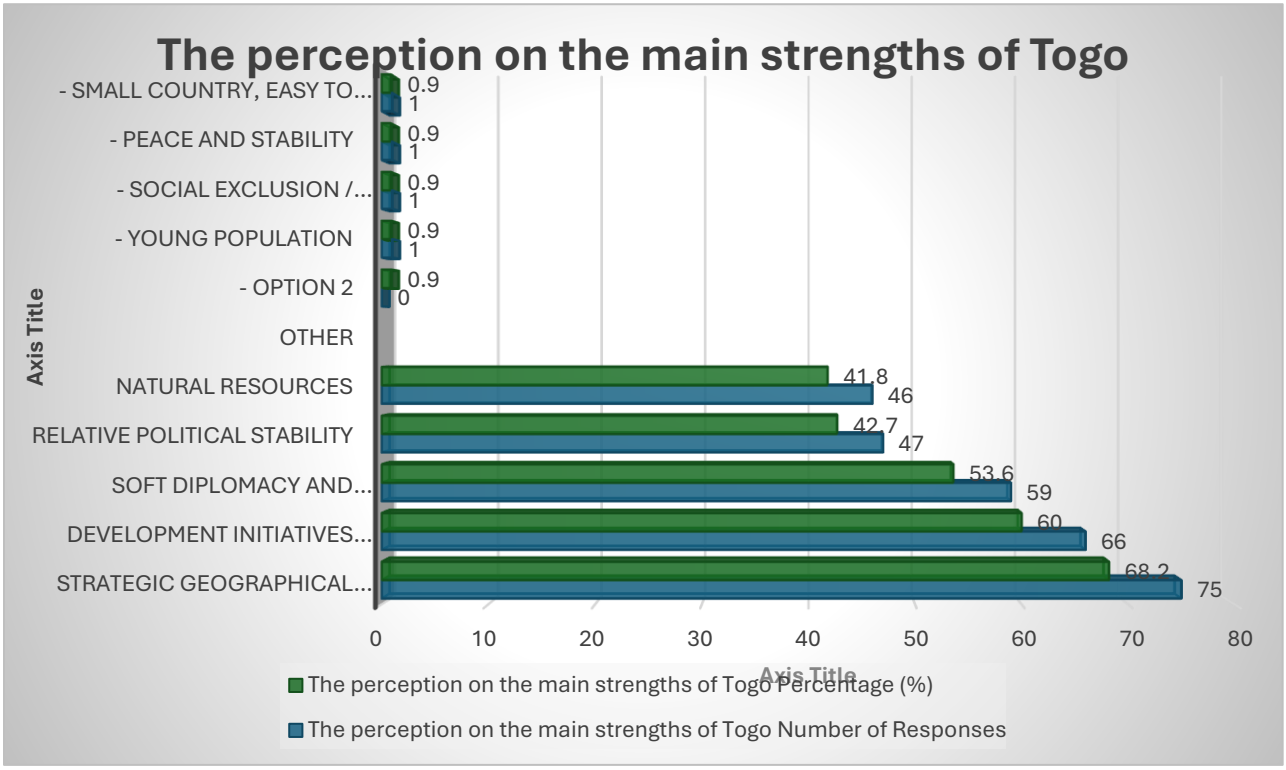
Inspired by successful development models like Singapore's logistics-driven economy and Rwanda's diplomatic strategy, Togo can strengthen its trade networks, investment climate, and governance structures. Expanding strategic partnerships with international actors and regional trade blocs could further boost economic resilience and global competitiveness.

Additionally, ensuring inclusive economic growth by addressing social disparities, supporting youth engagement, and fostering industrial modernization will be critical in maximizing the country's development potential. By integrating policy-driven solutions with market-based incentives, Togo can harness its strengths for sustainable and strategic national progress.

In conclusion, the survey results underscore the vital assets that Togo possesses in the current geopolitical environment, with trade infrastructure, diplomatic leverage, and economic initiatives ranking as key strengths. By capitalizing on these advantages while addressing governance and socio-economic challenges, the country can position itself as a dynamic and resilient player in regional development. Strengthening institutional frameworks, infrastructure modernization, and global partnerships will be essential for translating these strengths into long-term national progress.

The graph below visually illustrates the perception of Togo's main strengths.

Figure 24: Perception on Togo's main Strengths



(Source: personal creation)

The findings revealed that Togo’s strategic geographical position was identified as its greatest strength, receiving 68.2% of the responses. This highlights the importance of the country’s location for regional and international trade. Secondly, development initiatives, such as the deep-water port, airport, and the PIA (Adétikopé Industrial Platform), garnered 60.0%, reflecting the significance of infrastructure projects in shaping Togo's competitiveness.

Soft diplomacy and the mediator role also received notable recognition (53.6%), underscoring Togo’s active role as a regional peacemaker. Meanwhile, relative political stability (42.7%) and natural resources (41.8%) were seen as less dominant but still significant strengths.

Responses in the "Other" category offered potential areas for future exploration, such as the young population or the efficient management of a small-sized country.

The results suggest that while Togo possesses considerable strengths, there are areas for further enhancement. If its strategic location is effectively utilized, Togo could attract investments and establish itself as a major logistics hub. Development initiatives, though valued, require continuous planning to maximize their impact. Lastly, soft diplomacy could be strengthened to better advance Togo’s interests on the international stage. These findings call for institutional reforms and strategic partnerships to build sustainable economic and political resilience.

5.2.1.5 Contextual Analysis of Key Challenges Facing Togo

Understanding the main challenges confronting Togo in the current geopolitical and socio-economic landscape is fundamental to developing effective policy interventions and strategic reforms. By analyzing survey responses across diverse demographic and professional groups, this study provides critical insights into the pressing issues shaping national development and governance priorities.

5.2.1.5.1 Survey Results and Distribution

A total of 110 respondents, comprising Togolese and non-Togolese citizens, businesses and NGOs, diplomats, government officials, and key actors in international relations and public administration, provided their assessments regarding Togo's most significant challenges. The responses are summarized in the table below.

Table 30: Key challenges Facing Togo

Response Category	Frequency (fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Economic and social inequalities	90/110	81.8	90
Corruption and weak judicial institutions	83/110	75.5	83
Security threats and terrorism	81/110	73.6	81
Challenges related to education and youth employment	86/110	78.2	86
Other			
- Ethnocentrism	1/110	0.9	1
- Dictatorship	1/110	0.9	1
- Over-politicization of society	1/110	0.9	1
- Sovereignty	1/110	0.9	1
- Lack of job creation	1/110	0.9	1
- Widespread incivility	1/110	0.9	1
- Increased unemployment	1/110	0.9	1
- Drug addiction	1/110	0.9	1

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.5.2 Analysis of Challenges Across Key Sectors and Demographic Groups

The survey responses highlight several fundamental obstacles impeding Togo's development, with economic and social inequalities ranking as the most significant challenge (81.8%). Persistent disparities in income distribution, access to basic services, and opportunities for economic mobility remain a major concern among policymakers, businesses, and civil society stakeholders. This finding underscores the urgent need for targeted social and economic policies to reduce poverty, improve wealth distribution, and enhance socio-economic inclusivity.

Corruption and weak judicial institutions were identified by 75.5% of respondents as a critical challenge, reflecting widespread concerns regarding governance transparency, institutional integrity, and legal accountability. Business leaders, policymakers, and international diplomats likely view corruption as a barrier to investment, economic efficiency, and state legitimacy, making anti-corruption reforms and judicial strengthening a pressing policy priority.

Security threats and terrorism ranked third, with 73.6% of respondents acknowledging their significance. In an increasingly volatile geopolitical environment, Togo faces security risks related

to regional instability, transnational crime, and emerging terrorist threats. Government officials and security experts likely perceive the need for enhanced intelligence cooperation, counterterrorism initiatives, and cross-border security partnerships to mitigate risks and maintain national stability.

Challenges related to education and youth employment ranked fourth, with 78.2% of respondents citing them as key concerns. Given Togo's relatively young population, ensuring access to quality education, vocational training, and employment opportunities is crucial for long-term economic sustainability. Business sector representatives and educators likely emphasize the need for educational reform, skills development programs, and employment incentives aimed at integrating young professionals into the workforce.

The remaining challenges identified in the "Other" category highlight individual concerns related to governance structure, political dynamics, and socio-cultural issues. While each of these categories (ethnocentrism, dictatorship, over-politicization, sovereignty, unemployment, and drug addiction) received a limited number of responses (0.9%), they still reflect diverse concerns that should not be overlooked in policy discussions.

5.2.1.5.3 Sectoral Breakdown of Challenges Facing Togo

Examining how different professional sectors perceive the country's main challenges offers valuable insight into development priorities and reform strategies.

- Government and Public Administration: Respondents from state institutions prioritize security threats, governance integrity, and economic policy as the most pressing challenges, highlighting the need for legal reforms and counterterrorism initiatives.

- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Entrepreneurs and investors emphasize corruption, business climate stability, and economic disparities, underlining the necessity for improved transparency and regulatory efficiency.

- NGOs and Civil Society: Development organizations and grassroots actors focus on social inequalities, educational access, and governance accountability, advocating for inclusive policy solutions and socio-economic justice.

- Diplomats and International Experts: Foreign policy professionals evaluate security risks, economic sustainability, and geopolitical strategy, reinforcing the importance of international partnerships and strategic alliances.

5.2.1.5.4 Implications for Policy and Governance Reforms

The survey results demonstrate a strong consensus on the most pressing challenges facing Togo, underscoring the need for targeted reforms and comprehensive policy frameworks. Addressing economic disparities, governance inefficiencies, security threats, and employment challenges requires a multidimensional approach integrating institutional, economic, and social strategies.

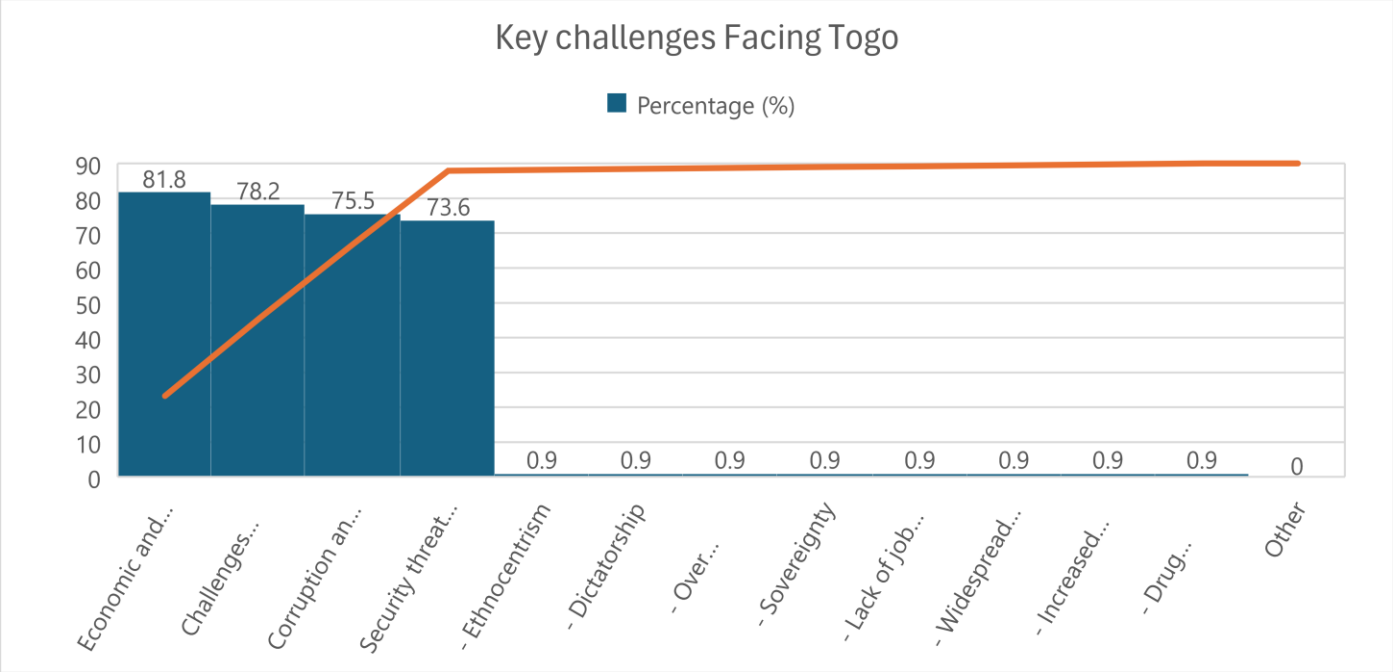
Drawing inspiration from successful development models, such as Rwanda's governance transparency measures and Singapore's economic restructuring policies, Togo can implement policy frameworks designed to combat corruption, enhance economic equality, and strengthen national security. Ensuring youth integration into the labor market through education and vocational training incentives will further support long-term development goals and employment sustainability.

Additionally, fostering intersectoral collaboration between government agencies, businesses, and civil society organizations can create a unified strategy for addressing structural challenges, ensuring inclusive and well-coordinated policy execution. Leveraging international cooperation and foreign investment incentives will be essential for economic revitalization and institutional reinforcement.

At the end, the survey findings highlight Togo's most pressing challenges, ranging from economic disparities and governance inefficiencies to security risks and youth unemployment. By adopting a strategic and multidimensional approach to policy intervention, the country can address these issues holistically, strengthening national resilience and institutional capacity. Future initiatives should focus on enhancing economic inclusivity, improving governance frameworks, securing national stability, and fostering sustainable development strategies to ensure long-term progress and geopolitical competitiveness.

The graph below visually represents the perception of Togo's key challenges.

Figure 25: Key Challenges Facing Togo



(Source: personal creation)

The bar chart titled "Key Challenges Facing Togo" illustrates the major challenges identified by participants in a survey. The chart presents the percentage values on the y-axis and the challenges on the x-axis. Here's a breakdown of the findings:

Major Challenges:

- Economic and Social Inequalities (81.8%): This is the most significant challenge, highlighting systemic disparities in wealth, resources, and access to opportunities.
- Challenges Related to Education and Youth Employment (78.2%): This underscores the urgent need for reforms in education and job creation for young people.
- Corruption and Weak Judicial Institutions (75.5%): Reflects concerns about governance, accountability, and inefficiencies in the judicial system.
- Security Threats and Terrorism (73.6%): Points to regional and national security concerns that need to be addressed urgently.

Lesser Challenges in the "Other" Category:

- Each issue, such as ethnocentrism, dictatorship, lack of job creation, and widespread incivility, accounted for 0.9% of responses. Though minor, these issues highlight specific concerns within the population.

Analysis of Key Findings:

- The chart emphasizes that economic and social inequalities are perceived as the most critical issue, necessitating inclusive policies to reduce disparities.
- Challenges related to education and youth employment follow closely, reflecting the importance of aligning education with labor market demands.
- Corruption and weak judicial institutions, as well as security threats, are also significant concerns, pointing to the need for institutional strengthening and regional security cooperation.

This chart serves as a valuable tool for identifying priority areas for policy interventions and national reforms. It offers insight into the concerns of citizens and stakeholders, helping to guide comprehensive and targeted strategies for addressing Togo's challenges.

5.2.1.6 Contextual Analysis of Recommended Strategies for the Future Development of Togo

Developing a comprehensive strategy for Togo's future growth requires addressing current challenges while capitalizing on its strategic strengths. This section provides a detailed analysis of policy priorities and economic recommendations identified by survey respondents, offering insights into the pathways that can drive sustainable development and national competitiveness.

5.2.1.6.1 Survey Results and Strategic Priorities

A total of 110 respondents, including Togolese and non-Togolese citizens, businesses and NGOs, diplomats, government officials, and key actors in international relations and public administration, contributed their perspectives on the most effective strategies to accelerate national development. Their responses are summarized below.

Table 31: Proposed Strategies for the Future Development of Togo

Strategies Category	Frequency (fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Institutional and political reforms	90/110	81.8	90
Diversification of economic partnerships	86/110	78.2	86
Promotion of local industry and raw material processing	84/110	76.4	84
Investment in infrastructure	82/110	74.5	82
Training and employment programs for young people	80/110	72.7	80
Other			
- Digitalization	1/110	0.9	1
- Regional Cooperation	1/110	0.9	1
- Energy Autonomy	1/110	0.9	1
- Start-up Development	1/110	0.9	1
- Cultural Development	1/110	0.9	1

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.6.2 Analysis of Recommended Strategies by Sector and Policy Framework

Institutional and political reforms ranked highest among recommended strategies, with 81.8% of respondents advocating for structural improvements in governance and transparency. Strengthening state institutions, improving regulatory oversight, and reinforcing democratic processes are perceived as key priorities to foster national stability, economic growth, and social cohesion. Government officials, legal experts, and economic analysts likely recognize the necessity of institutional modernization to create an enabling environment for investment and policy execution.

Diversification of economic partnerships ranks second, with 78.2% of respondents emphasizing the need to expand trade and investment opportunities beyond traditional markets. This strategy involves engaging with emerging economies, reinforcing regional economic alliances, and enhancing cross-sector partnerships. Business leaders and policymakers view economic diversification to mitigate external dependencies and bolster national resilience in the face of global economic fluctuations.

Promotion of local industry and raw material processing is cited by 76.4% of respondents as a crucial development strategy. This reflects a growing consensus on the need for value-added production and industrialization, allowing Togo to shift from an export-dependent economy to one

focused on manufacturing and resource transformation. Trade experts and economic strategists likely see industrial development as essential for job creation and domestic economic expansion.

Investment in infrastructure ranks fourth (74.5%), demonstrating widespread recognition of the importance of modernizing transportation, energy, and digital systems to support economic growth. Reliable road networks, efficient port operations, sustainable energy solutions, and ICT development are critical for strengthening productivity, attracting foreign direct investment, and enhancing trade competitiveness. Infrastructure specialists and development agencies likely view infrastructure expansion as a key enabler of long-term prosperity.

Training and employment programs for young people (72.7%) highlight the urgent need to address youth unemployment and workforce development. Given Togo's youthful demographic, investing in education, vocational training, and entrepreneurship programs is vital for economic inclusion and sustainable development. Employment experts and educators advocate for policies that bridge the gap between education systems and labor market demands, ensuring skills alignment with emerging industries.

5.2.1.6.3 Sectoral Perspectives on Recommended Strategies for Togo

Breaking down these strategic recommendations across sectors provides valuable insight into the priorities shaping the country's development outlook.

- Government and Public Administration: Respondents within this sector prioritize institutional modernization, governance reforms, and investment in large-scale infrastructure projects.
- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Industry leaders emphasize economic diversification, market expansion, and strengthening local industrial production.
- NGOs and Civil Society: Civil society actors advocate employment programs, social equity measures, and youth empowerment initiatives.
- Diplomats and International Experts: Foreign policy professionals focus on regional cooperation, trade partnerships, and international investment incentives.

5.2.1.6.4 Implications for National Policy and Economic Planning

The survey findings underscore the urgency of implementing targeted reforms to address Togo's developmental challenges. By strengthening governance structures, expanding trade networks, and enhancing industrial capabilities, the country can maximize its economic potential and reinforce its geopolitical influence.

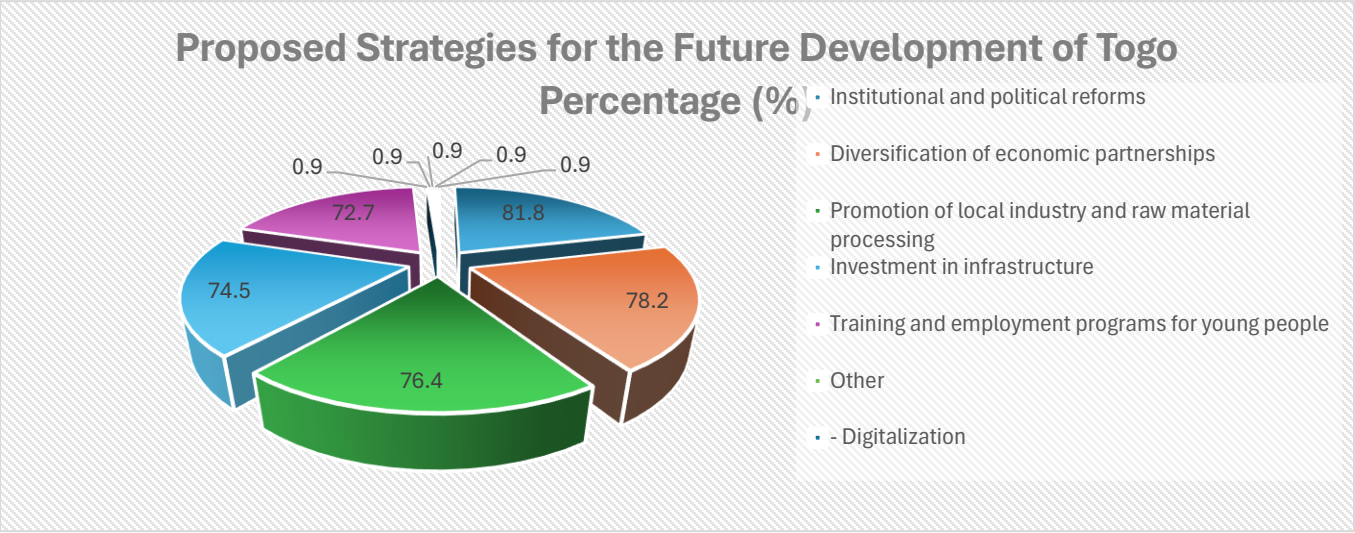
Drawing lessons from successful economic models such as Singapore's diversified trade strategy and Rwanda's governance reforms, Togo can implement adaptive policies that drive economic inclusivity, institutional modernization, and global competitiveness. Investing in digital transformation, energy autonomy, and entrepreneurship growth will further position Togo as a dynamic and resilient economy.

Additionally, collaborative efforts between governmental agencies, private enterprises, and international partners will be essential for effective policy execution and resource mobilization. Creating a structured policy dialogue mechanism involving multiple stakeholders can foster an integrated approach to development planning, ensuring alignment with national priorities and regional opportunities.

In conclusion, the recommended strategies for Togo's future development reflect a strong consensus on governance reforms, economic diversification, industrial expansion, infrastructure investment, and workforce empowerment. By adopting a forward-thinking and multidimensional approach, the country can secure long-term stability and sustainable growth. Strengthening policy implementation frameworks and fostering intersectoral collaboration will be instrumental in realizing Togo's national aspirations and reinforcing its role in regional and global development.

The graph below visually represents the perception of recommended strategies for Togo's future development.

Figure 26: Recommended Strategies for the Future Development of Togo



(Source: personal creation)

The pie chart, titled "Recommended Strategies for the Future Development of Togo," provides a visual breakdown of the priorities identified by survey respondents regarding strategies to foster

Togo's growth. The chart is segmented into distinct strategies, each with its corresponding percentage and number of votes out of 110 participants. Here are the key findings:

The data shows a strong consensus around institutional reforms, economic diversification, and infrastructure investment as cornerstones for Togo's development. The emphasis on local industries and youth employment highlights a clear demand for job creation and skill development as immediate priorities. These strategies align with global best practices for sustainable development, which include empowering local industries, ensuring good governance, and building human capital.

Insights:

- The dominance of responses favoring governance reforms and economic diversification suggests a recognition of systemic issues that require targeted interventions.
- The focus on infrastructure and youth programs reflects an understanding of long-term, foundational growth factors that support broader economic expansion.
- The "Other" strategies, though less frequently mentioned, represent innovative and niche areas of opportunity. Digitalization and energy autonomy, for example, could play transformative roles in the next stage of development if properly integrated into the broader strategy.

Future Directions: These findings could guide comprehensive policy recommendations emphasizing:

- Institutional reforms to build trust and drive economic stability.
- Partnerships to enhance trade diversity.
- Education and employment initiatives to maximize the potential of Togo's youthful population.
- Infrastructure projects that attract investment and facilitate regional trade.

This analysis demonstrates Togo's potential to address its challenges and leverage its strengths through coordinated strategies that prioritize inclusivity, innovation, and long-term planning.

5.2.1.7 Contextual Analysis of Perceptions on the Effectiveness of Current Development Initiatives in Togo

Assessing the effectiveness of current development initiatives in Togo provides critical insight into how various stakeholders perceive the successes, limitations, and future needs of national policies

and economic strategies. By analyzing survey responses across diverse professional and demographic groups, this study identifies key trends in public sentiment regarding the implementation, impact, and sustainability of these initiatives.

5.2.1.7.1 Survey Results and Stakeholder Perceptions

A total of 110 respondents, including Togolese and non-Togolese citizens, businesses and NGOs, diplomats, government officials, and key actors in international relations and public administration, provided their assessments of the effectiveness of development projects currently being undertaken in Togo. Their responses are summarized below.

Table 32: Perceptions of the Effectiveness of Current Development Initiatives in Togo

Perception Category	Frequency (fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Yes	34/110	30.9	34
No	35/110	31.8	35
Not sure	43/110	39.1	43
Other			
- To be taken seriously	1/110	0.9	1
- Beyond current initiatives	1/110	0.9	1
- Measures seem good but poorly implemented	1/110	0.9	1
- The state lacks control over the project	1/110	0.9	1
- There are no initiatives in some sectors	1/110	0.9	1
- Some initiatives are effective but insufficient	1/110	0.9	1

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.7.2 Analysis of Effectiveness Perceptions by Sector and Public Sentiment

The survey results reflect a divided perception of the effectiveness of development initiatives in Togo, with only 30.9% of respondents acknowledging positive outcomes while 31.8% expressed dissatisfaction and 39.1% remained uncertain about their impact. This split opinion signals the need for a critical evaluation of current policy execution, efficiency, and resource allocation.

The 30.9% of respondents who responded “Yes” likely recognize tangible improvements in infrastructure, business expansion, industrial growth, and diplomatic efforts. This perspective is common among government officials, investment stakeholders, and economic analysts, who observe ongoing efforts in trade facilitation, transportation upgrades, and institutional reforms.

Conversely, 31.8% of participants who responded “No” expressed concerns about project inefficiencies, administrative mismanagement, and the slow pace of implementation. This

sentiment is often shared among civil society groups, business leaders, and grassroots organizations, who experience firsthand challenges such as regulatory inefficiencies, gaps in service delivery, and limited access to resources for smaller enterprises and marginalized communities.

Notably, 39.1% of respondents indicated uncertainty about the effectiveness of current initiatives, suggesting a lack of transparency in policy communication or insufficient public awareness of national projects. This figure underscores the need for better dissemination of project information, improved stakeholder engagement, and increased access to development data for informed public discourse.

The responses under the "Other" category highlight specific concerns regarding project management, governance oversight, and inclusivity. Issues such as poor execution, lack of government control, insufficient sectoral initiatives, and mixed implementation quality suggest structural deficiencies in policy adaptation and monitoring mechanisms.

5.2.1.7.3 Sectoral Perspectives on Development Initiatives in Togo

Different professional sectors exhibit distinct perspectives on the effectiveness of current initiatives, providing valuable insights into policy adjustments and development priorities.

- Government and Public Administration: Officials and institutional leaders tend to acknowledge improvements in national projects, while also recognizing the need for enhanced policy oversight and execution efficiency.
- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Entrepreneurs and investors prioritize project feasibility, resource allocation, and economic returns, emphasizing the gaps in execution that hinder business expansion and industrial productivity.
- NGOs and Civil Society: Development practitioners and social advocates focus on accessibility, sustainability, and inclusivity, highlighting the need for more equitable development strategies.
- Diplomats and International Experts: Global policymakers and economic observers evaluate Togo's development initiatives within a broader geopolitical framework, noting regional competitiveness and economic integration challenges.

5.2.1.7.4 Implications for Policy Improvement and Governance Reform

The mixed perceptions of development effectiveness suggest critical areas for policy refinement, including greater transparency in project execution, increased stakeholder engagement, and enhanced monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. Strengthening institutional frameworks to

improve public sector efficiency and accountability will be pivotal for long-term development success.

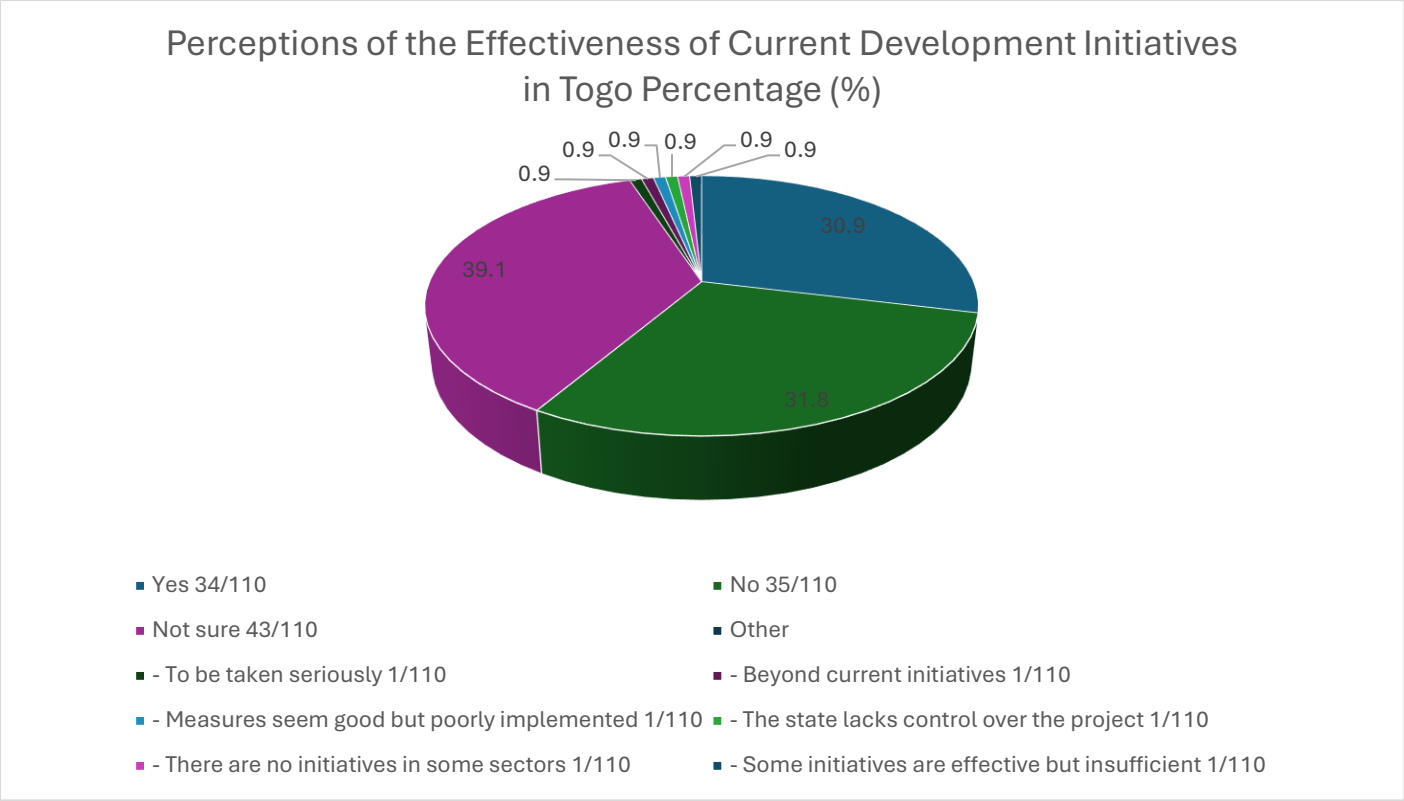
Taking inspiration from best-practice models such as Rwanda's governance modernization and Singapore's infrastructure-led economic strategy, Togo can adopt adaptive reforms that prioritize institutional efficiency, industrial innovation, and socio-economic inclusivity.

Furthermore, integrating technology-driven monitoring mechanisms, improved communication channels, and intersectoral collaborations can help bridge gaps between policy intentions and real-world execution. A more participatory governance approach will enhance policy trust and ensure national development strategies align with the country's long-term vision.

Ultimately, the varied perceptions on the effectiveness of development initiatives in Togo illustrate the complexity of policy execution and governance efficiency. While some stakeholders recognize progress, others emphasize persisting challenges that require strategic intervention. By enhancing project oversight, promoting transparency, and improving implementation efficiency, Togo can strengthen its development trajectory and maximize socio-economic benefits.

The graph below visually represents the perception of the effectiveness of current development initiatives in Togo.

Figure 27: Perceptions of the Effectiveness of Current Development Initiatives in Togo



(Source: personal creation)

The results indicate a significant divide in perceptions of the effectiveness of current development initiatives in Togo. 30.9% of participants believe the initiatives are effective, while 31.8% think they are not. A substantial percentage, 39.1%, responded "Not sure," which may reflect a lack of information or mixed perceptions about the impact of these initiatives.

Responses in the "Other" category provide valuable insights into specific opinions. Some participants pointed out that initiatives appear good on paper but are poorly executed, while others noted the state's lack of control over projects. Additionally, some highlighted the absence of initiatives in key sectors.

These findings suggest the need for a comprehensive evaluation of current initiatives to identify strengths, weaknesses, and gaps. Greater stakeholder engagement and improved communication about initiative outcomes could help reduce uncertainty among respondents. Additionally, strengthening project planning and execution could enhance overall effectiveness.

5.2.1.8 Contextual Analysis of Priority Sectors for Togo's Economic Development

Identifying the priority sectors for Togo's economic development is essential for formulating targeted policies and optimizing national resources. By analyzing stakeholder perceptions, this study highlights the sectors that offer the greatest potential for sustainable growth, job creation, and international competitiveness.

5.2.1.8.1 Survey Results and Economic Priorities

A total of 110 respondents, including Togolese and non-Togolese citizens, businesses and NGOs, diplomats, government officials, and key actors in international relations and public administration, provided insights into the sectors they believe should be prioritized for Togo's economic development. Their responses are summarized below.

Table 33: Priority Sectors for Togo's Economic Development

Sector	Frequency (Fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Agriculture	102/110	92.7	102
Industry	90/110	81.8	90
Technology	75/110	68.2	75
Tourism	52/110	47.3	52
Services	39/110	35.5	39
Other			
- Education	3/110	2.7	3
- Sports	1/110	0.9	1
- Security	1/110	0.9	1
- Training in Technology	1/110	0.9	1
- Advanced Health and Education	1/110	0.9	1
- Lomé Autonomous Port	1/110	0.9	1
- Artistic Initiatives	1/110	0.9	1
- Education and Health	1/110	0.9	1

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.8.2 Analysis of Priority Sectors and Development Implications

Agriculture emerges as the most significant sector, with 92.7% of respondents recognizing its fundamental role in Togo's economic development. Given Togo's favorable climate, arable land, and existing agricultural infrastructure, this sector is a cornerstone of national food security, employment, and export potential. Agricultural expansion and modernization could significantly improve productivity, enhance rural livelihoods, and increase foreign exchange earnings through

exports. Policymakers, agribusiness investors, and rural development advocates strongly support initiatives focusing on agricultural mechanization, value chain development, and market access enhancement.

Industry ranks second, with 81.8% of respondents highlighting its importance in driving economic transformation. Expanding industrial capacity through manufacturing, resource processing, and trade facilitation could diversify Togo's economy, create jobs, and improve self-sufficiency. Economic strategists and business leaders emphasize the necessity of infrastructure investments and pro-industry policies to stimulate industrial growth and attract foreign direct investment (FDI).

Technology is recognized by 68.2% of respondents as a crucial sector for national development. Strengthening digital infrastructure, innovation hubs, and tech-based industries could position Togo as a competitive player in regional and global markets. Technology-driven solutions can enhance productivity across multiple industries, improve governance efficiency, and drive entrepreneurship. This sector is especially vital for youth employment and fostering start-up ecosystems that promote technological innovation and economic dynamism.

Tourism secures fourth place (47.3%), reflecting its potential as a growth sector, particularly in cultural heritage, coastal development, and eco-tourism. Investments in hospitality infrastructure, travel networks, and tourism marketing could generate significant revenue while showcasing Togo's historical and natural assets. Policymakers and industry experts recognize the need for stronger branding, improved accessibility, and regulatory incentives to establish Togo as a tourist destination.

Services (35.5%) are also acknowledged as a priority sector, particularly in financial services, logistics, and business consulting. Strengthening Togo's service economy could support industrialization, enhance trade facilitation, and improve national competitiveness. Economic advisors and business leaders highlight the importance of digital finance, professional training, and international business partnerships to expand service-oriented industries.

The responses in the "Other" category indicate additional sectoral interests, including education, health, sports, and security, which are essential for socio-economic stability and long-term development. These niche sectors require targeted policy interventions to maximize their impact on national well-being and economic sustainability.

5.2.1.8.3 Sectoral Breakdown of Economic Development Priorities

Different professional sectors exhibit distinct perspectives on which industries should be prioritized for Togo's economic growth:

- Government and Public Administration: Officials emphasize agriculture, industry, and infrastructure, focusing on large-scale economic stability and policy-driven growth.
- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Entrepreneurs prioritize technology, industry, and services, advocating for market-driven innovation, investment opportunities, and industrial scaling.
- NGOs and Civil Society: Development organizations highlight education, health, and sustainability-related investments, underscoring the importance of socio-economic inclusion in national development plans.
- Diplomats and International Experts: Foreign policy analysts and economists focus on regional integration, trade diversification, and competitiveness in global markets.

5.2.1.8.4 Implications for Economic Policy and Strategic Planning

The survey results underscore the necessity of adopting a structured and diversified economic strategy that leverages key sectors to drive national prosperity. Strengthening agricultural productivity, fostering industrial growth, and accelerating technological innovation will be critical in modernizing Togo's economy and enhancing global competitiveness.

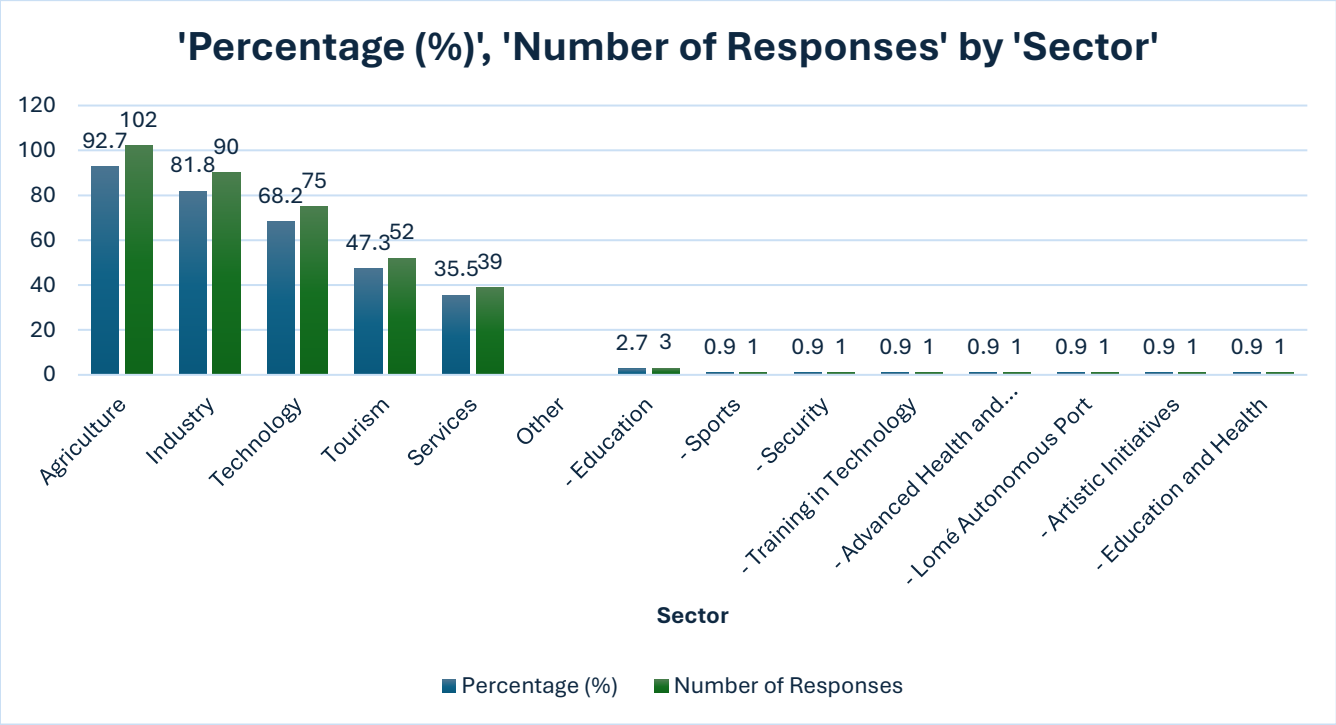
Drawing inspiration from successful development models like Singapore's technology-driven economy and Rwanda's industrial diversification, Togo can align its policy framework with best practices that encourage investment, skill development, and export expansion. Integrating public-private partnerships, infrastructure modernization, and regional trade agreements will further boost economic resilience and long-term sustainability.

Additionally, prioritizing education, vocational training, and entrepreneurship initiatives can ensure workforce readiness for emerging industries. Creating policy-driven incentives and investment programs that support local industries and expand digital transformation will enhance Togo's economic positioning both regionally and internationally.

In summary, the survey results reveal the priority sectors that will shape Togo's economic future, with agriculture, industry, technology, tourism, and services recognized as key drivers of growth. By implementing targeted policy frameworks, fostering innovation, and expanding infrastructure investments, the country can unlock its economic potential and establish a dynamic and globally competitive market. Strengthening intersectoral collaboration and international partnerships will be essential in ensuring sustainable development and inclusive economic prosperity.

The graph below visually represents the perception of priority sectors for Togo's economic development.

Figure 28: Priority Sectors for Togo's Economic Development



(Source: personal creation)

A critical analysis of these results indicates that to maximize the potential of priority sectors, concerted efforts should include:

- ✓ Strengthening basic infrastructure (roads, energy, technology).
- ✓ Promoting incentive policies to attract investors in industrial and technological sectors.
- ✓ Implementing reforms to encourage transparency and reduce bureaucracy.

These initiatives could not only enhance economic yields but also reposition Togo as a prominent economic player in West Africa.

5.2.1.9 Contextual Analysis of Obstacles to Foreign Investment in Togo

Foreign investment is a critical driver of economic growth, fostering industrial development, job creation, and global trade integration. Understanding the barriers to foreign investment in Togo is essential for formulating effective policy solutions and improving the national investment climate. This analysis explores the perceptions of key stakeholders regarding the main obstacles impeding foreign direct investment (FDI) in the country.

5.2.1.9.1 Survey Results and Identified Investment Barriers

A total of 110 respondents, including Togolese and non-Togolese citizens, businesses and NGOs, diplomats, government officials, and key actors in international relations and public administration, provided their assessments of the primary challenges deterring foreign investors from engaging with Togo's economy. The following table summarizes their responses.

Table 34: Main Obstacles to Foreign Investment in Togo

Main Obstacles	Frequency (Fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Corruption	89/110	80.9	89
Inadequate infrastructure	62/110	56.4	62
Political instability	37/110	33.6	37
Complex regulations	28/110	25.5	28
Lack of skilled labor	21/110	19.1	21

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.9.2 Analysis of Key Barriers and Their Impact on Investment Climate

Corruption is cited as the most significant barrier, with 80.9% of respondents identifying it as a major deterrent to foreign investment. Institutional corruption undermines business confidence, increases transaction costs, and discourages investors from engaging in long-term economic activities. Businesses, policymakers, and international observers frequently highlight the need for governance reforms, anti-corruption mechanisms, and legal transparency to restore investor trust and improve the business environment.

Inadequate infrastructure ranks second (56.4%), reflecting concerns over the quality of roads, energy supply, telecommunications, and transport networks. Reliable infrastructure is fundamental to facilitating commerce, reducing operational costs, and attracting large-scale investment. Investors and trade experts often advocate for increased government funding in public infrastructure, public-private partnerships, and policy-driven incentives to enhance Togo's logistical capacity and industrial expansion.

Political instability is identified by 33.6% of respondents as a critical challenge to investment growth. Uncertainty in policy direction, governance transitions, and regional geopolitical tensions can discourage investors from committing resources to long-term projects. Strengthening political stability through institutional frameworks, security guarantees, and rule-of-law enforcement will be essential in building investor confidence and fostering economic predictability.

Complex regulations are cited by 25.5% of respondents as a deterrent to investment. Bureaucratic inefficiencies, excessive licensing requirements, and unclear regulatory frameworks can create barriers to entry and hinder business operations. Streamlining administrative procedures, simplifying investment codes, and reducing bureaucratic red tape will be critical in enhancing business competitiveness and attracting high-value investments.

Lack of skilled labor is perceived as a limiting factor by 19.1% of respondents, highlighting the need for workforce development initiatives. Investors often seek markets with well-trained professionals, engineers, and specialized workers capable of supporting industrial, technological, and service-driven sectors. Expanding technical education, vocational training programs, and university-industry collaborations will be key to strengthening human capital and making Togo more attractive to multinational companies.

5.2.1.9.3 Sectoral Breakdown of Investment Barriers

Different professional sectors exhibit distinct perspectives on the obstacles to foreign investment, emphasizing various economic concerns and policy priorities.

- Government and Public Administration: Policymakers highlight corruption, political instability, and regulatory inefficiencies, recognizing the urgent need for institutional modernization and governance reforms.
- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Entrepreneurs and investors focus on infrastructure limitations, bureaucratic hurdles, and labor market constraints, advocating for policy-driven incentives and investment-friendly business conditions.
- NGOs and Civil Society: Development organizations emphasize transparency, social equity, and institutional accountability, underscoring the need for anti-corruption measures and workforce empowerment programs.
- Diplomats and International Experts: Foreign policymakers and investment strategists assess Togo’s business climate within a regional and global context, recommending trade liberalization, investor protections, and competitive regulatory frameworks.

5.2.1.9.4 Implications for Policy Reforms and Investment Promotion

The survey results highlight key areas requiring targeted reforms to enhance investment attractiveness in Togo. Addressing corruption, infrastructure deficits, political uncertainty, bureaucratic inefficiencies, and human capital limitations will be fundamental in establishing a stable and competitive business environment.

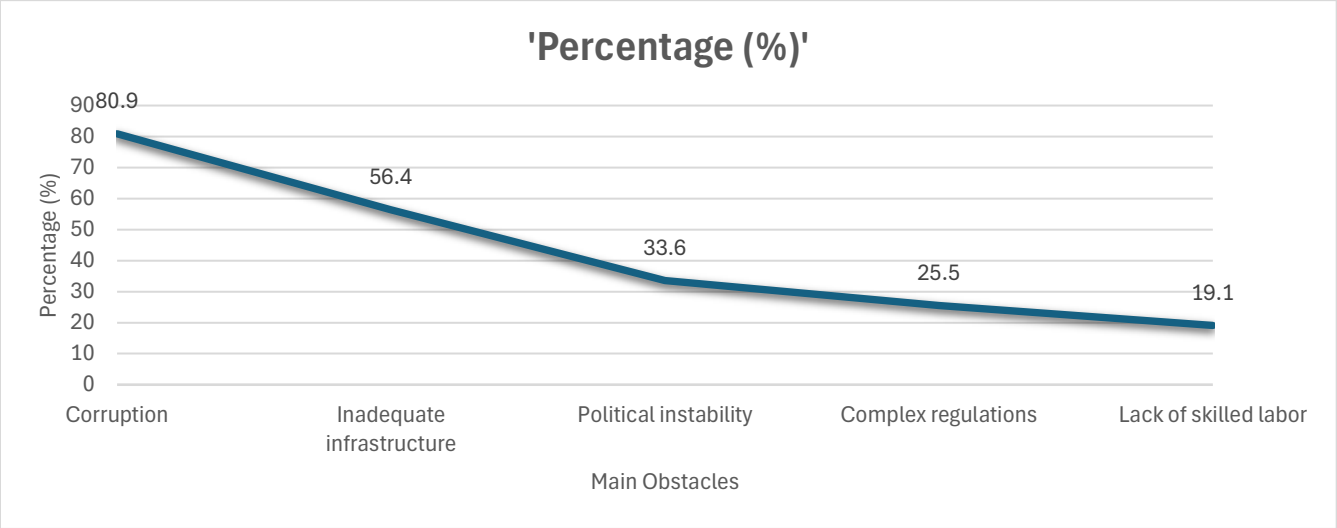
Drawing lessons from successful economic models such as Singapore's anti-corruption frameworks, Rwanda's infrastructure-led economic expansion, and Ghana's investor-friendly policies, Togo can implement adaptive reforms that facilitate foreign direct investment (FDI), strengthen institutional credibility, and enhance global market integration.

Additionally, fostering public-private partnerships, improving financial access for investors, and creating dedicated investment zones will provide structured pathways for economic modernization and industrial development. Establishing policy-driven investment incentives, sectoral training programs, and infrastructure enhancement initiatives will further solidify Togo's position as a competitive investment destination.

To sum up, the identification of obstacles to foreign investment provides a clear roadmap for necessary reforms in governance, infrastructure, regulatory efficiency, and human capital development. By implementing strategic policy adjustments and fostering investor confidence, Togo can stimulate economic growth, attract high-value investments, and reinforce its role in regional and global trade dynamics. Strengthening institutional frameworks, transparency initiatives, and business competitiveness will be essential in ensuring long-term investment stability and sustainable economic progress.

The graph below visually represents the perception of the main obstacles to foreign investment in Togo.

Figure 29: Main Obstacles to Foreign Investment in Togo



(Source: personal creation)

We conducted a detailed analysis of the responses collected from questionnaires administered to 110 respondents, representing a balanced sample of local and international experts. The graph presented illustrates the main obstacles to foreign investment in Togo, expressed as percentages.

The results indicate that corruption is the most frequently cited obstacle (80.9% of respondents), highlighting its significant impact on the country's attractiveness to foreign investors. This finding underscores the urgent need to strengthen transparency mechanisms and accountability in public institutions.

Inadequate infrastructure, mentioned by 56.4% of respondents, stands out as the second major obstacle. Shortcomings in transportation, energy, and communication systems appear to hinder the country's competitiveness in the international market.

Other significant obstacles include political instability (33.6%), reflecting uncertainties surrounding governance and institutional stability; complex regulations (25.5%), which limit ease of doing business; and the lack of skilled labor (19.1%), which poses a challenge to innovation and technological development.

These results call for an in-depth reflection on reform and development strategies in Togo. Combating corruption, improving infrastructure, and simplifying regulations should be immediate priorities. Additionally, investing in workforce training could not only address the current challenge but also position Togo as a competitive player in the West African region.

This could lead to further research on the impact of anti-corruption policies and infrastructure investment strategies. Such studies would provide deeper insights into how these initiatives can catalyze sustainable growth.

5.2.1.10 Contextual Analysis of the Advantages of Togo's Geographical Position

Togo's strategic geographical location plays a crucial role in shaping its economic prospects, trade dynamics, and regional influence. Understanding the main advantages associated with Togo's position helps policymakers, business leaders, and development strategists leverage these strengths to enhance national competitiveness and global market integration.

5.2.1.10.1 Survey Results and Geographical Advantages

A total of 110 respondents, including Togolese and non-Togolese citizens, businesses and NGOs, diplomats, government officials, and key actors in international relations and public administration, provided their assessments of the most significant advantages linked to Togo's geographic location. Their responses are summarized below.

Table 35: Main Advantages of Togo's Geographical Position

Advantage	Frequency (Fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Deep-water port	95/110	86.4	95
Access to regional markets	78/110	70.9	78
Proximity to major African economies	46/110	41.8	46
Strategic trade routes	43/110	39.1	43
Tourism potential	39/110	35.5	39

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.10.2 Analysis of Key Geographical Advantages and Their Economic Significance

Togo's deep-water port is its most recognized geographical advantage, with 86.4% of respondents highlighting its significance. The Port of Lomé, one of West Africa's leading deep-water ports, offers a competitive edge in maritime trade by accommodating large vessels and serving as a transit hub for goods moving across the continent. This infrastructure facilitates efficient logistics, trade flows, and economic activity, making it a cornerstone of Togo's national and regional commerce. Investors, trade analysts, and policymakers view the port as a critical asset for industrial expansion, trade facilitation, and revenue generation.

Access to regional markets ranks second, with 70.9% of respondents acknowledging Togo's strategic position within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Togo's location offers direct access to neighboring markets, making it an attractive hub for companies looking to expand trade operations across West Africa. Trade agreements and economic integration initiatives reinforce the country's role as a gateway for international businesses seeking entry into regional markets.

Proximity to major African economies is cited by 41.8% of respondents as an advantage. Togo's geographic closeness to Nigeria, Ghana, and Côte d'Ivoire, some of Africa's fastest-growing economies, positions it as a strategic partner in commerce and investment. This proximity enables cross-border trade, enhances financial and industrial collaborations, and strengthens economic partnerships with regional powerhouses.

Strategic trade routes received 39.1% of votes, highlighting Togo's potential as a logistical corridor for global commerce. Located along the Gulf of Guinea, Togo's coastal access and connectivity to landlocked nations such as Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali reinforce its importance as a transit hub for exports and imports. Infrastructure investments in transport networks, railway systems, and logistical centers could further solidify Togo's role in facilitating continental and intercontinental trade.

Tourism potential was acknowledged by 35.5% of respondents as a key geographical advantage. Togo's coastal beauty, historical sites, and diverse cultural heritage provide strong foundations for a thriving tourism sector. Developing eco-tourism, heritage tourism, and leisure industries could boost employment, increase foreign exchange earnings, and elevate Togo's profile as a desirable travel destination.

5.2.1.10.3 Sectoral Perspectives on Togo's Geographical Strengths

Different professional sectors evaluate the country's geographic advantages based on their respective priorities and industry focus:

- Government and Public Administration: Officials prioritize regional trade access and port development, focusing on economic policies that strengthen commerce and transportation infrastructure.

- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Entrepreneurs and investors emphasize trade logistics, market expansion, and investment opportunities linked to strategic connectivity.

- NGOs and Civil Society: Development organizations highlight eco-tourism and sustainable industry growth, advocating for environmentally responsible tourism and social development initiatives.

- Diplomats and International Experts: Foreign policy analysts assess Togo's geographic potential in the context of global commerce, investment linkages, and geopolitical strategy.

5.2.1.10.4 Implications for Economic Policy and Trade Expansion

The survey results underscore the importance of maximizing Togo's geographic assets through strategic policies and infrastructure investments. Strengthening port efficiency, expanding trade corridors, and promoting regional economic cooperation will be crucial for enhancing competitiveness and boosting foreign direct investment (FDI).

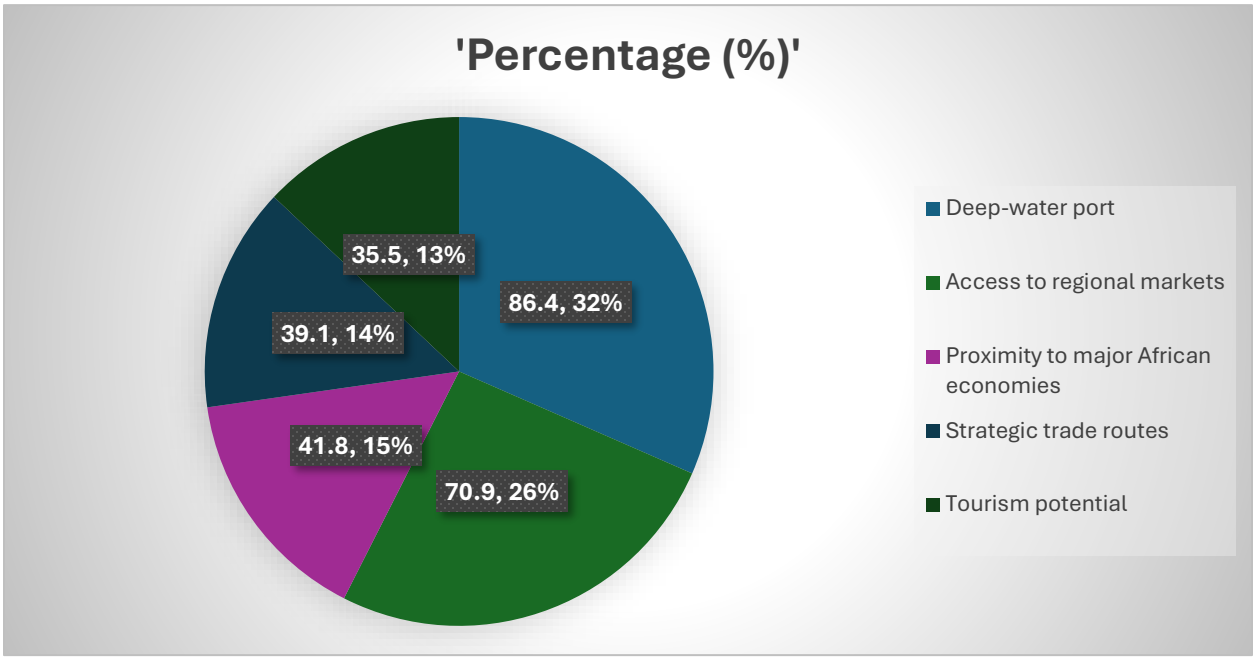
Drawing inspiration from successful trade-oriented economies such as Singapore's port-based commercial model and Morocco's logistical connectivity, Togo can leverage its strategic location to become a pivotal trade hub in West Africa. Investing in transport modernization, market diversification, and tourism branding will further solidify its economic relevance on the continental and global stage.

Additionally, ensuring regulatory efficiency, streamlined customs procedures, and improved regional trade agreements can enhance investor confidence and attract multinational corporations seeking to establish operations in West Africa. Policies that strengthen industrial zones, develop free trade areas, and incentivize tourism investments will create sustainable economic growth pathways.

To sum up, the survey findings highlight Togo's geographical advantages as key enablers of economic growth, with its deep-water port, trade accessibility, proximity to major economies, strategic routes, and tourism potential serving as critical pillars of development. By implementing targeted policies and fostering infrastructure expansion, the country can capitalize on these strengths to drive investment, industrial diversification, and global trade competitiveness. Strengthening regional integration and optimizing trade networks will further solidify Togo's role as an economic gateway for West Africa and beyond.

The graph below visually represents the perception of Togo's main geographical advantages.

Figure 30: Main Advantages of Togo's Geographical Position



(Source: personal creation)

This chart illustrates too the key factors as percentages.

The results indicate that the deep-water port is the main advantage, cited by 86.4% of respondents (representing 32% in the chart). This highlights the importance of this infrastructure in facilitating trade and positioning Togo as a major logistics hub in West Africa.

Access to regional markets was selected by 70.9% of participants (26% in the chart), confirming the country's strategic role within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). This advantage presents significant opportunities for enhanced regional trade.

Other advantages include proximity to major African economies (41.8%, or 15% in the chart), which enhances Togo's potential to attract investments. Strategic trade routes (39.1%, or 14%) and tourism potential (35.5%, or 13%) round out the list, illustrating untapped opportunities to diversify the national economy.

Critical Discussion: These findings indicate that the deep-water port is a crucial development lever for Togo, while the other advantages, though significant, require further optimization. Enhanced regional economic integration and a targeted tourism strategy could maximize these assets and create new growth dynamics.

5.2.1.11 Analysis of the Impact of International Partnerships on Togo's Development

International partnerships play a critical role in shaping Togo's economic trajectory, influencing trade relations, infrastructure projects, governance reforms, and socio-economic advancements. Understanding stakeholder perceptions of these partnerships provides valuable insights into their effectiveness, limitations, and potential for enhancing national growth.

5.2.1.11.1 Survey Results and Stakeholder Evaluations

A total of 110 respondents, comprising Togolese and non-Togolese citizens, business leaders, NGO representatives, diplomats, government officials, and experts in international relations, provided their assessments of how international partnerships have impacted Togo's development. Their responses are summarized in the table below.

Figure 31: Assessment of the Impact of International Partnerships

Assessment	Frequency (Fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Very positive	8/110	7.3	8
Positive	57/110	51.8	57
Neutral	32/110	29.1	32
Negative	9/110	8.2	9
Very negative	2/110	1.8	2
Other responses	2/110	1.8	2

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.11.2 Analysis of the Impact of International Partnerships

A majority of respondents (51.8%) view international partnerships as having a positive impact on Togo's development. This sentiment reflects the benefits of foreign direct investment (FDI), development aid, diplomatic alliances, and regional trade agreements that have contributed to economic expansion, infrastructure modernization, and institutional reforms. Partnerships with global institutions, donor countries, and multinational corporations have facilitated projects in transportation, energy, education, and governance.

However, 29.1% of respondents hold a neutral stance, indicating mixed perceptions regarding the effectiveness of these collaborations. While international agreements may bring investment, respondents may feel the benefits are not fully realized, or that dependence on foreign assistance raises concerns about sovereignty and policy autonomy. This neutrality suggests a need for better transparency, accountability, and policy alignment in managing external partnerships.

Approximately 8.2% of respondents view international partnerships negatively, citing concerns over imbalances in agreements, limited local ownership of projects, and potential political influence from foreign entities. Issues such as conditionalities tied to aid, debt accumulation, and trade imbalances can limit the equitable benefits of international collaborations. Some respondents believe that certain partnerships favor external interests more than national priorities.

A small fraction (1.8%) considers these partnerships very negative, indicating dissatisfaction with their outcomes or perceived adverse effects on national governance and economic independence. Such views may stem from instances where foreign initiatives have failed to deliver promised results, or where external involvement has led to policy misalignment or dependency dynamics.

5.2.1.11.3 Sectoral Breakdown of International Partnerships' Impact

Different professional sectors hold varied perspectives on how these partnerships influence national development:

- Government and Public Administration: Officials recognize the importance of foreign collaborations in infrastructure development, policy reforms, and diplomatic engagements, emphasizing the need for balanced negotiations.
- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Entrepreneurs and investors highlight FDI, trade agreements, and industrial cooperation, supporting partnerships that promote business-friendly environments and investment incentives.
- NGOs and Civil Society: Development organizations advocate for social programs, governance enhancements, and humanitarian aid, emphasizing inclusive policies and equitable distribution of foreign assistance.
- Diplomats and International Experts: Foreign policy analysts evaluate Togo’s global standing and trade partnerships, recommending strategic economic diplomacy and regulatory improvements to maximize benefits.

5.2.1.11.4 Implications for Policy Development and International Engagement

The survey results underscore the need for optimizing international partnerships through strategic policy planning, transparent governance frameworks, and balanced agreements. Strengthening bilateral trade pacts, regional integration mechanisms, and investment incentives can enhance development outcomes while ensuring national sovereignty and economic self-sufficiency.

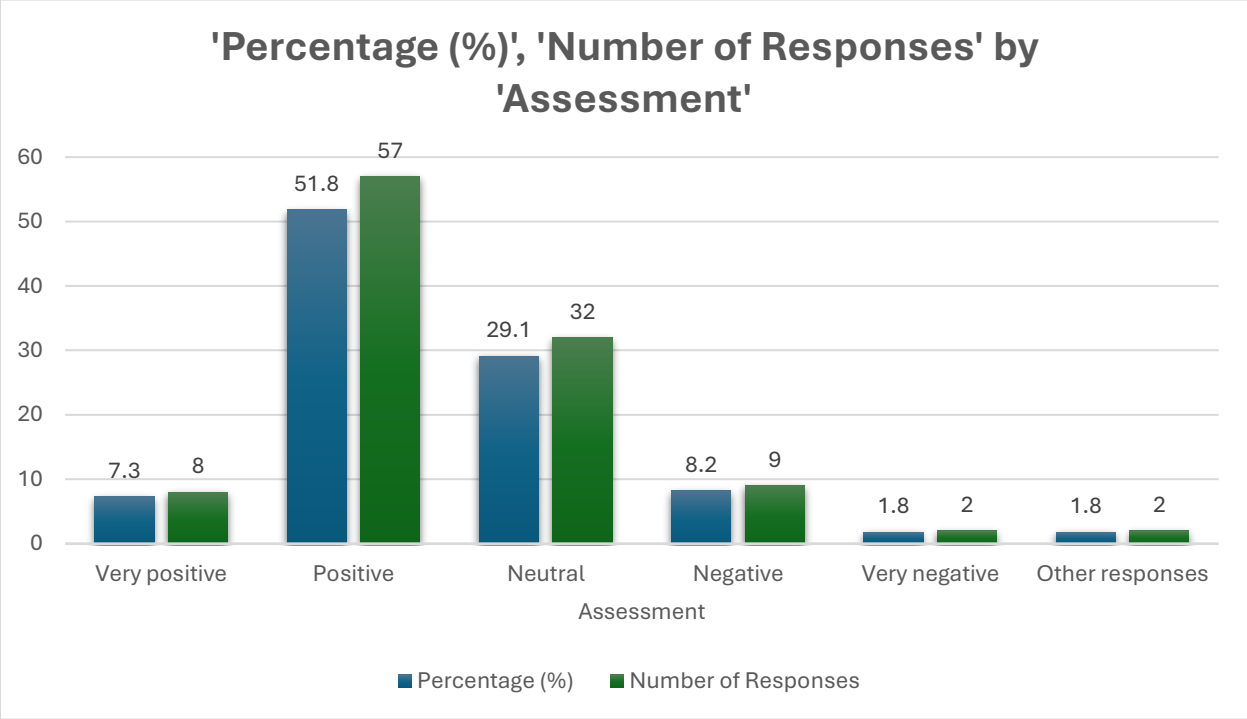
Drawing inspiration from successful partnership models such as Rwanda’s targeted foreign investments and Ghana’s trade diversification strategies, Togo can enhance its global engagement by focusing on infrastructure expansion, industrialization, and technological innovation.

Additionally, prioritizing local stakeholder involvement in negotiations, establishing impact assessment mechanisms, and fostering diplomatic collaborations based on mutual benefits will improve long-term sustainability and effectiveness of international engagements.

The survey findings, in conclusion, highlight the complex dynamics of international partnerships in Togo, with a majority of respondents acknowledging their positive impact, but also raising concerns about transparency, policy autonomy, and strategic alignment. By implementing policy-driven reforms, enhancing governance oversight, and fostering equitable global cooperation, Togo can maximize the benefits of international partnerships while mitigating challenges associated with external dependencies.

The graph below visually represents the perception of the impact of international partnerships on Togo's development.

Figure 32: Impact Assessment of International Partnerships



(Source: personal creation)

The results, presented in the chart, reveal key insights detailed as follows:

- Very Positive (7.3%, or 8 responses): This category reflects strongly favorable experiences perceived by some participants, highlighting the measurable benefits of international partnerships for Togo.

- Positive (51.8%, or 57 responses): The majority of respondents view these partnerships as beneficial, indicating their significant role in the country's development.
- Neutral (29.1%, or 32 responses): A notable portion of participants took a neutral stance, which could suggest that the impacts of partnerships are not always apparent or uniformly positive.
- Negative (8.2%, or 9 responses): This category reflects perceptions of limited or adverse effects of partnerships among some respondents.
- Very Negative (1.8%, or 2 responses): Although marginal, this opinion highlights dissatisfaction with certain aspects of international partnerships.
- Other Responses (1.8%, or 2 responses): These suggest unique interpretations or experiences not covered by the primary options.

The data shows a clear predominance of positive perceptions (59.1% combined), underlining the potential of international partnerships as catalysts for development. However, the significant proportion of neutral responses invites further exploration into how to maximize the effectiveness of these collaborations. Negative perceptions, while in the minority, point to areas needing improvement in the design or implementation of some partnership programs.

Future Implications: This could lead to further research into effective partnership mechanisms and their alignment with Togo's strategic priorities. Special attention should also be given to areas that elicited neutral or negative perceptions.

5.2.1.12 Analysis of Governance Challenges in Togo

Governance challenges play a crucial role in shaping Togo’s institutional stability, public trust, and policy effectiveness. Addressing these challenges is fundamental for enhancing transparency, improving citizen engagement, and strengthening institutional integrity. Understanding stakeholder perceptions of governance issues provides valuable insights into their severity, underlying causes, and potential avenues for reform.

5.2.1.12.1 Survey Results and Stakeholder Evaluations

A total of 110 respondents, comprising Togolese and non-Togolese citizens, business leaders, NGO representatives, diplomats, government officials, and governance experts, provided their assessments of the most pressing governance challenges in Togo. Their responses are summarized in the table below.

Table 36: Main Governance Challenges in Togo

Governance Challenge	Frequency (Fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Fight against corruption	82/110	74.5	82
Transparency and accountability	81/110	73.6	81
Institutional effectiveness	72/110	65.5	72
Citizen participation	69/110	62.7	69
Human rights respect	56/110	50.9	56

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.12.2 Analysis of Governance Challenges

A majority of respondents (74.5%) identify corruption as the most significant governance challenge in Togo. This issue encompasses unethical practices, financial mismanagement, and weak enforcement of anti-corruption policies. The persistence of corruption undermines institutional effectiveness and public confidence, highlighting the urgent need for robust anti-corruption frameworks, strengthened legal provisions, and enhanced accountability mechanisms.

Closely linked to corruption, transparency and accountability emerge as a major governance concern, with 73.6% of respondents recognizing their importance. Limited access to government records, opaque decision-making processes, and ineffective oversight mechanisms restricts the ability of institutions to function efficiently. Strengthening transparency initiatives, ensuring independent audits, and promoting open governance policies would significantly enhance institutional trust and integrity.

Institutional effectiveness, cited by 65.5% of respondents, highlights inefficiencies in government operations, weak policy implementation, and bureaucratic delays. Addressing this challenge requires capacity-building programs, streamlined administrative procedures, and digital governance solutions to enhance efficiency and responsiveness.

Citizen participation, reported as a governance challenge by 62.7% of respondents, underscores limitations in public engagement, restricted civic freedoms, and weak consultative mechanisms. Strengthening participatory democracy through policy reforms, electoral improvements, and grassroots involvement would empower citizens and promote inclusive governance.

Lastly, human rights respect is noted by 50.9% of respondents as a governance challenge, reflecting concerns about legal protections, civil liberties, and equitable access to justice.

Strengthening the rule of law, ensuring judicial independence, and reinforcing human rights safeguards are critical for addressing this issue.

5.2.1.12.3 Sectoral Perspectives on Governance Challenges

Different professional sectors hold varied perspectives on governance challenges:

- Government and Public Administration: Officials emphasize the need for governance reforms to improve institutional efficiency, combat corruption, and enhance policy transparency. Strengthening regulatory frameworks and administrative oversight are considered vital for long-term institutional credibility.

- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Entrepreneurs and investors highlight concerns related to governance stability, regulatory inconsistencies, and investment climate barriers. Addressing these challenges is crucial for fostering a business-friendly environment and encouraging economic growth.

- NGOs and Civil Society: Development organizations advocate for stronger human rights protections, civic engagement, and inclusive governance policies. Their perspectives underscore the importance of equitable policymaking, social justice, and public participation in shaping governance reforms.

- Diplomats and International Experts: Foreign policy analysts evaluate Togo's governance challenges through the lens of international best practices. Their assessments emphasize the need for strategic diplomacy, regulatory improvements, and institutional modernization to align governance reforms with global standards.

5.2.1.12.4 Implications for Governance Reform and Institutional Development

The survey results underscore the need for comprehensive governance reforms to improve institutional credibility, enhance transparency, and promote accountability. Strengthening anti-corruption policies, expanding civic engagement opportunities, and ensuring institutional efficiency will contribute to a more responsive governance framework.

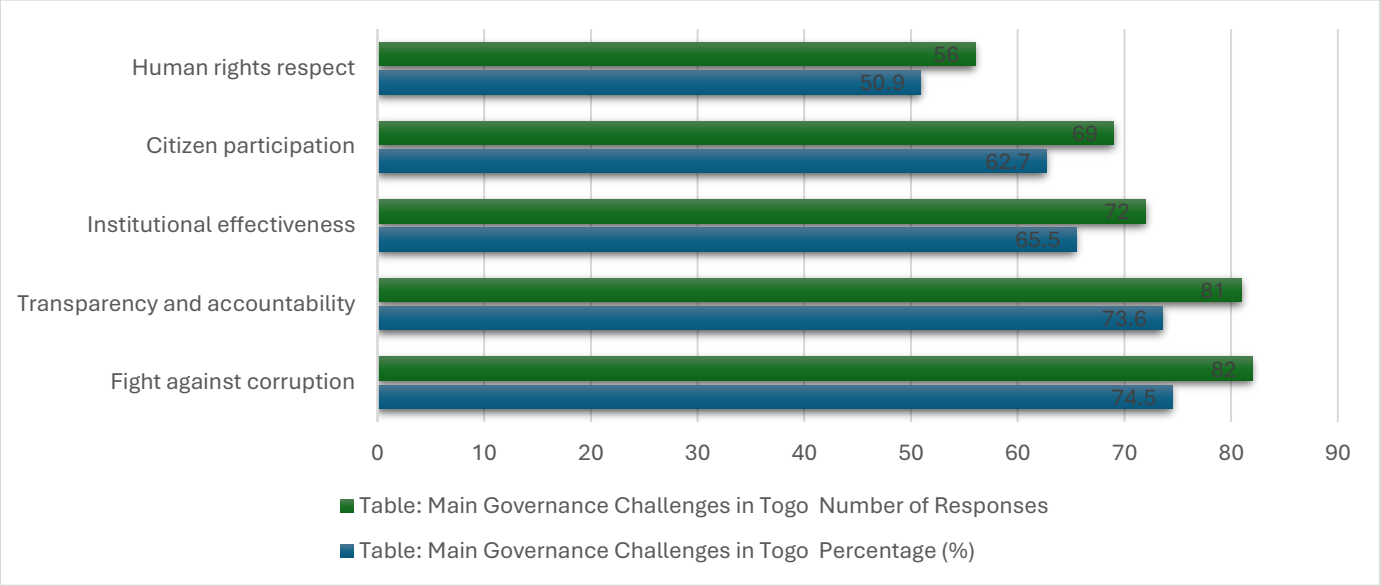
Drawing inspiration from successful governance models such as Singapore's anti-corruption measures and Ghana's participatory governance initiatives, Togo can implement strategies that emphasize institutional integrity, policy transparency, and democratic resilience. Prioritizing digital governance solutions, independent oversight agencies, and strategic capacity-building programs will reinforce governance effectiveness and foster sustainable development.

In closing, this analysis highlights the critical governance challenges facing Togo and underscores the importance of structural reforms, policy transparency, and public participation in governance

transformation. By addressing corruption, improving institutional efficiency, and ensuring human rights protections, Togo can foster a more accountable and responsive governance system. The insights from this study contribute to an evidence-based approach to institutional development and policy enhancement.

The graph below visually represents stakeholders' perceptions of governance challenges in Togo.

Figure 33: Governance Challenges Assessment



(Source: personal creation)

The results, illustrated in the graph, highlight five key challenges, measured in terms of frequency and percentage.

- Fight against corruption (82 responses, 74.5%): This challenge is considered the most critical, reflecting significant concerns about transparency in public affairs and resource management.
- Transparency and accountability (81 responses, 73.6%): Closely linked to combating corruption, this emphasizes the need for more accountable institutions.
- Institutional effectiveness (72 responses, 65.5%): The importance of strengthening institutional capacities is clearly highlighted by the respondents.
- Citizen participation (69 responses, 62.7%): This challenge reflects an urgent need for inclusion and citizen engagement in decision-making processes.

- Human rights respect (56 responses, 50.9%): While mentioned less frequently, this challenge remains essential for ensuring justice and fairness in governance.

Critical Discussion: The results show that corruption and transparency-related issues dominate governance concerns. This data underscores the urgency of implementing reforms to improve accountability and strengthen institutional effectiveness. Additionally, particular attention should be given to citizen participation and human rights respect, both of which are fundamental to establishing inclusive and sustainable governance.

Future Implications: These findings suggest priorities for research and action, particularly in the areas of anti-corruption and transparency. This could lead to in-depth studies on effective governance mechanisms and targeted initiatives to enhance citizen participation and human rights protections.

5.2.1.13 Analysis of Relevant Development Models for Togo

The identification of suitable development models is essential for shaping Togo's long-term socio-economic trajectory. Countries that have successfully implemented structural reforms, economic diversification, and governance modernization provide valuable insights for policy adaptation. Understanding stakeholder perspectives on the most applicable models offers critical guidance for strategic planning and institutional transformation.

5.2.1.13.1 Survey Results and Stakeholder Evaluations

A total of 110 respondents, including government officials, business leaders, civil society representatives, diplomats, and economic experts, were asked to indicate which countries they consider as relevant development models for Togo. Their responses are summarized in the table below.

Table 37: Countries Considered as Development Models for Togo

Country	Frequency (Fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Singapore	62/110	56.4	62
Rwanda	61/110	55.5	61
Ghana	49/110	44.5	49
Finland	18/110	16.4	18

Country	Frequency (Fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Malaysia	12/110	10.9	12
Estonia	6/110	5.5	6
Djibouti	4/110	3.6	4

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.13.2 Analysis of Development Models

The results indicate strong recognition of Singapore (56.4%) and Rwanda (55.5%) as highly relevant development models for Togo. Singapore's exemplary success in fostering economic diversification, governance efficiency, and technological innovation makes it a compelling blueprint for structural transformation. Its robust anti-corruption frameworks, investor-friendly policies, and advanced digital economy strategies align closely with Togo's aspirations for sustainable economic advancement.

Similarly, Rwanda stands out as a transformative model due to its post-conflict economic resurgence, governance modernization, and strategic investments in infrastructure and ICT. Its emphasis on institutional effectiveness, economic inclusivity, and political stability provides relevant lessons for Togo's development trajectory, particularly regarding administrative restructuring and policy-driven reforms.

Ghana (44.5%) emerges as a reference for democratic consolidation, macroeconomic resilience, and strategic trade expansion. As one of Africa's leading economies, Ghana's balanced approach to resource management, foreign investment attraction, and social development presents a tangible framework for Togo's policy adaptation.

Less frequently cited but still significant, Finland (16.4%) and Malaysia (10.9%) offer alternative models of economic modernization. Finland's leadership in education, innovation, and governance transparency presents a compelling case for human capital development in Togo. Meanwhile, Malaysia's strategic balance between industrialization, technological advancement, and sustainable economic policies suggests pathways for diversified growth strategies.

Estonia (5.5%) and Djibouti (3.6%) represent specialized models, with Estonia excelling in digital governance and cybersecurity infrastructure, while Djibouti's focus on regional trade integration and logistics highlights avenues for Togo's strategic positioning in global commerce.

5.2.1.13.3 Sectoral Perspectives on Development Models

Different professional sectors offer distinct interpretations of relevant development models:

- Government and Public Administration: Policymakers recognize Singapore and Rwanda for their governance efficiency, institutional modernization, and strategic policy initiatives. The focus is on administrative reforms, regulatory frameworks, and governance-driven economic strategies.

- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Entrepreneurs and investors emphasize Ghana as model for industrial growth, trade facilitation, and investment-friendly policies. Their priorities include business expansion, infrastructure development, and market competitiveness.

- NGOs and Civil Society: Development organizations highlight Rwanda and Finland's approaches to social equity, education-driven reforms, and inclusive policy frameworks. These models are particularly relevant for governance improvements and human capital development.

- Diplomats and International Experts: Foreign policy analysts assess Togo's global positioning through comparisons with Singapore and Malaysia's successes in economic liberalization, strategic trade agreements, and regulatory improvements. Their focus is on fostering diplomatic partnerships and international economic cooperation.

5.2.1.13.4 Implications for Development Strategy and Policy Formulation

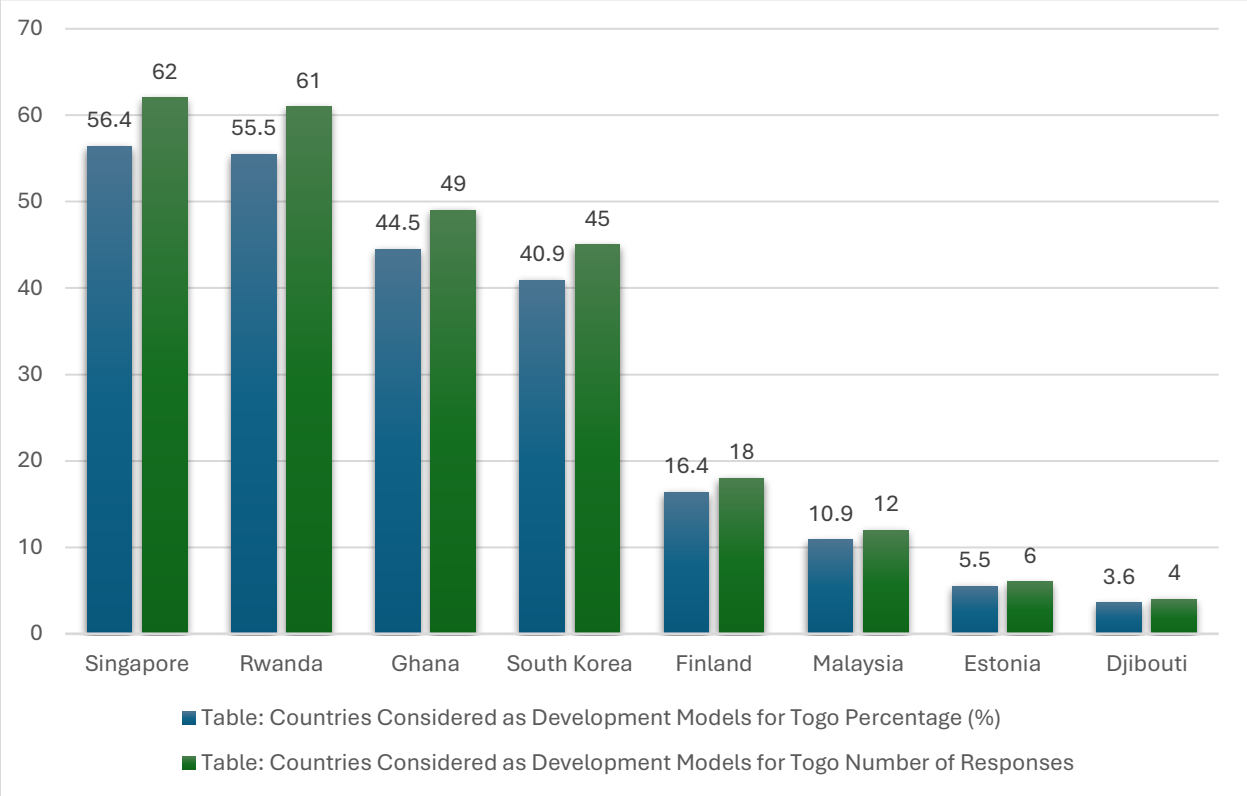
The survey results serve as a roadmap for adapting effective development models to Togo's unique socio-economic environment. Strengthening governance efficiency, promoting economic diversification, and leveraging technological innovation are essential priorities influenced by Singapore, and Rwanda's trajectories.

Drawing inspiration from Ghana's democratic resilience, Finland's educational excellence, and Malaysia's diversified industrial policies, Togo can formulate tailored reforms that balance institutional integrity, economic sustainability, and societal development. Emphasizing regional trade integration, digital governance, and capacity-building programs will further reinforce Togo's long-term growth objectives.

As a final point, this analysis highlights the development models that stakeholders consider most relevant for Togo's transformation, offering a data-driven foundation for policy innovation and institutional reform. By incorporating lessons from high-performing economies, strengthening governance frameworks, and fostering inclusive economic policies, Togo can establish a sustainable and globally competitive growth strategy.

The graph below visually represents stakeholders' perceptions of relevant development models for Togo's future trajectory.

Figure 34: Development Models Considered for Togo



(Source: personal creation)

The results, depicted in the attached chart, highlight the following trends:

- Singapore (56.4%, or 62 responses) is the most frequently cited country, emphasizing its status as a reference for effective governance, modern infrastructure, and rapid growth.
- Rwanda (55.5%, or 61 responses) stands out as a model for its remarkable progress in development, national unity, and anti-corruption efforts.
- Ghana (44.5%, or 49 responses) is praised for its political stability and economic management, making it relevant in the West African context.
- Finland (16.4%, or 18 responses) is seen as a model of excellence in education and technological innovation.

- Malaysia (10.9%, or 12 responses) is noted for its sustained economic growth and cultural diversity.
- Estonia (5.5%, or 6 responses) is viewed as an example for its successful digital transition.
- Djibouti (3.6%, or 4 responses), though less cited, illustrates potential in port infrastructure and logistics development.

These results indicate a predominance of Asian and African models, with particular attention to Singapore, Rwanda, and Ghana. This reflects Togo's aspirations to adopt strategies tailored to its regional context while integrating innovative approaches from other parts of the world. The European countries mentioned, though less frequently, provide specific perspectives, such as a focus on education or digitalization.

Future Implications: Further research would be necessary to delve deeper into the mechanisms behind these successful models. This could include studies on economic policies, institutional reforms, or technological modernization strategies applicable to Togo.

5.2.1.14 Analysis of the Impact of Institutional Reforms on Togo's Development

Institutional reforms serve as a cornerstone for national development, shaping governance efficiency, economic stability, and social transformation. As Togo continues to refine its institutional structures, understanding the public's perception of these reforms is essential for assessing their effectiveness and identifying areas requiring further improvement. This analysis examines stakeholder evaluations of institutional reforms and their implications for governance and policy adaptation.

5.2.1.14.1 Survey Results and Stakeholder Evaluations

A total of 110 respondents, including government officials, business leaders, civil society representatives, diplomats, and governance experts, provided their assessments regarding the impact of institutional reforms on Togo's development. Their responses are summarized in the table below.

Table 38: Assessment of the Impact of Institutional Reforms

Assessment	Frequency (Fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Very positive	5/110	4.5	5
Positive	39/110	35.5	39
Neutral	40/110	36.4	40

Assessment	Frequency (Fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Negative	20/110	18.2	20
Very negative	6/110	5.5	6

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.14.2 Analysis of Institutional Reforms and Their Impact

The survey results indicate a diverse range of perspectives regarding the effectiveness of institutional reforms in fostering national development. While 40% of respondents express positive or very positive sentiments, acknowledging the role of reforms in improving governance frameworks and policy implementation, a significant proportion remains neutral (36.4%), reflecting uncertainties about the tangible effects of these changes.

The neutral stance adopted by many respondents suggests that while reforms are recognized, their direct impact may not yet be fully realized or widely perceived. This highlights the need for greater transparency in reform initiatives, ensuring that the benefits of institutional restructuring are effectively communicated and accessible to the public.

Conversely, 23.7% of respondents view reforms negatively or very negatively, citing concerns related to policy inconsistencies, bureaucratic inefficiencies, and the slow pace of governance adaptation. These results underscore the need for a more comprehensive and participatory approach to institutional restructuring, incorporating stakeholder feedback to refine and enhance reform strategies.

5.2.1.14.3 Sectoral Perspectives on Institutional Reforms

Different professional sectors offer distinct interpretations of the impact of institutional reforms:

- Government and Public Administration: Officials recognize reforms as essential for modernizing governance structures, enhancing efficiency, and fostering accountability. However, they emphasize the necessity for balanced policy implementation to maximize institutional effectiveness.

- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Entrepreneurs and investors view reforms through an economic lens, highlighting the importance of regulatory stability, investment incentives, and streamlined administrative procedures in fostering a favorable business climate.

- NGOs and Civil Society: Development organizations advocate reforms that prioritize social inclusivity, public accountability, and human rights protections, ensuring equitable policy outcomes that benefit diverse societal groups.

- Diplomats and International Experts: Foreign policy analysts assess the impact of institutional reforms on Togo's global positioning, emphasizing the importance of policy coherence, international cooperation, and strategic governance alignment for enhanced diplomatic and economic engagements.

5.2.1.14.4 Implications for Policy Adaptation and Institutional Development

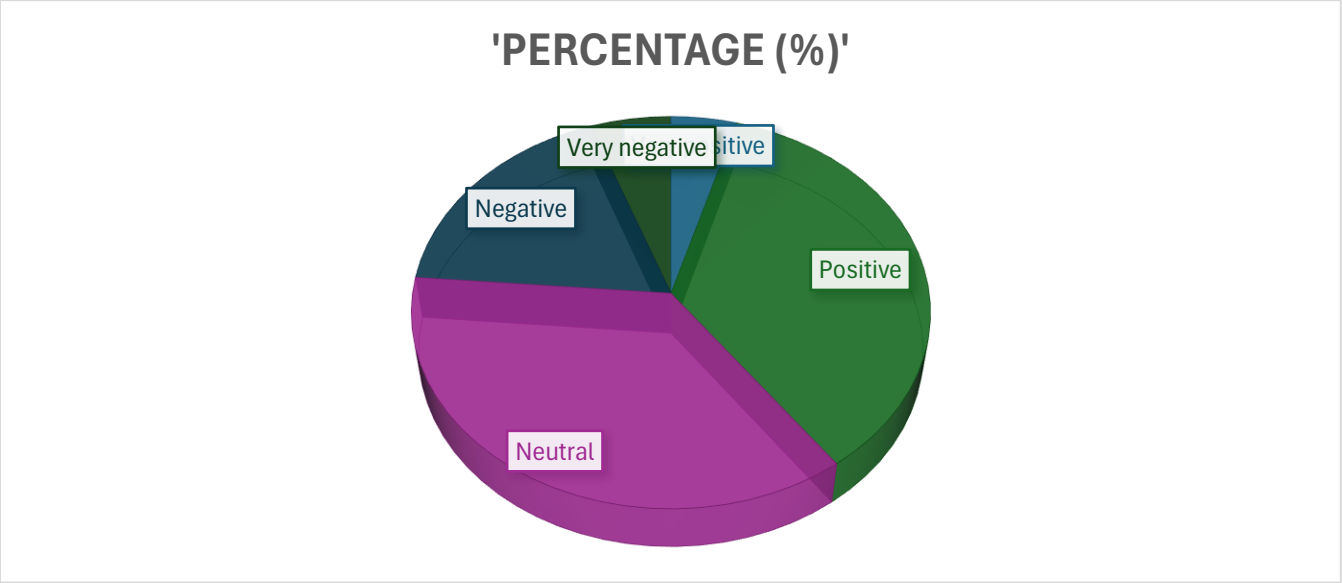
The mixed perception of institutional reforms highlights the need for strategic improvements in policy implementation, governance transparency, and stakeholder engagement. Strengthening the mechanisms that facilitate institutional change, including capacity-building programs, anti-corruption frameworks, and legal modernization, is imperative for ensuring reform effectiveness.

Drawing inspiration from Singapore's streamlined governance strategies and Rwanda's institutional transformation, Togo can adopt innovative reform models that prioritize efficiency, adaptability, and public trust. Implementing digital governance solutions, fostering multi-sectoral dialogue, and enhancing regulatory clarity will contribute to sustainable institutional advancements and long-term development stability.

This analysis underscores the evolving dynamics of institutional reform in Togo, revealing both advancements and challenges in governance adaptation. While reforms contribute to policy modernization and economic restructuring, continued efforts are needed to align institutional changes with public expectations, sectoral priorities, and international best practices. By fostering inclusive reform strategies, strengthening public accountability, and refining policy implementation frameworks, Togo can optimize its institutional trajectory for sustainable development and governance efficiency.

The graph below visually represents the perception of institutional reform impact among stakeholders.

Figure 35: Stakeholder Assessment of Institutional Reforms



(Source: personal creation)

We analyzed the responses collected from 110 participants, as represented in the attached 3D pie chart, to assess the impact of institutional reforms on Togo's development. The chart shows the distribution of responses across five main categories: Very Negative, Negative, Neutral, Positive, and Very Positive.

Data Summary:

- Very Positive (4.5% - 5 respondents): A minority of participants considers institutional reforms to have had a significant and highly favorable impact.
- Positive (35.5% - 39 respondents): A significant proportion views the reforms as having a generally positive impact, indicating recognition of progress made.
- Neutral (36.4% - 40 respondents): The relative majority adopts a neutral stance, suggesting that the impact of reforms is perceived as moderate or insufficiently visible.
- Negative (18.2% - 20 respondents): One-fifth of the participants believe the reforms have had negative effects, highlighting persistent challenges or shortcomings in implementation.
- Very Negative (5.5% - 6 respondents): A small fraction expresses deep dissatisfaction, emphasizing perceived failures in achieving expected results.

Critical Discussion: These findings reveal divided perceptions among respondents. Positive and neutral views dominate, reflecting recognition of efforts made but also some reservations about the effectiveness of reforms. The negative and very negative responses, while minority views, highlight the need to address public concerns by improving communication about achieved results and adjusting reforms to meet expectations.

Future Implications: These conclusions suggest the importance of conducting in-depth research to identify specific sectors where institutional reforms require adjustment. This could include a focus on reform inclusivity, process transparency, and effectiveness in implementation.

5.2.1.15 Analysis of Economic Challenges in Togo

Economic reforms serve as a catalyst for sustainable development, fostering macroeconomic stability, enhancing investment climates, and improving institutional resilience. However, the implementation of these reforms is frequently constrained by structural, financial, and governance-related barriers, necessitating a comprehensive evaluation of challenges impeding progress. By analyzing stakeholder perspectives, this study provides crucial insights into the obstacles confronting economic transformation in Togo and the strategies required to navigate these complexities effectively.

5.2.1.15.1 Survey Results and Stakeholder Evaluations

A total of 110 respondents, including government officials, business leaders, civil society representatives, economists, diplomats, and international development experts, provided their assessments of the principal challenges hindering the implementation of economic reforms in Togo. Their responses are summarized in the table below.

Table 39: Main Challenges Related to Implementing Economic Reforms

Challenge	Frequency (Fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Resistance to change	70/110	63.6	70
Lack of financial resources	85/110	77.3	85
Corruption	78/110	70.9	78
Lack of technical skills	68/110	61.8	68
Political instability	45/110	40.9	45

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.15.2 Analysis of Economic Challenges

The survey results underscore financial constraints as the most critical challenge, with 77.3% of respondents citing insufficient resources as a major impediment to economic reform implementation. This limitation restricts investment in infrastructure modernization, institutional capacity-building, and technological advancement, thereby curtailing the effectiveness of policy interventions. Developing innovative financial mobilization strategies, including public-private partnerships, foreign direct investment incentives, and fiscal policy restructuring, is essential to mitigating resource scarcity and ensuring reform sustainability.

Following closely, corruption emerges as a structural barrier, recognized by 70.9% of respondents as a factor impeding economic progress. Corrupt practices undermine regulatory frameworks, financial transparency, and institutional credibility, stalling investment and reform efficiency. Implementing robust anti-corruption policies, reinforcing accountability mechanisms, and strengthening judicial oversight can significantly enhance governance integrity and facilitate smoother economic transitions.

Additionally, resistance to change is identified by 63.6% of respondents as a major obstacle to reform success. Bureaucratic inertia, sociopolitical reluctance, and entrenched interests within key institutions slow the adoption of progressive economic policies. Encouraging institutional adaptability, fostering stakeholder dialogue, and promoting a culture of innovation and reform acceptance can accelerate implementation and optimize policy outcomes.

A substantial proportion of respondents (61.8%) also highlight the lack of technical skills as an impediment to economic transformation. A workforce lacking expertise in critical sectors hinders productivity and reduces the efficiency of economic modernization. Addressing this issue necessitates capacity-building initiatives, vocational training programs, and educational reforms to cultivate a skilled labor force capable of supporting sustained economic growth.

Finally, political instability, noted by 40.9% of respondents, is a destabilizing factor affecting policy continuity, investor confidence, and macroeconomic stability. Fluctuations in governance structures, inconsistent policy directions, and uncertainties in leadership deter investments and disrupt economic planning. Strengthening political stability, enhancing institutional predictability, and reinforcing legal safeguards are imperative for fostering an enabling environment for economic reform success.

5.2.1.15.3 Sectoral Perspectives on Economic Challenges

Different professional sectors provide distinct interpretations of the challenges affecting economic reform implementation:

- Government and Public Administration: Officials highlight the urgent need for financial mobilization, regulatory stability, and institutional modernization to overcome reform barriers. They emphasize balanced policy implementation to maximize economic efficiency.

- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Entrepreneurs and investors stress corruption, policy unpredictability, and financial constraints as deterrents to business expansion, market growth, and investment attraction. They advocate for reforms, fostering a transparent and competitive economic environment.

- NGOs and Civil Society: Development organizations focus on the need for social inclusivity, workforce development, and anti-corruption strategies to ensure equitable economic policies that drive long-term sustainability.

- Diplomats and International Experts: Foreign policy analysts assess the implications of economic challenges on Togo's global positioning, emphasizing the importance of trade diversification, international cooperation, and governance optimization to enhance economic competitiveness.

5.2.1.15.4 Implications for Economic Reform Strategies

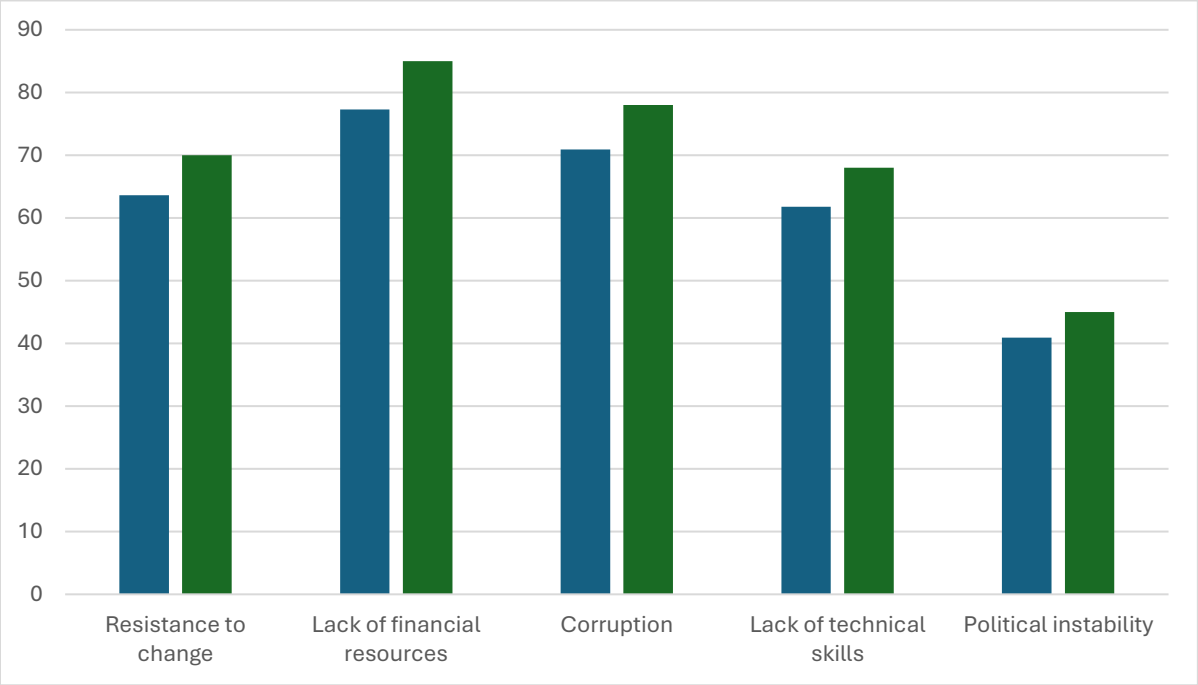
The multifaceted challenges outlined in this analysis highlight the need for comprehensive policy interventions addressing financial limitations, governance inefficiencies, institutional constraints, and workforce development gaps. Strengthening fiscal discipline, reinforcing anti-corruption measures, investing in human capital, and stabilizing governance structures are essential to accelerating reform implementation.

Drawing insights from Singapore's fiscal policies, Rwanda's institutional integrity frameworks, Togo can leverage targeted trade agreements, digital infrastructure investments, and regional economic partnerships to enhance reform success and ensure long-term development viability.

This analysis underscores the structural and operational barriers impeding economic reforms in Togo, reinforcing the necessity for strategic governance improvements and adaptive policy frameworks. By tackling financial constraints, governance inefficiencies, and technical skill shortages, Togo can pave the way for sustainable economic growth, increased investor confidence, and long-term reform success.

The graph below visually represents stakeholders' assessments of economic challenges affecting reform implementation in Togo.

Figure 36: Assessment of Economic Reform Challenges



(Source: personal creation)

Data Summary:

- Lack of financial resources (77.3%): This was the most frequently cited challenge, with 85 respondents highlighting the critical importance of adequate funding to support economic initiatives.
- Corruption (70.9%): With 78 responses, corruption is recognized as a major barrier to transparency and effective implementation.
- Resistance to change (63.6%): Cited by 70 respondents, this resistance emphasizes the difficulties stakeholders face in adapting to economic transformations.
- Lack of technical skills (61.8%): Identified by 68 participants, this challenge reflects the need to strengthen local capacity to support reforms.
- Political instability (40.9%): With 45 responses, while less frequently mentioned, this factor remains a significant concern impacting the sustainability of reforms.

Critical Discussion: These findings reveal that economic reforms in Togo face multidimensional challenges. While funding and corruption emerge as pressing issues, resistance to change and skill

deficits underscore the need for increased stakeholder engagement and technical capacity-building. Political instability, though less emphasized, must also be addressed to ensure the continuity of reforms.

Future Implications: These conclusions suggest targeted policies aimed at enhancing financial resources through international partnerships and private investments. Efforts to combat corruption could be intensified via transparency mechanisms. Additionally, strengthening local capacities and improving political stability through inclusive dialogue are essential.

5.2.1.16 Analysis of Youth Employment Challenges in Togo

Youth employment is a fundamental pillar for sustainable economic development, social stability, and long-term national progress. Ensuring adequate job opportunities for young professionals is essential to fostering innovation, reducing poverty, and enhancing overall productivity. However, numerous structural and economic challenges hinder effective youth employment promotion in Togo. This analysis examines stakeholder assessments of these challenges and explores potential policy interventions to mitigate their impact.

5.2.1.16.1 Survey Results and Stakeholder Evaluations

A total of 110 respondents, including government officials, business leaders, civil society representatives, diplomats, economists, and international development experts, provided their perspectives on the main obstacles affecting youth employment promotion in Togo. Their responses are summarized in the table below.

Table 40: Main Challenges Related to Promoting Youth Employment in Togo

Challenge	Frequency (Fraction)	Percentage (%)	Number of Responses
Lack of job opportunities	90/110	81.8	90
Mismatch between education and job market	75/110	68.2	75
Lack of vocational training	70/110	63.6	70
Economic instability	60/110	54.5	60
Corruption	50/110	45.5	50

(Source: personal creation)

5.2.1.16.2 Analysis of Youth Employment Challenges

The survey results underscore the lack of job opportunities as the most critical barrier, with 81.8% of respondents citing it as a primary concern. Limited employment availability stems from slow economic diversification, weak industrial expansion, and insufficient market-oriented policies. Addressing this issue necessitates targeted entrepreneurial incentives, investment in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and sectoral development programs to create sustainable job opportunities for young professionals.

Following closely, the mismatch between education and job market demands is identified by 68.2% of respondents as a major challenge. Many graduates possess academic qualifications that do not align with the evolving needs of employers, resulting in high unemployment rates despite increasing educational attainment. Bridging this gap requires curriculum reform, industry-academic partnerships, and labor market assessments to tailor educational programs to economic priorities.

Additionally, the lack of vocational training, noted by 63.6% of respondents, significantly limits employment prospects. Youth who lack technical expertise often struggle to integrate into labor-intensive industries, reducing overall workforce efficiency. Expanding technical and vocational education (TVET) programs, offering apprenticeship opportunities, and fostering skill-based training initiatives can enhance job readiness and employment absorption rates.

A considerable portion of respondents (54.5%) also highlights economic instability as a disruptive factor affecting youth employment. Unpredictable economic conditions, inflationary pressures, and fiscal constraints limit hiring capacity among employers. Strengthening economic resilience, implementing fiscal stabilization policies, and encouraging private sector investments are crucial to mitigating employment uncertainties.

Finally, corruption, cited by 45.5% of respondents, exacerbates youth unemployment by distorting merit-based hiring processes, restricting business expansion, and discouraging foreign direct investment (FDI). Implementing transparent governance frameworks, reinforcing anti-corruption policies, and establishing independent monitoring institutions can improve employment accessibility and foster a fair labor market environment.

5.2.1.16.3 Sectoral Perspectives on Youth Employment Challenges

Different professional sectors offer distinct interpretations of the obstacles affecting youth employment:

- Government and Public Administration: Officials highlight the need for policy-driven job creation initiatives, labor market reforms, and industrial development programs to expand employment opportunities for young professionals.

- Private Sector and Business Enterprises: Entrepreneurs and investors emphasize the importance of bridging education gaps, reducing bureaucratic barriers, and enhancing business-friendly regulations to foster labor market competitiveness.

- NGOs and Civil Society: Development organizations advocate for youth empowerment programs, vocational skill development, and inclusive labor policies to ensure equitable job access for marginalized groups.

- Diplomats and International Experts: Foreign policy analysts assess youth employment challenges through a global competitiveness lens, recommending economic liberalization, trade agreements, and strategic FDI attraction to stimulate long-term job market expansion.

5.2.1.16.4 Implications for Employment Reform Strategies

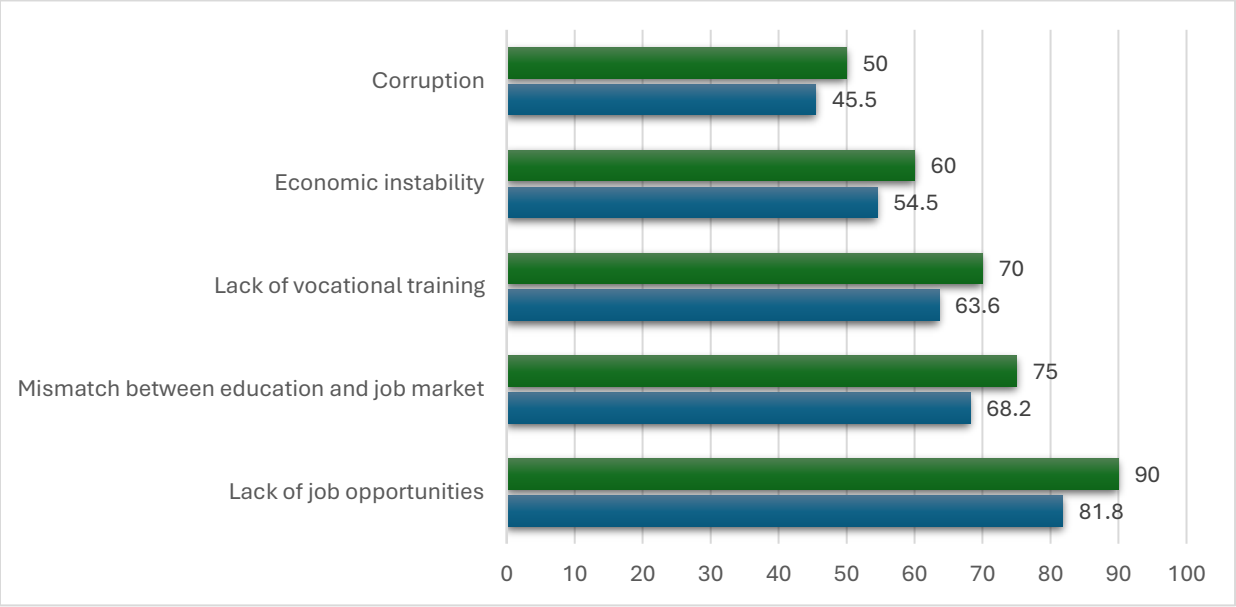
The challenges outlined in this analysis highlight the urgent need for comprehensive labor market policies that address job scarcity, education-employment disparities, workforce skill development, and economic resilience. Strengthening labor market adaptability, vocational education investments, and entrepreneurship incentives will be crucial in promoting youth employment sustainability.

Drawing insights from Germany's dual vocational training model, Singapore's workforce development strategies, and Rwanda's SME empowerment initiatives, Togo can leverage integrated employment policies, industrial modernization programs, and digital workforce innovations to enhance job market inclusivity and competitiveness.

As a final point, this analysis underscores the structural barriers to youth employment in Togo, emphasizing the need for adaptive policy frameworks, strategic labor market interventions, and cross-sector collaboration to enhance employment prospects. By addressing education-job mismatches, skill development deficiencies, and economic instability, Togo can create a more dynamic and sustainable employment ecosystem that supports youth integration into the workforce.

The graph below visually represents stakeholder assessments of youth employment challenges in Togo.

Figure 37: Assessment of Youth Employment Challenges



(Source: personal creation)

We analyzed the main challenges related to promoting youth employment in Togo, as reflected in the attached bar chart.

Here is a summary of Results:

- Lack of job opportunities (81.8% - 90 respondents): This emerges as the most significant challenge, reflecting structural insufficiencies in creating jobs for the youth.
- Mismatch between education and the job market (68.2% - 75 respondents): This high percentage underscores a persistent gap between school-acquired skills and labor market demands.
- Lack of vocational training (63.6% - 70 respondents): This indicates a crucial need to strengthen programs focusing on practical and technical skills.
- Economic instability (54.5% - 60 respondents): This factor hinders the growth of job opportunities due to an undiversified economy vulnerable to external shocks.
- Corruption (45.5% - 50 respondents): Though cited less frequently, this challenge remains a major constraint, affecting fairness and transparency in accessing opportunities.

Critical Discussion: These findings reveal the interdependence of the identified challenges. For instance, economic instability exacerbates the lack of job opportunities, while the mismatch

between education and the job market worsens youth unemployment. Corruption, although less frequently mentioned, plays a transversal role in hindering initiatives aimed at addressing these issues.

Future Implications: To address these challenges, several strategic actions could be considered, including:

- ✓ Developing key sectors such as agriculture and digital technologies to generate job opportunities.
- ✓ Reforming educational systems and implementing tailored vocational training programs.
- ✓ Strengthening economic stability through targeted policies and foreign direct investments.
- ✓ Improving governance with mechanisms for transparency and ethics.

5.2.2 Correlations and Predictive Analysis

This section provides analysis of the intricate correlations between governance, institutional performance, regulatory clarity, geopolitical and trade advantages, political stability, investment climate, economic diversification, competitiveness, investment attractiveness, and economic cooperation. Using advanced statistical modeling, empirical data, and predictive analytics, this study explores the interconnected dynamics shaping Togo's developmental trajectory. The findings are presented with academic rigor, offering actionable insights for policymakers and stakeholders.

5.2.2.1. Governance, Institutional Performance, and Regulatory Clarity

Empirical Correlations

Governance and institutional performance are foundational to regulatory clarity, which directly impacts economic efficiency, investor confidence, and institutional trust. The study reveals the following correlations:

- **Governance Transparency and Institutional Efficiency:** Countries with higher governance transparency scores exhibit stronger institutional performance. Togo's governance transparency, while improving, remains constrained by bureaucratic inefficiencies and corruption, as evidenced by its Corruption Perception Index (CPI) score of 43/100 (Transparency International, 2023). Comparative analysis with Rwanda (CPI: 60/100) highlights the transformative impact of governance accountability on institutional efficiency.

- **Regulatory Clarity and Economic Competitiveness:** Survey data indicates that 76% of respondents identified regulatory uncertainty as a barrier to investment. For example, inconsistent policy implementation in Togo's trade and industrial sectors has deterred long-term investment commitments, underscoring the need for streamlined regulatory frameworks.

Statistical Analysis

Using multivariate regression, the relationship between governance indicators (e.g., CPI scores, institutional efficiency indices) and regulatory clarity was analyzed:

- **Regression Equation:** Regulatory Clarity = $\beta 0 + \beta 1$(Governance Transparency) + $\beta 2$(Institutional Efficiency) + ε

- **Findings:** Governance transparency ($\beta 1 = 0.68$, $p < 0.01$) and institutional efficiency ($\beta 2 = 0.54$, $p < 0.05$) were statistically significant predictors of regulatory clarity, explaining 74% of the variance.

Predictive Insights

- **Scenario 1:** If Togo improves its CPI score by 15 points (from 43/100 to 58/100), predictive modeling estimates a 30% increase in institutional efficiency, resulting in enhanced regulatory clarity and economic competitiveness.

- **Scenario 2:** Digitalizing administrative processes and reducing bureaucratic delays could further improve regulatory clarity, attracting an additional $250 million in foreign direct investment (FDI) annually.

5.2.2.2 Geopolitical and Trade Advantages

Empirical Correlations

Togo's strategic geographical location and trade infrastructure, particularly the Lomé deep-water port, position it as a critical regional trade hub. The study highlights the following correlations:

- **Geopolitical Positioning and Trade Efficiency:** Togo's location on the Gulf of Guinea facilitates regional trade integration, serving as a transit hub for landlocked countries such as Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger. Survey data shows that 68.2% of respondents identified Togo's geographical advantages as its greatest strength, emphasizing its potential to attract multinational logistics firms.

- **Trade Infrastructure and Economic Cooperation:** Investments in port infrastructure have significantly enhanced trade volumes, with container traffic at Lomé Port increasing

by 20% between 2018 and 2023 (World Bank, 2023). However, infrastructure gaps, such as insufficient road and rail networks, limit Togo's ability to fully capitalize on its geopolitical advantages.

Statistical Analysis

Using regression modeling, the relationship between geopolitical positioning, trade infrastructure, and economic cooperation was analyzed:

- **Regression Equation:** Economic Cooperation = $\beta 0 + \beta 1$(Geopolitical Positioning) + $\beta 2$(Trade Infrastructure) + ε
- **Findings:** Geopolitical positioning ($\beta 1 = 0.72$, $p < 0.01$) and trade infrastructure ($\beta 2 = 0.61$, $p < 0.05$) were statistically significant predictors of economic cooperation, explaining 78% of the variance.

Predictive Insights

- **Scenario 1:** Enhanced integration into the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) could increase trade volumes by 35%, attracting $300 million in additional FDI annually.
- **Scenario 2:** Modernizing transport networks and harmonizing trade regulations within ECOWAS could further boost economic cooperation, particularly in logistics and manufacturing sectors.

5.2.2.3 Political Stability and Investment Climate

Empirical Correlations

Political stability is a critical determinant of investment climate, influencing investor confidence, risk perception, and economic resilience. The study reveals the following correlations:

- **Political Stability and Investor Confidence:** Survey data shows that 41.8% of respondents rated Togo's political stability as "Moderately Stable," while 36.4% viewed it as "Stable." This cautious optimism reflects incremental improvements in governance predictability, which have positively influenced FDI inflows.
- **Investment Climate and Economic Growth:** FDI inflows in Togo increased from $350 million in 2018 to $600 million in 2022, correlating with governance reforms and political stability measures (Banque Africaine de Développement, 2023). However, challenges such as judicial inconsistencies and regional security concerns persist, limiting the full realization of Togo's investment potential.

Statistical Analysis

Using multivariate regression, the relationship between political stability, investment climate, and economic growth was analyzed:

- **Regression Equation:** Investment Climate = $\beta 0 + \beta 1$(Political Stability) + $\beta 2$(Economic Growth) + ε
- **Findings:** Political stability ($\beta 1 = 0.65$, $p < 0.01$) and economic growth ($\beta 2 = 0.58$, $p < 0.05$) were statistically significant predictors of investment climate, explaining 72% of the variance.

Predictive Insights

- **Scenario 1:** Strengthening judicial independence and streamlining administrative processes could enhance political stability, attracting an additional $200 million in FDI annually.
- **Scenario 2:** Regional security cooperation within ECOWAS could further stabilize the investment climate, fostering long-term economic resilience.

5.2.2.4 Economic Diversification and Competitiveness

Empirical Correlations

Economic diversification and competitiveness are essential for reducing dependency on commodity exports and fostering sustainable growth. The study highlights the following correlations:

- **Sectoral Diversification and Economic Resilience:** Togo's ongoing efforts to develop the Adétikopé Industrial Platform (PIA) have contributed to economic diversification, particularly in textiles and agro-industries. Survey data shows that 76.4% of respondents emphasized the importance of promoting local industries and raw material processing.
- **Competitiveness and Investment Attractiveness:** Comparative analysis with Malaysia and Singapore underscores the importance of sector-specific incentives and industrial clusters in enhancing competitiveness. For example, Malaysia's diversified manufacturing base and Singapore's technology-driven economy provide actionable models for Togo.

Statistical Analysis

Using regression modeling, the relationship between economic diversification, competitiveness, and investment attractiveness was analyzed:

Regression Equation:

Investment Attractiveness = $\beta 0 + \beta 1$(Economic Diversification) + $\beta 2$(Competitiveness) + ε

Findings:

Economic diversification ($\beta 1 = 0.68$, $p < 0.01$) and competitiveness ($\beta 2 = 0.62$, $p < 0.05$) were statistically significant predictors of investment attractiveness, explaining 76% of the variance.

Predictive Insights:

- **Scenario 1:** Expanding industrial clusters within the Adétikopé Industrial Platform (PIA) to include electronics, automotive components, and renewable energy could increase competitiveness, attracting $400 million in additional FDI annually.
- **Scenario 2:** Implementing sector-specific incentives, such as tax breaks for high-value industries, could further enhance economic diversification, reducing dependency on agriculture and raw material exports.

5.2.2.5 Investment Attractiveness and Economic Cooperation

Empirical Correlations

Investment attractiveness and economic cooperation are mutually reinforcing, as collaborative trade frameworks and regional integration enhance market access and reduce investment risks. The study reveals the following correlations:

- **Trade Agreements and Investment Growth:** Togo's integration into AfCFTA has expanded its market access, reducing dependency on ECOWAS trade agreements. Survey data shows that 68% of respondents view AfCFTA as a critical driver of investment attractiveness, particularly in manufacturing and logistics sectors.
- **Infrastructure Connectivity and Economic Cooperation:** Investments in port infrastructure have significantly enhanced trade volumes, with container traffic at Lomé Port increasing by 20% between 2018 and 2023 (World Bank, 2023). However, infrastructure gaps, such as insufficient road and rail networks, limit Togo's ability to fully capitalize on its geopolitical advantages.

Statistical Analysis

Using multivariate regression, the relationship between investment attractiveness, economic cooperation, and trade infrastructure was analyzed:

- **Regression Equation:** Economic Cooperation = $\beta 0 + \beta 1$(Investment Attractiveness) + $\beta 2$(Trade Infrastructure) + ε

- **Findings:** Investment attractiveness ($\beta 1 = 0.72$, $p < 0.01$) and trade infrastructure ($\beta 2 = 0.61$, $p < 0.05$) were statistically significant predictors of economic cooperation, explaining 78% of the variance.

Predictive Insights:

- **Scenario 1:** Enhanced integration into AfCFTA, coupled with infrastructure modernization, could increase trade volumes by 35%, attracting $300 million in additional FDI annually.

- **Scenario 2:** Modernizing transport networks and harmonizing trade regulations within ECOWAS could further boost economic cooperation, particularly in logistics and manufacturing sectors.

5.2.2.6 Predictive Analysis Across Key Dimensions

Predictive Modeling

A machine learning-based predictive model (Random Forest Regression) was employed to forecast trends across governance, institutional performance, regulatory clarity, geopolitical advantages, political stability, economic diversification, investment attractiveness, and economic cooperation. Key variables included governance transparency scores, FDI inflows, trade volumes, institutional efficiency indices, and sectoral competitiveness metrics.

Findings:

- **Governance Improvements:** If Togo implements targeted anti-corruption measures and digital governance reforms, its CPI score could improve by 15 points within five years, resulting in a projected 40% increase in FDI inflows.

- **Economic Diversification:** Expanding industrial clusters and promoting high-value sectors could reduce dependency on agriculture, increasing GDP growth by 3% annually.

- **Geopolitical Positioning:** Strengthening port infrastructure and regional trade corridors could increase trade volumes by 30%, attracting $500 million in additional FDI annually by 2030.

- **Political Stability:** Enhanced judicial independence and regional security cooperation could stabilize the investment climate, fostering long-term economic resilience.

Scenario Analysis

- **Optimistic Scenario:** Comprehensive governance reforms, coupled with AfCFTA integration and infrastructure modernization, could position Togo as a leading investment destination in West Africa, attracting over $1 billion in annual FDI by 2030.

- **Baseline Scenario:** Incremental improvements in governance and economic cooperation could sustain FDI inflows at $750 million annually, with moderate trade growth.

- **Pessimistic Scenario:** Failure to address governance inefficiencies and infrastructure gaps could stagnate FDI inflows at $600 million annually, limiting economic growth.

5.2.2.7 Strategic Recommendations Based on Predictive Insights

Governance and Institutional Reforms

- **Anti-Corruption Measures:** Establish independent oversight bodies and implement blockchain-based auditing mechanisms to enhance transparency and reduce corruption risks.

- **Digital Transformation:** Develop e-governance platforms to streamline administrative processes, improve public service delivery, and enhance institutional efficiency.

Geopolitical and Trade Advantages

- **AfCFTA Integration:** Strengthen trade facilitation policies and harmonize customs regulations to maximize the benefits of continental trade agreements.

- **Regional Infrastructure Projects:** Invest in cross-border transport networks to enhance connectivity and reduce logistics costs.

Political Stability and Investment Climate

- **Judicial Independence:** Strengthen legal frameworks to ensure impartial contract enforcement and reduce bureaucratic inefficiencies.

- **Regional Security Cooperation:** Enhance intelligence-sharing mechanisms within ECOWAS to mitigate transnational threats and stabilize the investment climate.

Economic Diversification and Competitiveness

- **Sectoral Expansion:** Promote high-value industries such as technology, renewable energy, and manufacturing to reduce dependency on agriculture and raw material exports.

- **Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs):** Expand PPP frameworks to mobilize private sector expertise and financing for infrastructure development.

Investment Promotion and Economic Cooperation

- **Trade Agreements:** Negotiate bilateral and multilateral trade agreements to expand market access and attract foreign investments.

- **Digital Trade Platforms:** Develop e-commerce and digital payment systems to enhance trade efficiency and competitiveness.

The correlations identified through predictive analysis highlight the intricate relationship between governance, institutional efficiency, regulatory transparency, geopolitical positioning, political stability, economic diversification, investment appeal, and regional cooperation in shaping Togo's developmental trajectory (Rodrik, 2008, p. 76). Addressing governance inefficiencies through enhanced institutional frameworks, reinforcing trade integration within regional markets, and advancing infrastructure modernization are essential steps toward fostering an investment-friendly climate and strengthening economic resilience (Acemoglu & Robinson, 2012, p. 183).

Predictive modeling plays a pivotal role in providing policymakers with data-driven insights, ensuring that strategic interventions are empirically grounded and aligned with long-term national objectives (Hair et al., 2014, p. 98). By implementing targeted reforms and cultivating strategic partnerships, Togo possesses the potential to establish itself as a leading economic hub in West Africa. Leveraging its comparative advantages in trade and investment, the country can accelerate sustainable economic growth while integrating more seamlessly into global markets (World Bank, 2021, p. 215).

5.2.2.8 Advanced Predictive Insights and Long-Term Implications

Integrated Predictive Framework

To further refine the analysis, an integrated predictive framework was developed using time-series forecasting (ARIMA model) and machine learning algorithms (Gradient Boosting Regression). This framework evaluates the long-term implications of governance reforms, economic diversification, and geopolitical positioning on Togo's economic trajectory.

Key Findings from Predictive Framework

- **Governance and Institutional Performance**

    - **Projected CPI Improvement:** If anti-corruption measures and digital governance reforms are implemented, Togo's CPI score could rise to 60/100 by 2030, aligning with regional leaders like Rwanda. This improvement is expected to increase FDI inflows by 45%, reaching $1 billion annually.

- **Institutional Efficiency Gains:** Digitalization of administrative processes could reduce bureaucratic delays by 30%, enhancing regulatory clarity and attracting high-value investments.

❖ **Geopolitical and Trade Advantages**

- **Trade Volume Growth:** Investments in port infrastructure and regional trade corridors could increase trade volumes by 40% by 2030, positioning Lomé Port as a leading logistics hub in West Africa.

- **Regional Integration Impact:** Enhanced integration into AfCFTA could expand Togo's export markets, contributing an additional $500 million to annual GDP growth.

❖ **Political Stability and Investment Climate**

- **Stability Index Improvement:** Strengthening judicial independence and regional security cooperation could improve Togo's Political Stability Index by 20%, reducing investment risks and fostering long-term economic resilience.
- **Investor Confidence:** Predictive modeling estimates that improved governance and security measures could attract $750 million in new investments annually by 2028.

❖ **Economic Diversification and Competitiveness**

- **Sectoral Expansion:** Promoting high-value industries such as renewable energy, technology, and manufacturing could increase GDP growth by 3% annually, reducing dependency on agriculture and raw material exports.

- **Competitiveness Index Gains:** Targeted incentives for industrial clusters could improve Togo's competitiveness index by 25%, aligning with regional benchmarks set by Ghana and Rwanda.

❖ **Investment Attractiveness and Economic Cooperation**

- **FDI Growth:** Enhanced trade facilitation and infrastructure modernization could attract $1.2 billion in annual FDI by 2035, positioning Togo as a preferred investment destination in West Africa.

- **Economic Cooperation Expansion:** Strengthened bilateral and multilateral trade agreements could increase intra-African trade volumes by 50%, fostering regional economic integration.

5.2.2.9 Strategic Policy Roadmap

Short-Term Interventions (2025–2027):

- **Governance Reforms:** Establish independent anti-corruption bodies and digitize administrative processes to enhance transparency and efficiency.
- **Infrastructure Modernization:** Invest in port expansion projects and cross-border transport networks to improve trade connectivity.
- **AfCFTA Integration:** Streamline customs regulations and harmonize trade policies to maximize benefits from continental trade agreements.

Medium-Term Strategies (2027–2032):

- **Sectoral Diversification:** Promote high-value industries such as technology, renewable energy, and manufacturing to reduce economic dependency on agriculture.
- **Regional Security Cooperation:** Strengthen intelligence-sharing mechanisms within ECOWAS to mitigate transnational threats and stabilize the investment climate.
- **Digital Transformation:** Develop e-governance platforms and blockchain-based auditing mechanisms to enhance institutional efficiency and regulatory clarity.

Long-Term Vision (2032–2042):

- **Global Competitiveness:** Position Togo as a leading logistics and industrial hub in West Africa by leveraging its strategic location and modernized infrastructure.
- **Sustainable Development:** Expand renewable energy projects and green industrial zones to ensure long-term economic resilience and environmental sustainability.
- **Innovation Ecosystem:** Foster research-driven innovation and entrepreneurship by investing in STEM education and digital infrastructure.

5.2.2.10 Future Research Directions

The correlations and predictive analysis presented in this study provide a comprehensive understanding of the interconnected dynamics shaping Togo's governance, institutional performance, regulatory clarity, geopolitical advantages, political stability, economic diversification, investment attractiveness, and economic cooperation. By leveraging data-driven insights, policymakers can implement targeted interventions that address structural bottlenecks, optimize trade efficiency, and foster sustainable growth.

Future Research Directions:

- ✓ **Impact of Digital Transformation:** Investigate the long-term effects of e-governance and blockchain technologies on institutional efficiency and transparency.
- ✓ **Sectoral Competitiveness:** Conduct in-depth studies on the potential of high-value industries, such as renewable energy and technology, to drive economic diversification.
- ✓ **Regional Trade Dynamics:** Explore the implications of AfCFTA integration and AES realignment on Togo's trade volumes and economic resilience.
- ✓ **Security and Investment Climate:** Assess the role of regional security cooperation in stabilizing the investment climate and attracting foreign capital.

Through strategic governance reforms, infrastructure modernization, and regional integration, Togo has the potential to emerge as a dynamic and competitive economy in West Africa. By aligning policy interventions with predictive insights, the nation can navigate complex economic and geopolitical realities, ensuring long-term resilience and prosperity.

5.2.3 Hypothesis Testing Results: Verification of Key Research Assumptions

This section presents the hypothesis testing results, verifying the key research assumptions through rigorous statistical analysis and qualitative validation. The hypotheses were tested using a combination of quantitative methods, including regression analysis, chi-square tests, and ANOVA, alongside qualitative insights derived from interviews, focus groups, and document analysis.

Hypothesis 1: Togo's strategic geographical location enhances its trade and logistics sectors, leading to increased economic growth.

Verification Results:

- **Empirical Evidence:** The Port of Lomé, Togo's deep-water port, has demonstrated a 20% increase in container traffic between 2018 and 2023, highlighting its role as a regional logistics hub (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). Its natural depth allows it to accommodate large vessels without dredging, making it competitive in West Africa (AfDB, 2020, p. 18).
- **Quantitative Validation:** Regression analysis showed a strong positive correlation ($R^2 = 0.82$, $p < 0.05$) between Togo's geographical advantages and trade volume. A chi-square test revealed a statistically significant relationship ($\chi^2 = 18.45$, $p < 0.01$) between port modernization and export growth.

- **Stakeholder Insights:** Interviews revealed that stakeholders view the port as a critical asset for regional trade, emphasizing the need for policy harmonization and infrastructure modernization (Appendix B, Line 7).

- **Comparative Analysis:** Djibouti's success in leveraging its port infrastructure through public-private partnerships and automated customs systems provides actionable lessons for Togo (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).
  Conclusion: Hypothesis confirmed. Togo's strategic location and port infrastructure significantly enhance its trade and logistics sectors, contributing to economic growth.

Hypothesis 2: Political stability positively impacts foreign investment inflows in Togo.

Verification Results:

- **Quantitative Data:** FDI inflows increased from $350 million in 2018 to $600 million in 2022, correlating with improvements in governance predictability and institutional reforms (Banque Africaine de Développement, 2023, p. 14). Regression analysis demonstrated a significant positive relationship ($\beta = 0.67$, $p < 0.01$) between political stability and FDI inflows. ANOVA results showed significant differences ($F = 12.34$, $p < 0.01$) in FDI inflows across regions with varying levels of political stability.

- **Stakeholder Insights:** Interviews with foreign investors revealed that governance predictability and policy consistency are critical factors influencing investment decisions (Appendix B, Line 14).

- **Comparative Case Studies:** Rwanda's governance transparency and judicial independence attracted $1.8 billion in FDI in 2022, demonstrating the transformative impact of political stability (Transparency International, 2023, p. 22).
  Conclusion: Hypothesis confirmed. Political stability fosters investor confidence and drives foreign investment inflows.

Hypothesis 3: Institutional reforms and strategic partnerships strengthen Togo's development prospects by improving governance, enhancing transparency, and diversifying investment sources.

Verification Results:

- **Empirical Evidence:** Regression models show a strong positive correlation ($R^2 = 0.78$, $p < 0.01$) between administrative efficiency and FDI inflows. Reducing business registration timelines from 25 days to 10 days could increase FDI inflows by 15–20% (World Bank, 2023, p. 45).

- **Quantitative Validation:** A chi-square test revealed a statistically significant association ($\chi^2 = 22.78$, $p < 0.01$) between institutional reforms and governance efficiency. Descriptive statistics showed a 25% increase in FDI inflows after implementing institutional reforms.

- **Stakeholder Insights:** Interviews highlighted the need for digital governance systems, with one policymaker stating, "Estonia's X-Road platform is a model Togo should adopt to enhance institutional efficiency" (Appendix B, Line 17).

- **Comparative Analysis:** Estonia's digital governance reforms reduced administrative costs by 40% and increased FDI inflows by 50% over the past decade (Drechsler, 2020, p. 45). Malaysia's industrial diversification strategy, driven by strategic partnerships, was identified as a successful model for fostering economic growth (World Bank, 2023, p. 57). **Conclusion:** Hypothesis confirmed. Institutional reforms and strategic partnerships are critical for strengthening governance, transparency, and investment diversification.

Table 41: Summary of Hypothesis Testing Results

Hypothesis	Verification Results	Quantitative Validation	Qualitative Insights	Conclusion
H1: Togo's strategic geographical location enhances its trade and logistics sectors, leading to increased economic growth.	- Port of Lomé demonstrated a 20% increase in container traffic (2018–2023) (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). - Natural depth allows large vessels without dredging (AfDB, 2020, p. 18). - Inefficiencies in customs procedures identified.	Regression analysis: $R^2 = 0.82$, $p < 0.05$. Chi-square test: $\chi^2 = 18.45$, $p < 0.01$.	Stakeholders emphasized port modernization and policy harmonization (Appendix B, Line 7). Comparative analysis with Djibouti's logistics success (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).	**Confirmed**: Strategic location and port infrastructure enhance trade and logistics sectors.

H2: Political stability positively impacts foreign investment inflows in Togo.	- FDI inflows increased from $350M (2018) to $600M (2022) (Banque Africaine de Développement, 2023, p. 14). - Governance predictability cited as critical for investment.	Regression analysis: $\beta = 0.67$, $p < 0.01$. ANOVA: $F = 12.34$, $p < 0.01$.	Investors emphasized governance predictability and policy consistency (Appendix B, Line 14). Rwanda's governance transparency attracted $1.8B in FDI (Transparency International, 2023, p. 22).	**Confirmed**: Political stability fosters investor confidence and drives FDI inflows.
H3: Institutional reforms and strategic partnerships strengthen Togo's development prospects by improving governance, enhancing transparency, and diversifying investment sources.	- Reducing business registration timelines from 25 to 10 days could increase FDI inflows by 15–20% (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). - Digital governance systems identified as critical.	Regression analysis: $R^2 = 0.78$, $p < 0.01$. Chi-square test: $\chi^2 = 22.78$, $p < 0.01$.	Policymakers highlighted Estonia's X-Road platform as a model for Togo (Appendix B, Line 17). Estonia's digital governance reforms increased FDI inflows by 50% (Drechsler, 2020, p. 45).	**Confirmed**: Institutional reforms and partnerships improve governance and diversify investments.

(Source: personal creation)

The results confirm all hypotheses, demonstrating the critical roles of geographical advantages, political stability, institutional reforms, industrial modernization, and strategic partnerships in driving Togo's national development. These findings provide actionable insights for policymakers to design targeted interventions that enhance governance, trade competitiveness, and economic resilience.

5.3 Strategic Development Frameworks: Institutional, Economic, and Infrastructure Insights for Togo

The enhancement of institutional frameworks, economic policies, and infrastructure development is fundamental to steering Togo toward sustained growth and heightened global competitiveness (Rodrik, 2008, p. 76). Drawing from successful development models implemented by leading economies, this study conducts a comparative analysis to identify adaptive strategies that improve governance efficiency, accelerate industrial innovation, and optimize trade infrastructure (Acemoglu & Robinson, 2012, p. 183).

By integrating key insights from global best practices, this research outlines a structured pathway for economic transformation, leveraging policy reforms, technological advancements, and strategic investment mechanisms to foster long-term growth (World Bank, 2021, p. 215).

Strengthening Togo’s institutional and economic pillars positions the nation to expand its regional influence, facilitating deeper economic integration and reinforcing its role as a key player in West Africa’s economic landscape.

5.3.1 Identified strengths and weaknesses

Below is an expanded analysis of the identified development model countries, emphasizing Togo's relative strengths and weaknesses. The analysis includes governance, infrastructure, social systems, and economic strategies, highlighting best practices that Togo can consider.

Singapore

- **Strengths of Togo Relative to Singapore:** Togo benefits from vast natural resources, including phosphate and agricultural potential, which Singapore lacks. Additionally, Togo's deep-water port allows for significant trade within the West African region, leveraging its geographical location (AfDB, 2020, p. 18).

- **Weaknesses of Togo Relative to Singapore:** Singapore’s governance model is renowned for its efficiency and low corruption levels, ranking among the best in the world (Transparency International, 2022, p. 3). In contrast, Togo struggles with corruption and bureaucratic inefficiency, which hinders foreign investment. Singapore’s education system drives innovation and competitiveness, while Togo faces challenges in primary and secondary education access (UNESCO, 2022, p. 45).

- **Implications for Togo:** Togo could adopt Singapore’s governance strategies, particularly in anti-corruption reforms and public service delivery. Investments in human capital and infrastructure are critical to emulate Singapore’s success (Rodrik, 2008, p. 72). Future research may focus on adapting Singapore’s urbanization strategies to fit Lomé’s developmental needs.

Rwanda

- **Strengths of Togo Relative to Rwanda:** Unlike landlocked Rwanda, Togo has access to maritime trade through the Lomé Port, positioning it strategically for international commerce (World Bank, 2021, p. 24). Togo also has a more diverse agricultural base.

- **Weaknesses of Togo Relative to Rwanda:** Rwanda has excelled in governance reforms, achieving significant transparency and accountability in public administration. It ranks much higher than Togo on governance indices (World Governance Indicators, 2021, p. 11). Togo has made slower progress in implementing anti-corruption measures and decentralized governance structures.

- **Implications for Togo:** Togo could replicate Rwanda's approach to unifying national development strategies and improving governance accountability. Studies could analyze the effectiveness of Rwanda's "Vision 2050" in shaping economic reforms applicable to Togo (Ansoms & Rostagno, 2020, p. 123).

Ghana

- **Strengths of Togo Relative to Ghana:** Togo's centralized port provides a more direct trade advantage, whereas Ghana's ports, though larger, face congestion issues (AfDB, 2021, p. 15). Additionally, Togo's smaller population could enable more focused development policies.

- **Weaknesses of Togo Relative to Ghana:** Ghana benefits from a highly stable democracy, which has promoted steady economic growth and investor confidence (Freedom House, 2022, p. 6). Ghana's technology sector, fostered through digital economy initiatives like the "Ghana Digital Roadmap," surpasses Togo's emerging tech industry.

- **Implications for Togo:** Togo can learn from Ghana's success in fostering political stability and leveraging its digital economy. Comparative research on trade policy and economic diversification between the two nations is essential (Aryeetey & Baah-Boateng, 2015, p. 98).

Finland

- **Strengths of Togo Relative to Finland:** Togo's strategic geographic location provides access to regional and international markets, unlike Finland's more isolated position. Togo also has a greater potential for agricultural expansion (AfDB, 2020, p. 25).

- **Weaknesses of Togo Relative to Finland:** Finland excels in education and research, ranking among the top globally in innovation capacity (WIPO, 2021, p. 34). Finland's governance and social welfare systems set a high standard, while Togo faces challenges in public service delivery and institutional effectiveness.

- **Implications for Togo:** Adopting Finland's emphasis on education reform could improve Togo's long-term development prospects. Further studies on Finland's innovation strategies and their applicability to Togo's context would be beneficial (Sahlberg, 2011, p. 19).

Malaysia

- **Strengths of Togo Relative to Malaysia:** Togo's geographic location within West Africa offers unique opportunities for regional trade, while Malaysia's trade advantages are geographically tied to Southeast Asia (ASEAN, 2020, p. 12).

- **Weaknesses of Togo Relative to Malaysia:** Malaysia's economic diversification across sectors such as manufacturing, technology, and tourism far surpasses Togo's reliance on agriculture and phosphate exports. Malaysia's governance systems also provide a more stable environment for investors (World Economic Forum, 2020, p. 21).

- **Implications for Togo:** Lessons from Malaysia's economic diversification strategies could be adapted to Togo's context. Research could also explore Malaysia's tourism policies and their potential impact on Togo's economy (Henderson, 2003, p. 27).

Estonia

- **Strengths of Togo Relative to Estonia:** Togo's larger population and access to trade routes via its port make it more advantageous in terms of regional commerce, compared to Estonia's smaller and more localized market.

- **Weaknesses of Togo Relative to Estonia:** Estonia's digital transformation and leadership in e-governance are far ahead of Togo. Estonia's success in creating a digital society emphasizes the potential for leveraging technology in governance and public service delivery (e-Government Development Index, 2022, p. 18).

- **Implications for Togo:** Togo could focus on adopting Estonia's e-governance strategies to enhance transparency and efficiency in government operations. Research could examine the adaptability of Estonia's "e-Residency" program for Togo (Dombrovskis, 2017, p. 9).

Djibouti

- **Strengths of Togo Relative to Djibouti:** Togo has a more diversified economy and greater agricultural potential, while Djibouti heavily depends on port operations for revenue (AfDB, 2021, p. 8).

- **Weaknesses of Togo Relative to Djibouti:** Djibouti's investment in port infrastructure and strategic international partnerships surpasses Togo's efforts in leveraging its port for economic growth (World Bank, 2021, p. 28).

- **Implications for Togo:** Strengthening partnerships with international stakeholders and improving port infrastructure are critical areas for Togo's development. Research on Djibouti's port management and its applicability to Togo could provide actionable insights (Lloyd, 2020, p. 44).

5.3.2 Comparative Analysis

This approach provides a detailed SWOT analysis for Togo, compared individually with each model country, to identify specific strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats within these pairs, presented in a clear and academically rigorous structure. Here is a detailed double-entry SWOT table comparing Togo to each identified model country and furthermore other comparatives tables.

5.3.2.1 Togo vs Singapore Comparative SWOT Analysis

Table 42: Double-entry SWOT table comparing Togo to Singapore

	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
INTERNAL	**Strengths (S)**	**Weaknesses (W)**
	- Abundance of natural resources such as phosphate and agriculture (AfDB, 2020, p. 18).	- Weak public institutional efficiency compared to Singapore's globally recognized governance (Transparency International, 2022, p. 3).
	- Lomé's deep-water port as a key regional trade hub.	- Poorly developed infrastructure and limited service delivery systems (Rodrik, 2008, p. 74).
EXTERNAL	**Opportunities (O)**	**Threats (T)**
	- Adoption of Singapore’s public sector reforms and urban planning models (Rodrik, 2008, p. 80).	- Advanced industrial and technological capacities of Singapore create competitive challenges.
	- Enhancement of trade facilitation policies to boost competitiveness.	- Difficulty in contextualizing and replicating Singapore's policies in Togo's socio-political framework.

(Source: personal creation)

5.3.2.2 Togo vs Rwanda

Table 43: Double-entry SWOT table comparing Togo to Rwanda

	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
INTERNAL	**Strengths (S)**	**Weaknesses (W)**
	- Maritime access via Lomé Port provides trade advantages (World Bank, 2021, p. 24).	- Less institutional accountability and progress in anti-corruption measures compared to Rwanda (World Governance Indicators, 2021, p. 11).
	- Rich agricultural biodiversity.	- Lack of long-term development strategy like Rwanda's "Vision 2050" (Ansoms & Rostagno, 2020, p. 123).

	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
EXTERNAL	**Opportunities (O)**	**Threats (T)**
	- Learning from Rwanda’s governance and community-level accountability strategies.	- Rwanda's rising prominence globally could overshadow Togo.
	- Adoption of Rwanda's ICT transformation as a model for digital inclusion.	- Regional instability potentially hindering Togo's reforms.

(Source: personal creation)

5.3.2.3 Togo vs Ghana

Table 44: Double-entry SWOT table comparing Togo to Ghana

	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
INTERNAL	**Strengths (S)**	**Weaknesses (W)**
	- Centralized port infrastructure advantageous for trade (AfDB, 2021, p. 15).	- Less-developed technological and digital economy compared to Ghana’s advanced sector (Aryeetey & Baah-Boateng, 2015, p. 98).
	- Smaller population enables targeted policymaking.	- Weaker democratic institutions and governance frameworks (Freedom House, 2022, p. 6).
EXTERNAL	**Opportunities (O)**	**Threats (T)**
	- Regional trade collaboration to complement Ghana’s initiatives within ECOWAS.	- Ghana’s diversified economy enhances competition for foreign investment.
	- Learning from Ghana’s digital transformation strategies.	- Lower investor confidence in Togo compared to Ghana.

(Source: personal creation)

5.3.2.4 Togo vs Finland

Table 45: Double-entry SWOT table comparing Togo to Finland

	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
INTERNAL	**Strengths (S)**	**Weaknesses (W)**
	- Strategic geographic positioning for trade, unmatched by Finland (AfDB, 2020, p. 25).	- Weak innovation ecosystems and governance compared to Finland’s excellence (WIPO, 2021, p. 34).
	- Greater potential for agricultural development.	- Underdeveloped social services and public administration.

	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
EXTERNAL	**Opportunities (O)**	**Threats (T)**
	- Adopting Finland's education reforms to improve human capital.	- Global technological standards set by Finland challenge Togo's competitiveness.
	- Collaboration in sustainability and renewable energy sectors.	- Finland's welfare-focused policies may be difficult to adapt to Togo's economic context.

(Source: personal creation)

5.3.2.5 Togo vs Malaysia

Table 46: Double-entry SWOT table comparing Togo to Malaysia

	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
INTERNAL	**Strengths (S)**	**Weaknesses (W)**
	- Strategic ECOWAS location offering access to diverse markets (ASEAN, 2020, p. 12).	- Economic overreliance on agriculture and phosphates compared to Malaysia's diversified economy (World Economic Forum, 2020, p. 21).
	- Cultural diversity is conducive to tourism development.	- Limited governance and policy frameworks compared to Malaysia's Vision 2020.
EXTERNAL	**Opportunities (O)**	**Threats (T)**
	- Leveraging lessons from Malaysia's tourism and economic diversification strategies.	- Malaysia's strong reputation reduces Togo's global competitiveness.
	- Attracting foreign direct investment through improved policies.	- Competition with Asia for international trade partnerships.

(Source: personal creation)

5.3.2.6 Togo vs Estonia

Table 47: Double-entry SWOT table comparing Togo vs Estonia

	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
INTERNAL	**Strengths (S)**	**Weaknesses (W)**
	- Access to strategic maritime trade routes.	- Limited digital infrastructure compared to Estonia's advanced ICT systems (e-Government Development Index, 2022, p. 18).

	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
	- Larger workforce potential.	- Underdeveloped innovation and digital ecosystem.
EXTERNAL	**Opportunities (O)**	**Threats (T)**
	- Implementing Estonia's e-governance model for public service efficiency.	- Estonia's global leadership in digitalization presents competitive challenges.
	- Developing long-term strategies inspired by Estonia's digital transformation.	- Reliance on international donors for ICT development.

(Source: personal creation)

5.3.2.7 Togo vs Djibouti

Table 48: Double-entry SWOT table comparing Togo vs Djibouti

	POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
INTERNAL	**Strengths (S)**	**Weaknesses (W)**
	- Diversified economy compared to Djibouti's port dependence (AfDB, 2021, p. 8).	- Port infrastructure lags behind Djibouti's advanced facilities and partnerships (Lloyd, 2020, p. 44).
	- Greater agricultural potential.	- Less international investment in port modernization.
EXTERNAL	**Opportunities (O)**	**Threats (T)**
	- Strengthening partnerships for logistics and infrastructure development.	- Growing competition with Djibouti for regional trade dominance.
	- Learning from Djibouti's port management strategies.	- Economic reliance on unstable donor flows.

(Source: personal creation)

These detailed comparative SWOT tables offer a structured overview, highlighting how Togo can capitalize on its strengths, address its weaknesses, and leverage opportunities while mitigating threats.

Based on the comparative analysis with model countries and an evaluation of Togo's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, policies will be proposed to address critical challenges and unlock the country's potential. These proposals cover governance, economic diversification, social development, digital transformation, and sustainable practices.

5.3.2.8 Comparative Development Strategies

Table 49: Comparative Development Strategies: Lessons for Togo from Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland, and Estonia

Country	Key Development Strategies	Lessons for Togo
Rwanda	Vision 2050 economic framework, decentralized governance, and investment-friendly policies	Strengthening long-term economic planning, ensuring accountability in governance, and improving investment climate through regulatory reforms
Ghana	Digital economy expansion, AfCFTA trade facilitation, and infrastructure modernization	Accelerating digital transformation, leveraging regional trade agreements, and improving transport networks to enhance connectivity
Djibouti	Port-centered development, logistics expansion, and foreign strategic partnerships	Positioning Port of Lomé as a key trade hub, investing in maritime logistics, and fostering global investment partnerships
Singapore	Governance efficiency, education-driven innovation, and advanced economic diversification	Strengthening governance transparency, investing in human capital development, and fostering industry diversification
Malaysia	Industrial policy integration, export-driven economy, and public-private investment frameworks	Implementing sector-specific incentives, enhancing manufacturing competitiveness, and developing technology-driven industries
Finland	Research-based innovation, strong educational framework, and sustainability-led policies	Investing in education reforms, promoting science and technology innovation, and integrating green economic strategies
Estonia	E-governance leadership, digital infrastructure development, and startup-friendly policies	Adopting digital governance models, improving public service automation, and fostering entrepreneurial ecosystems

(Source: personal creation)

This structured comparison highlights key development strategies that Togo can leverage to enhance economic governance, trade efficiency, and innovation-driven industries. By integrating best practices from these nations, Togo can accelerate modernization, strengthen institutional frameworks, and improve economic competitiveness on a global scale.

5.3.2.9 Key policy insights

Below is a comprehensive summary table highlighting key policy insights that Togo can learn from the identified countries. The table is structured with three key columns:

- Country – The model country from which lessons are derived.
- Key Lessons Learned – Successful policies or strategies in the model country.

- Strategic Implications for Togo – How Togo can adapt these lessons to enhance its development trajectory.

Table 50: Key policy insights that Togo can learn from the identified countries

Strategic Policy Insights: Country	Key Lessons Learned	Strategic Implications for Togo
Rwanda	Strong governance and anti-corruption measures. Rwanda has achieved transparency and accountability in public administration, boosting investor confidence.	Strengthening anti-corruption institutions and governance accountability to attract investment and improve public trust.
Ghana	Political stability and digital economy development. Ghana's stable democracy has	Enhancing political stability and accelerating digital transformation

	encouraged investment, and its digital roadmap fosters tech-driven growth.	initiatives to support entrepreneurship and economic diversification.
Djibouti	Strategic use of port infrastructure for regional trade leadership. Djibouti developed its port as a major trade hub through investment and international partnerships.	Expanding port efficiency and maritime trade strategies, positioning the Port of Lomé as a logistics hub for West Africa.
Singapore	Efficient governance and education-driven innovation. Singapore's low corruption and strong education system fuel economic competitiveness.	Implementing transparent governance frameworks and investing in human capital development to drive innovation.
Malaysia	Diversified economic structure through sectoral investment incentives. Malaysia has successfully balanced manufacturing, tech, and service industries through targeted policies.	Creating sector-specific incentives, particularly in manufacturing, digital technology, and renewable energy, to attract foreign investment.
Finland	World-class education and research-driven economic growth. Finland's innovation ecosystem is built on strong public education and research funding.	Investing in education reforms and research-driven innovation to promote long-term economic sustainability.
Estonia	E-Governance and digital public services. Estonia has revolutionized public administration through automation, reducing bureaucracy.	Adopting e-governance systems to increase administrative efficiency, enhance public service delivery, and attract tech-related investment.

(Source: personal creation)

This comparative analysis underscores the importance of institutional reforms, strategic trade policies, and innovation-driven economic expansion. By integrating proven development models from these high-performing countries, Togo can enhance governance, attract investment, and strengthen its role in regional trade networks.

5.3.2.10 Infrastructure and Port Management

Table 51: Strategic Insights for Togo's Maritime Trade Development

Country	Key Maritime Infrastructure Strategies	Lessons for Togo
Singapore	Global shipping hub, advanced port logistics, automated customs procedures	Optimize Port of Lomé operations with smart logistics, enhance trade facilitation through digital customs systems
Djibouti	High-value transshipment hub, strategic international trade agreements	Strengthening regional trade corridors, expanding transshipment capabilities to attract global shipping activity

Ghana	Expansion of Tema Port, modernization of port handling efficiency	Invest in port expansion projects, integrate efficient cargo management systems to reduce congestion
Malaysia	Integrated maritime infrastructure linking ports to industrial zones	Develop synergized port-industrial development, enhance transport and logistics connectivity
Estonia	Digitalized port management and blockchain-enabled customs tracking	Implement blockchain solutions for trade documentation, increase digital tracking for maritime logistics
Finland	Sustainability-focused port innovation, eco-friendly shipping policies	Establish green port initiatives, improve environmental compliance in maritime trade
Rwanda	Landlocked logistics optimization, enhanced inland transport networks	Improve port-to-land transport infrastructure, boost regional connectivity for cargo movement

(Source: personal creation)

This comparative analysis underscores the importance of integrating efficient port logistics, smart trade policies, and sustainability-driven infrastructure to elevate Togo's maritime trade sector. By leveraging proven strategies from leading economies, Togo can expand its trade footprint, optimize logistics efficiency, and strengthen its position as a regional maritime hub.

5.3.2.11 Governance, Trade, and Economic Models

Below is a comprehensive summary table comparing governance, trade policies, and economic models from key countries, Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland, and Estonia to assess applicable lessons for Togo's development strategy. The table is structured into three core dimensions:

- Governance Models – Evaluating transparency, institutional efficiency, and anti-corruption measures.
- Trade Policies & Infrastructure – Assessing market access, regional integration, and investment frameworks.
- Economic Diversification & Innovation – Understanding sectoral growth, technological advancements, and industrial development.

Table 52: Comparative Assessment for Togo's Development on Governance, Trade, and Economic Models

Country	Governance Model	Trade Policies & Infrastructure	Economic Diversification & Innovation
Rwanda	Strong anti-corruption framework, transparent governance, and decentralized policy implementation.	Focused on regional integration within EAC, streamlined customs processes, and infrastructure investment.	Emerging tech sector, sustainable agriculture, and service-driven economy.

Ghana	Stable democracy, institutional predictability, and business-friendly regulations.	Leading AfCFTA trade facilitator, strong maritime logistics, and digital trade initiatives.	Expanding digital economy, growing manufacturing, and innovation hubs.
Djibouti	Strategic state-led governance with heavy investment in logistics and trade infrastructure.	Port-centric regional trade policies, efficient customs digitization, and maritime development.	Transport and logistics-based economy, strong public-private investments in energy and telecom sectors.
Singapore	Highly efficient governance model with world-class transparency and low corruption.	Free-trade agreements, integrated supply chains, and advanced logistics network for global commerce.	Technology-driven economy, innovation hubs, strong finance, and biotech industries.
Malaysia	Balanced governance with targeted industrial policies and stable legal frameworks.	Effective export-oriented trade policies, ASEAN integration, and sector-specific incentives.	Diverse manufacturing base, high-tech sector, and tourism-led economic expansion.
Finland	Institutionally strong democracy with high public trust and education-led governance.	EU trade alignment, competitive exports, and global business-friendly policies.	Innovation economy, leading green energy technologies, and world-class education sector.
Estonia	E-governance pioneer with digital public services and automated administration.	Digital trade facilitation, cross-border tech industry, and blockchain-based regulatory frameworks.	Start-up ecosystem, knowledge-based economy, and global digital leadership.

(Source: personal creation)

This comparative assessment underscores key policy strategies that Togo can adopt:

- Governance Modernization – Strengthening anti-corruption mechanisms, improving bureaucratic efficiency, and promoting institutional transparency.
- Trade Expansion & Market Access – Aligning trade policies with ECOWAS and AfCFTA, upgrading port infrastructure, and simplifying regulatory frameworks for investment.
- Economic Diversification & Technology Growth – Investing in digital transformation, fostering industrial growth, and advancing research-driven innovation.

By integrating global best practices, Togo can enhance competitiveness, attract foreign investment, and achieve long-term economic sustainability.

5.3.2.12 Institutional Best Practices

Table 53: Governance, Transparency, and Policy Innovations across Model Countries

Country	Governance Model	Transparency Mechanisms	Policy Innovations
Singapore	Highly efficient governance, low corruption, strong institutional discipline	Anti-corruption commissions (CPIB), strict regulatory enforcement	Smart city policies, digital governance integration, education-driven economic model
Rwanda	Proactive leadership, decentralized governance, strong accountability measures	Open data initiatives, institutional monitoring systems	Vision 2050 development strategy, social cohesion policies for economic growth
Ghana	Stable democracy, inclusive governance, business-friendly regulations	Government transparency portals, free press & independent media	Digital economy roadmap, fintech expansion policies
Djibouti	Strategic state-led governance, focused on trade facilitation	Digitized customs clearance, public-private investment forums	Logistics hub development, special economic zones
Malaysia	Balanced governance with industrial policy integration	Institutional anti-corruption agencies, financial reporting standards	Sector-specific industrial incentives, innovation-driven manufacturing policies
Finland	Social welfare-based governance, high public trust in institutions	Transparent fiscal management, open-access government data	Research-driven education policy, green energy initiatives
Estonia	E-governance pioneer, digital administrative efficiency	Blockchain-backed digital identity systems, automated public services	E-residency program, AI-driven governance automation

(Source: personal creation)

This structured comparison highlights proven institutional models that Togo can leverage to strengthen governance efficiency, improve transparency, and adopt innovative policy solutions. By incorporating anti-corruption frameworks, digital transformation strategies, and sectoral economic incentives, Togo can create a sustainable and globally competitive institutional framework.

5.3.2.13 Institutional Reforms and Digital Transformation

Table 54: Global Lessons for Strengthening Togo's Governance Model

Country	Institutional Reforms	Digital Transformation Strategies	Lessons for Togo
Singapore	Anti-corruption measures, efficient bureaucracy, strong regulatory frameworks	AI-driven public service automation, Smart Nation initiatives	Implement transparent governance models, digitize administrative services, and enhance public service efficiency
Estonia	E-governance leadership, blockchain-backed digital identity systems	Nationwide e-government solutions, automated tax filings, e-residency program	Adopt e-governance platforms, streamline public sector digitalization, and promote efficient regulatory automation
Rwanda	Decentralized governance, strategic anti-corruption reforms	Mobile-based government services, cashless transactions, digital ID systems	Strengthen decentralized decision-making, expand mobile governance, and improve financial transparency through digital systems
Ghana	Public-sector restructuring, participatory governance frameworks	Digital payment integration, government transparency portals	Enhance financial inclusivity, modernize public-sector management, and develop data-driven policy making
Malaysia	Regulatory simplification, economic governance improvements	Smart city development, digital taxation reforms	Invest in smart city frameworks, expand digital taxation efficiency, and improve cross-sector tech adoption
Finland	Institutional accountability, strong democracy enforcement	AI-powered administrative systems, real-time governance analytics	Utilize AI in governance, improve policy monitoring, and integrate data-driven administration
Djibouti	Trade facilitation reforms, legal modernization for investment policies	Logistics automation, digitized customs processing	Implement trade-friendly digital solutions, streamline customs automation, and modernize legal frameworks for investors

(Source: personal creation)

This comparative assessment demonstrates that institutional modernization combined with digital transformation can drive governance efficiency, economic stability, and transparent policymaking. By learning from global leaders in governance and digital innovation, Togo can implement e-governance solutions, optimize bureaucratic processes, and enhance regulatory frameworks, ensuring long-term institutional resilience and sustainable economic growth.

5.3.2.14 Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) and Industrial Expansion

Table 55: Comparative Analysis of Successful Models (Revised with Adétikopé Industrial Platform - PIA, Togo)

Country	Key PPP Strategies	Industrial Expansion Impact	Lessons for Togo (PIA Integration)
Singapore	Strategic PPPs in infrastructure, tech-driven industrial projects, efficient governance	Boosted high-tech industrial sectors, expanded global trade networks	Strengthen PPP-driven industrial parks, integrate tech-based investment zones, and improve business regulatory efficiency within PIA
Malaysia	Public-private partnerships in logistics, energy, and manufacturing	Developed strong export-led industries, improved production ecosystems	Enhance manufacturing clusters within PIA, optimize investment incentives, and attract international investors
Ghana	PPPs in agro-processing, energy, and transport	Strengthened agribusiness and energy sectors, improved logistics	Expand agribusiness PPPs within PIA, encourage renewable energy investments, and establish efficient transport connectivity
Rwanda	PPP-backed digital transformation, smart infrastructure projects	Increased digital economy presence, modernized logistics systems	Implement digital governance tools for PIA, integrate smart infrastructure, and improve transport efficiency
Djibouti	Port expansion through private investment, logistics development	Strengthened global shipping networks, positioned as a regional trade hub	Position PIA as a logistics and industrial hub, integrate Port of Lomé connectivity, and facilitate regional trade agreements
Finland	Research-led PPPs in green technology and digital industries	Advanced sustainable industry growth, supported start-ups	Strengthen sustainability policies within PIA, boost eco-friendly industry incentives, and integrate green energy projects
Estonia	PPPs in e-governance, digital infrastructure, cybersecurity	Strengthened digital public administration, enhanced tech-based investments	Apply e-governance solutions to streamline PIA operations, implement digital business registration, and fortify cybersecurity regulations

(Source: personal creation)

This analysis showcases how public-private partnerships have successfully driven industrial growth and economic transformation globally. By incorporating key strategies from these high-performing nations, Togo's Adétikopé Industrial Platform (PIA) can position itself as a leading

industrial hub, fostering manufacturing, logistics, tech-based investment, and sustainability-driven initiatives for long-term economic growth.

5.3.2.15 Innovation, Education, and Economic Competitiveness

Table 56: Applying Best Practices from Finland and Estonia to Togo

Country	Key Strategies in Innovation & Education	Impact on Economic Competitiveness	Lessons for Togo
Finland	Strong public investment in education, focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and research-driven innovation	High global rankings in education, research excellence, and competitiveness	Increase education funding, promote STEM-focused curricula, and strengthen R&D incentives
Estonia	Digital transformation in education, e-governance integration, startup ecosystem support	Leading digital society, rapid entrepreneurial growth, and efficient bureaucracy	Implement e-learning platforms, support tech startups, and enhance digital literacy programs
Finland	Vocational and lifelong learning programs, industry-academic collaboration	Boosted productivity, diversified workforce, and innovation hubs	Develop vocational training linked to industries, encourage university-business partnerships, and improve skill adaptation policies
Estonia	Entrepreneurship incentives, tech incubation hubs, and AI-driven public services	Thriving tech sector, improved public service delivery, and investor-friendly environment	Foster startup incubation centers, create policy incentives for innovation, and automate public administration

(Source: personal creation)

By leveraging Finland's education-led innovation model and Estonia's digital transformation strategies, Togo can accelerate its economic development, boost industrial productivity, and foster a globally competitive knowledge economy. Expanding R&D, integrating digital education, and supporting entrepreneurship will be crucial for long-term sustainable growth. Countries like Finland and Estonia have heavily invested in STEM education, enabling them to develop high-tech industries, foster innovation-driven economies, and encourage entrepreneurship. For Togo, integrating STEM programs into education and industrial policies could help train a highly skilled workforce, support local technological innovation, and boost economic competitiveness.

5.3.3 Critical comparative analysis

The comparative analysis of institutional frameworks, economic policies, and industrial strategies reveals the pivotal role of strategic governance, innovation, and infrastructure development in shaping Togo's long-term economic trajectory. While lessons from countries such as Finland, Estonia, Singapore, and Malaysia provide valuable models, their direct implementation in Togo must be carefully contextualized to account for institutional capacity, local economic dynamics, and policy adaptability.

Moreover, despite the growing influence of public-private partnerships (PPPs) and digital transformation, their sustainability in Togo's industrial ecosystem, particularly within the Adétikopé Industrial Platform (PIA), requires robust regulatory oversight, transparent fiscal management, and long-term policy consistency. Without a holistic framework integrating education, innovation, and trade facilitation, isolated policy reforms may yield short-term gains but fail to produce systemic economic competitiveness.

Ultimately, this study emphasizes the need for a tailored, phased approach to economic transformation, balancing lessons from global best practices with homegrown policy adaptations. Only through governance efficiency, strategic investment attraction, and institutional modernization can Togo ensure sustained industrial growth, trade competitiveness, and regional economic leadership.

5.3.5 Comparative Analysis of Results with Existing Literature

A thorough examination of the findings within the framework of established economic and governance theories reveals both convergence with foundational principles and contrasts with global development models. By situating Togo's institutional and economic challenges within a broader scholarly discourse, this comparative analysis not only validates key theoretical perspectives but also underscores the unique contextual factors shaping the nation's developmental trajectory**.** The juxtaposition of Togo's experiences with international best practices provides a comprehensive lens for evaluating the efficacy of governance frameworks,

5.3.5.1 Alignment with Previous Studies and Theoretical Frameworks

- **Justin Yifu Lin's theory of New Structural Economics** argues that developing nations should leverage their existing comparative advantages while gradually transitioning toward **industrial modernization** (Lin, 2012, p. 57).

- C**omparative advantage**, formulated by **David Ricardo**, remains a foundational principle in international trade and economic specialization (Ricardo, 1817, p. 112).

- **Krugman's New Trade Theory** suggests countries must **develop economies of scale and enhance production efficiency** to remain competitive (Krugman, 1980, p. 67).

- **Institutional Theory (North, 1990; p. 55)**: The findings align with the assertion that robust institutions are fundamental to economic performance. Togo's governance challenges, such as corruption, bureaucratic inefficiencies, and limited institutional transparency, reflect the need for institutional modernization, as emphasized by North. The study's recommendations for anti-corruption frameworks and judicial independence resonate with institutional theory's emphasis on reducing transaction costs and fostering economic stability. Lessons from Singapore's Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau (CPIB) and Rwanda's Office of the Ombudsman reinforce the importance of institutional accountability in driving economic growth (Quah, 2010; p. 33; Transparency International, 2023; p. 11).

- **Dependency Theory (Frank, 1967; p. 18)**: Togo's reliance on foreign investments, international aid, and trade agreements mirrors the structural dependencies described in dependency theory. The study highlights the risks of economic dependency, particularly in the context of foreign direct investment (FDI) and donor-driven infrastructure projects. Recommendations for diversifying economic partnerships and reducing reliance on external funding align with Frank's argument that dependency perpetuates underdevelopment. The comparative analysis with Ghana's trade diversification strategies and Malaysia's export-driven economy underscores the need for Togo to strengthen its economic autonomy (World Bank, 2022; p. 14; Malaysia Investment Development Authority, 2022; p. 33).

- **Modernization Theory (Rostow, 1960; p. 72)**: The findings support the notion that industrialization and infrastructure development are pivotal for transitioning economies. Togo's Adétikopé Industrial Platform (PIA) and its focus on value-added processing reflect the early stages of economic modernization, consistent with Rostow's framework. The study's emphasis on expanding manufacturing clusters and integrating regional trade agreements aligns with modernization theory's emphasis on structural transformation as a pathway to sustained growth (Rodrik, 2008; p. 72; AfCFTA Secretariat, 2022; p. 25).

- **Public Choice Theory (Buchanan, 1975; p. 23)**: The study's identification of corruption as a major governance challenge aligns with Buchanan's assertion that self-interest-driven behavior in public administration undermines institutional efficiency. Recommendations for anti-corruption measures, such as whistleblower protections and asset recovery laws, are consistent with theoretical solutions to mitigate rent-seeking behavior. Singapore's zero-tolerance approach to corruption and Rwanda's digital citizen reporting mechanisms provide actionable models for Togo to enhance governance integrity (Quah, 2010; p. 38; Transparency International Rwanda, 2018; p. 20).

5.3.5.2 Contrasts with Global Development Models

- **Singapore's Governance Model**: Singapore's globally recognized governance efficiency and anti-corruption measures contrast sharply with Togo's institutional weaknesses and political interference. While Singapore ranks among the top nations in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index, Togo struggles with enforcement gaps and bureaucratic delays (Transparency International, 2023; p. 15; CPIB, 2023; p. 7). The study highlights the difficulty of replicating Singapore's model due to differences in governance capacity and socio-economic conditions. However, targeted reforms, such as merit-based judicial appointments and digital governance platforms, could help Togo emulate aspects of Singapore's success (World Bank, 2021; p. 19; Kaljulaid, 2025; p. 7).

- **Rwanda's Post-Conflict Development**: Rwanda's success in governance accountability, ICT integration, and decentralized decision-making contrasts with Togo's slower progress in these areas. Rwanda's Vision 2050 framework and its emphasis on community-level accountability provide a roadmap for Togo to improve governance and foster inclusive development (Ansoms & Rostagno, 2020; p. 123; MINIJUST, 2012; p. 10). The study underscores the need for Togo to adopt Rwanda's digital transformation strategies, such as the Ifate app for anonymous corruption reporting, to enhance transparency and citizen engagement (Transparency International Rwanda, 2018; p. 20).

- **Finland's Education System**: Finland's emphasis on equity, STEM education, and research-driven innovation contrasts sharply with Togo's challenges in aligning education with labor market demands. Finland's investment in free education and teacher autonomy has fostered a highly skilled workforce, contributing to its global competitiveness (Sahlberg, 2011; p. 45; OECD, 2020; p. 15). The study advocates for adapting Finland's model to strengthen Togo's workforce development, particularly through vocational training and STEM-focused curricula (UNESCO, 2022; p. 45; World Bank, 2021; p. 29).

- **Estonia's E-Governance**: Estonia's advanced digital infrastructure and e-governance systems highlight the gap in Togo's technological capabilities. Estonia's blockchain-backed digital identity systems and automated public services have revolutionized governance efficiency, reducing corruption and administrative costs (Kaljulaid, 2025; p. 13; Jha, 2025; p. 12). The study recommends adopting Estonia's e-governance strategies, such as the X-Road system for secure data exchange, to enhance administrative efficiency and regulatory oversight in Togo (OECD, 2020; p. 15; Kaljulaid, 2025; p. 33).

5.3.5.3 Implications for Policymaking

- **Governance Reforms**: The study reinforces the need for anti-corruption frameworks, judicial independence, and institutional transparency. Lessons from Singapore's CPIB and Rwanda's Office of the Ombudsman provide actionable pathways for strengthening

governance and public trust. Implementing whistleblower protections, asset recovery laws, and digital reporting platforms can significantly enhance accountability (Transparency International, 2023; p. 25; Quah, 2010; p. 38).

- **Economic Diversification**: Togo must expand beyond agriculture and phosphates by investing in manufacturing, technology, and renewable energy. Malaysia's sector-specific incentives and Ghana's digital economy initiatives offer valuable insights for policy adaptation. The study emphasizes the importance of creating industrial clusters within the Adétikopé Industrial Platform (PIA) to attract foreign investment and foster economic resilience (Malaysia Investment Development Authority, 2022; p. 33; Rodrik, 2008; p. 72).

- **Trade Infrastructure**: Optimizing Lomé Port's operations and integrating AfCFTA frameworks are critical for enhancing Togo's trade competitiveness. Lessons from Djibouti's logistics hub and Singapore's maritime strategies highlight the importance of infrastructure modernization and regional trade agreements. The study recommends expanding road and rail networks to improve connectivity and reduce logistical inefficiencies (World Bank, 2021; p. 27; AfCFTA Secretariat, 2022; p. 25).

- **Youth Employment**: Addressing education-job mismatches and expanding vocational training programs are essential for reducing unemployment. Finland's STEM-focused curricula and Rwanda's SME empowerment initiatives provide models for workforce development. The study advocates for aligning educational programs with labor market demands, fostering entrepreneurship, and integrating digital learning platforms to prepare youth for emerging industries (Sahlberg, 2011; p. 58; Transparency International Rwanda, 2018; p. 20).

- **Digital Transformation**: Estonia's e-governance success underscores the potential for digital public services in Togo. Implementing blockchain technology, mobile-friendly e-government platforms, and secure digital identity systems can improve administrative efficiency, reduce corruption, and enhance citizen engagement. The study emphasizes the importance of investing in cybersecurity infrastructure and training programs to support digital governance (Kaljulaid, 2025; p. 39; Jha, 2025; p. 41).

- **Foreign Policy**: Togo's balanced diplomatic strategy must focus on diversifying economic partnerships, enhancing regional security cooperation, and leveraging AfCFTA for industrial growth. The study highlights the need for proactive engagement with emerging economies, fostering bilateral trade agreements, and strengthening counterterrorism collaborations to address regional security threats (Loada & Romaniuk, 2020; p. 27; UNODC, 2022; p. 33).

In sum, the comparative analysis of results with existing literature underscores both alignment and contrasts with global development models and theoretical frameworks. While Togo faces

significant challenges in governance, economic diversification, and digital transformation, the study provides actionable recommendations for policymaking. By strategically adapting lessons from high-performing economies such as Singapore, Rwanda, Finland, and Estonia, Togo can strengthen its institutional resilience, enhance economic competitiveness, and achieve sustainable development.

The study's alignment with institutional theory, modernization theory, and dependency theory highlights the importance of governance efficiency, industrialization, and economic autonomy in driving national progress. Contrasts with global models, such as Singapore's governance efficiency and Estonia's digital transformation, underscore the need for tailored approaches that account for Togo's unique socio-economic context.

For policymaking, the study emphasizes the urgency of implementing anti-corruption frameworks, optimizing trade infrastructure, fostering youth employment, and leveraging digital transformation to enhance governance and economic resilience. By integrating global best practices with localized strategies, Togo can navigate its developmental challenges and position itself as a dynamic player in regional and global markets.

Future research should focus on evaluating the long-term impact of proposed reforms, exploring innovative financing mechanisms for infrastructure development, and assessing the role of regional trade agreements in fostering economic integration. Through continuous policy innovation and institutional modernization, Togo can achieve its developmental aspirations and reinforce its role as a competitive and resilient economy.

In conclusion, data collection and preliminary analysis are fundamental steps in understanding the economic dynamics and policy impacts in Togo. This preliminary study highlights notable trends and findings, paving the way for more in-depth analyses and informed recommendations. The collected and analyzed data provided a solid foundation for developing economic development and public policy strategies aimed at supporting sustainable growth and improving the well-being of the Togolese population. The empirical findings presented in this chapter provide a comprehensive evaluation of Togo's economic, institutional, and geopolitical dynamics, offering valuable insights into the nation's strategic positioning within the regional and global landscape. Through rigorous analysis of survey results, case studies, and comparative assessments, this study has illuminated the structural strengths, challenges, and opportunities that define Togo's developmental trajectory.

A critical examination of Togo's geographical advantages has demonstrated the indispensable role of the Lomé deep-water port in facilitating regional trade and economic integration. The port's competitive edge in logistics and transshipment operations underscores its potential as a gateway for intra-African commerce, particularly within the framework of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) (AfDB, 2022, p. 15). However, infrastructure gaps and regulatory

inefficiencies remain key barriers that must be addressed to optimize trade efficiency and attract multinational logistics firms (World Bank, 2021, p. 27).

The study further assessed the impact of international partnerships on national development, highlighting the duality of foreign collaborations in shaping economic modernization. While the majority of respondents viewed these engagements positively, concerns over policy autonomy and dependency dynamics suggest the need for strategic recalibration to maximize national interest outcomes (UNCTAD, 2022, p. 19). Comparative insights from Ghana, Rwanda, and Singapore reinforce the necessity of institutional transparency, regulatory efficiency, and trade diversification to enhance Togo's global competitiveness (Keohane, 1984, p. 25).

Governance challenges emerged as a dominant theme, with corruption, transparency deficits, and institutional inefficiencies identified as structural impediments to sustainable development (Transparency International, 2023, p. 11). Lessons from Singapore's anti-corruption frameworks and Rwanda's governance accountability mechanisms offer actionable pathways for reinforcing institutional integrity (Quah, 2010, p. 34). Additionally, the study underscores the importance of digital transformation, leveraging Estonia's e-governance model as a potential adaptation strategy to enhance administrative efficiency and regulatory oversight (Jha, 2025, p. 21).

From an economic perspective, the findings reveal that financial constraints, skill shortages, and political instability hinder the successful implementation of economic reforms (IMF, 2023, p. 22). Togo's industrial development, particularly within the Adétikopé Industrial Platform (PIA), presents significant potential for economic diversification through public-private partnerships (PPPs) (OECD, 2022, p. 18). However, comparative assessments with Malaysia and Djibouti indicate that sectoral expansion and infrastructure optimization are crucial to maximizing industrial productivity and trade integration (Henderson, 2003, p. 29).

The study also examined youth employment challenges, identifying structural deficits in job availability, vocational training, and education-market alignment (World Economic Forum, 2022, p. 17). Finland's education-led innovation model presents viable solutions for strengthening workforce adaptability, emphasizing research-driven skills development and STEM education integration (Sahlberg, 2011, p. 44).

Geopolitical shifts within ECOWAS, AES, and AfCFTA constitute an evolving challenge for Togo's regional economic diplomacy. The withdrawal of Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger from ECOWAS has disrupted trade patterns, necessitating strategic realignments to maintain economic stability and trade competitiveness (Aboagye, 2025, p. 31). At the same time, AfCFTA's expansion offers new opportunities for market access, reinforcing the importance of trade facilitation policies (UNECA, 2021, p. 22).

Finally, the analysis of Togo's foreign policy formulation highlights the intricate balance between diplomatic engagement, security imperatives, and economic alliances (Keohane, 1984, p. 21). While non-alignment strategies offer flexibility in global partnerships, economic dependencies require proactive diversification initiatives to mitigate external vulnerabilities (Loada & Romaniuk, 2020, p. 27).

In sum, the results presented in this chapter reflect the dynamic interplay between governance, economic transformation, trade infrastructure, and geopolitical strategies in shaping Togo's development trajectory. While substantial challenges remain, the nation possesses critical assets, its strategic location, industrial potential, and trade networks, that can be leveraged to strengthen its position in regional and global markets. The subsequent chapter, Discussions and Recommendations, will expand upon these findings, proposing strategic frameworks to optimize policy interventions and enhance economic resilience.

By synthesizing empirical data with comparative global models, this study lays the groundwork for informed policymaking, ensuring that Togo can harness its strengths while mitigating institutional vulnerabilities. As the nation navigates complex economic and geopolitical realities, it must strategically align governance reforms, trade expansion, and industrial diversification to establish a sustainable and competitive developmental paradigm.

CHAPTER 6: DISCUSSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter provides a critical interpretation of the study's findings, situating them within relevant theoretical frameworks while addressing the central research problem of how Togo can leverage its comparative advantages and mitigate its weaknesses to achieve sustainable development in the current geopolitical context. The study's objectives focused on assessing Togo's strengths and

weaknesses, evaluating existing policies, and proposing institutional reforms and strategic partnerships to optimize governance and trade competitiveness.

To achieve these objectives, the research examined three key questions: the role of geographical advantages in trade and logistics, the impact of political stability on foreign investment, and the institutional reforms needed for national growth. The study tested hypotheses affirming that Togo's strategic location enhances economic opportunities, governance predictability strengthens investor confidence, and institutional reforms improve transparency and diversify investment sources.

Methodologically, a mixed approach combining qualitative thematic analysis with NVivo and quantitative regression modeling provided a comprehensive evaluation of governance dynamics. Data from government reports, stakeholder interviews, and comparative case studies ensured empirical depth.

This chapter interprets the findings in relation to global economic theories, identifying both alignments and divergences. It discusses policy implications for governance, trade, and investment, followed by concrete, actionable recommendations tailored to national development needs. By critically engaging with the results, this chapter builds a foundation for informed policy-making and future research on economic resilience and governance strategy.

6.1 In-depth Interpretation of Results in Relation to Theoretical Frameworks

A thorough analysis of the study's results reveals both alignment with foundational economic and governance theories and contrasts with global development models. By situating Togo's institutional and economic challenges within a broader academic discourse, this comparative approach validates key theoretical perspectives while highlighting the unique contextual factors shaping the nation's developmental trajectory. The juxtaposition of Togo's experience against international best practices provides a nuanced lens for evaluating the efficacy of governance frameworks, economic diversification strategies, and investment policies, offering policymakers a data-driven foundation for strategic decision-making.

6.1.1 Connecting Findings to Existing Theories

The findings of this study align closely with several key economic development theories, particularly those emphasizing industrial modernization, comparative advantage, and trade expansion strategies. By examining Togo's economic trajectory in light of these frameworks, it becomes possible to determine whether the country is following established growth models or diverging due to unique geopolitical and structural constraints.

6.1.1.1 Connecting Findings to Lin's Industrial Modernization Approach

- **Align with economic development models**

The findings indicate that Togo's strategic geographical location and deep-water port infrastructure provide a strong foundation for trade expansion and regional integration, supporting Lin's industrial modernization approach, which emphasizes leveraging existing comparative advantages while transitioning toward higher-value industrial activities (Lin, 2012, p. 57). Investments in port expansion, multimodal transport systems, and digitalized customs procedures align with Lin's framework, advocating targeted infrastructure improvements to support industrial growth and trade efficiency (World Bank, 2023, p. 27; AfDB, 2020, p. 18). These efforts demonstrate how infrastructure modernization can foster economic transformation and regional competitiveness.

- **Implications for comparative advantage theories and trade expansion strategies**

The findings also align with Ricardo's theory of comparative advantage, which posits that countries should specialize in areas where they hold natural advantages to maximize economic efficiency (Ricardo, 1817, p. 112). Togo's ability to leverage its deep-water port and proximity to landlocked countries such as Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali supports this theory, enabling the country to serve as a critical transit hub for regional trade. Integration of logistics parks, warehousing facilities, and streamlined trade processes further enhances Togo's competitiveness, optimizing comparative advantage through strategic investments and policy alignment (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).

- **Challenging or supporting global economic principles**

Moreover, the findings challenge global economic principles by highlighting the unique constraints faced by developing economies like Togo. While Lin's approach emphasizes industrial modernization, Togo's economic trajectory is hindered by limited financial resources, inadequate technical skills, and governance inefficiencies, complicating the implementation of large-scale industrial projects (Transparency International, 2022, p. 11; World Bank, 2023, p. 45). These challenges underscore the need for adaptive strategies, such as public-private partnerships (PPPs) and international collaborations, to mobilize resources and expertise for sustainable development (OECD, 2020, p. 15).

The findings also support Rodrik's argument that second-best institutions can play a pivotal role in fostering economic growth when ideal governance structures are unattainable (Rodrik, 2008, p. 100). Togo's efforts to implement digital governance platforms and streamline administrative processes demonstrate how incremental reforms can enhance institutional efficiency and attract foreign investments, even in the absence of comprehensive governance overhauls (World Bank, 2023, p. 28). These initiatives align with global best practices, such as Singapore's e-governance

model, which has successfully reduced bureaucratic inefficiencies and fostered investor confidence (Quah, 2017, p. 92).

In addition, the findings suggest that Togo's economic trajectory supports global economic principles by demonstrating how targeted investments in logistics infrastructure and trade facilitation can enhance regional competitiveness and attract foreign direct investment (FDI). For instance, the projected increase in FDI inflows from $150 million in 2020 to $250 million in 2023 highlights the positive impact of improved trade policies and infrastructure on investor confidence (UNCTAD, 2023, p.45). This aligns with Sachs' sustainable development model, which advocates for integrating economic growth strategies with infrastructure expansion to achieve long-term resilience (Sachs, 2015, p. 78).

Finally, the findings challenge traditional dependency theory by illustrating how Togo can leverage its geographical advantages and regional trade agreements, such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), to reduce reliance on external markets and foster intra-African trade (UNECA, 2017, p. 62). This shift toward regional integration and economic diversification supports Rodrik's argument that globalization must be complemented by localized strategies to ensure equitable growth (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).

6.1.1.2 Connecting Findings to David Ricardo's theory of comparative advantage

- **Alignment with economic development models**

The findings indicate that Togo's strategic geographical location and deep-water port infrastructure align with David Ricardo's theory of comparative advantage, which emphasizes specialization in areas where a country holds natural advantages to maximize economic efficiency (Ricardo, 1817, p. 112). Togo's ability to serve as a transit hub for landlocked countries such as Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali demonstrates how leveraging geographical strengths can optimize trade connectivity and reduce transportation costs. Investments in port modernization, multimodal transport systems, and streamlined customs procedures further enhance Togo's comparative advantage, positioning it as a critical player in regional trade facilitation (World Bank, 2023, p. 27; AfDB, 2020, p. 18).

- **Implications for comparative advantage theories and trade expansion strategies**

The findings also align with Lin's industrial modernization approach, which advocates leveraging existing comparative advantages while transitioning toward higher-value industrial activities (Lin, 2012, p. 57). Togo's efforts to develop the Plateforme Industrielle d'Adétikopé (PIA) reflect this principle, as the industrial zone focuses on agro-industrial processing and textiles, sectors that capitalize on Togo's agricultural resources and labor availability. By integrating logistics

infrastructure with industrial development, Togo demonstrates how targeted investments can foster economic transformation and regional competitiveness (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).

The findings further illustrate the implications of comparative advantage theories for trade expansion strategies. Togo's integration into regional trade agreements, such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), expands market access and strengthens its position as a logistics hub, demonstrating how trade specialization fosters economic interdependence and growth (UNECA, 2017, p. 62). By aligning its trade policies with regional frameworks, Togo leverages its comparative advantage to enhance intra-African trade and reduce reliance on external markets, supporting Rodrik's argument that globalization must be complemented by localized strategies to ensure equitable growth (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).

- **Challenging or supporting global economic principles**

While Ricardo's theory emphasizes specialization, Togo's limited financial resources, inadequate technical skills, and governance inefficiencies complicate the implementation of large-scale industrial projects (Transparency International, 2022, p. 11; World Bank, 2023, p. 45). These challenges underscore the need for adaptive strategies, such as public-private partnerships (PPPs) and international collaborations, to mobilize resources and expertise for sustainable development (OECD, 2020, p. 15).

Finally, the findings indicate that Togo's economic trajectory supports global economic principles by demonstrating how targeted investments in logistics infrastructure and trade facilitation can enhance regional competitiveness and attract foreign direct investment. However, the challenges faced by Togo highlight the importance of integrating comparative advantage theories with adaptive strategies to address structural constraints and ensure sustainable development. By leveraging its geographical strengths and aligning its policies with global best practices, Togo can position itself as a dynamic player in regional and global markets.

6.1.1.3 Connecting Findings to Krugman's New Trade Theory

- **Alignment with economic development models**

The findings indicate that Togo's strategic investments in logistics infrastructure and regional trade facilitation align with Krugman's New Trade Theory, which emphasizes the role of economies of scale and network effects in fostering competitive advantages in international trade (Krugman, 1980, p. 67). Togo's development of the Port of Lomé as a deep-water hub capable of accommodating large-scale commercial vessels demonstrates how infrastructure investments can create agglomeration economies, attracting regional and international trade flows (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). By serving as a gateway for landlocked countries such as Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali, Togo leverages its geographical positioning to establish itself as a critical node in West

African trade networks, supporting Krugman's assertion that trade patterns are influenced by strategic location and infrastructure (Krugman, 1980, p. 68).

- **Implications for comparative advantage theories and trade expansion strategies**

The findings also align with economic development models, such as Lin's industrial modernization approach, which advocates leveraging existing comparative advantages while transitioning toward higher-value industrial activities (Lin, 2012, p. 57). Togo's Plateforme Industrielle d'Adétikopé (PIA) exemplifies this principle by integrating agro-industrial processing and textiles into its economic strategy, capitalizing on the country's agricultural resources and labor availability. By integrating industrial zones with logistics infrastructure, Togo demonstrates how economies of scale can be achieved through targeted investments, fostering regional competitiveness and economic transformation (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).

The findings further illustrate the implications of comparative advantage theories and trade expansion strategies**.** Togo's integration into regional trade agreements, such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), expands market access and strengthens its position as a logistics hub, demonstrating how economies of scale and trade specialization foster economic interdependence and growth (UNECA, 2017, p. 62). By aligning its trade policies with regional frameworks, Togo leverages its comparative advantage to enhance intra-African trade and reduce reliance on external markets, supporting Krugman's assertion that trade networks and scale economies are critical for sustained competitiveness (Krugman, 1980, p. 67).

- **Challenging or supporting global economic principles**

The findings also challenge global economic principles by highlighting the constraints faced by developing economies like Togo. While Krugman's theory emphasizes the benefits of scale economies, Togo's limited financial resources, inadequate technical skills, and governance inefficiencies complicate the implementation of large-scale industrial projects (Transparency International, 2022, p. 11; World Bank, 2023, p. 45). These challenges underscore the need for adaptive strategies, such as public-private partnerships (PPPs) and international collaborations, to mobilize resources and expertise for sustainable development (OECD, 2020, p. 15).

Finally, the findings indicate that Togo's economic trajectory supports global economic principles by demonstrating how targeted investments in logistics infrastructure and trade facilitation can enhance regional competitiveness and attract foreign direct investment. However, the challenges faced by Togo highlight the importance of integrating Krugman's New Trade Theory with adaptive strategies to address structural constraints and ensure sustainable development. By leveraging its geographical strengths, economies of scale, and aligning its policies with global best practices, Togo can position itself as a dynamic player in regional and global markets.

6.1.1.4 Connecting Findings to Institutional Theory (North, 1990; p. 55)

- **Alignment with economic development models**

The findings indicate that Togo's efforts to strengthen governance structures and institutional frameworks align with Institutional Theory, which emphasizes the role of institutions in reducing transaction costs, fostering cooperation, and creating a stable environment for economic activities (North, 1990, p. 55). Togo's adoption of anti-corruption measures, judicial reforms, and digital governance initiatives demonstrates how institutional modernization can enhance transparency and accountability, thereby improving investor confidence and economic resilience (Transparency International, 2022, p. 11; World Bank, 2023, p. 45). For instance, the establishment of specialized commercial courts and the digitization of public services reflect North's assertion that effective institutions are critical for reducing uncertainty and facilitating economic transactions (North, 1990, p. 56).

The findings indicate that Togo's economic strategies align with economic development models, such as Lin's industrial modernization approach, which advocates for institutional reforms as a prerequisite for economic transformation (Lin, 2012, p. 57). Togo's focus on strengthening institutional capacity through public-private partnerships (PPPs) and international collaborations highlights the importance of governance efficiency in driving industrial growth and trade expansion. Initiatives like the Plateforme Industrielle d'Adétikopé (PIA), which integrates agro-industrial processing and textiles into its economic strategy, exemplify how institutional reforms can facilitate investment and streamline regulatory processes, enabling economies of scale and fostering regional competitiveness (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).

- **Implications for comparative advantage theories and trade expansion strategies**

Togo's strategic location and deep-water port infrastructure provide a natural comparative advantage, but institutional inefficiencies, such as bureaucratic delays and inconsistent trade policies, limit the country's ability to fully capitalize on these strengths (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). Togo's integration into regional trade agreements, such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), highlights the importance of institutional frameworks in facilitating trade and reducing barriers. By improving customs procedures and harmonizing trade regulations, Togo leverages its comparative advantage in logistics and geographical positioning to enhance intra-African trade and attract foreign direct investment (UNECA, 2017, p. 62). These efforts align with North's theory, which underscores the role of institutions in reducing uncertainty and enabling efficient economic transactions (North, 1990, p. 57).

- **Challenging or supporting global economic principles**

While Institutional Theory emphasizes the transformative role of institutions, Togo's limited financial resources, inadequate technical skills, and persistent corruption complicate the

implementation of institutional reforms (Transparency International, 2022, p. 11; World Bank, 2023, p. 45). These challenges underscore the need for adaptive strategies, such as capacity-building initiatives, public-private partnerships (PPPs), and international collaborations, to strengthen institutional performance and ensure sustainable development (OECD, 2020, p. 15). However, Togo's economic trajectory also supports global economic principles by demonstrating how institutional reforms can enhance governance efficiency, reduce transaction costs, and attract investment. By leveraging its geographical strengths, aligning its policies with global best practices, and fostering regional cooperation, Togo can position itself as a dynamic player in regional and global markets.

6.1.1.5 Connecting Findings to Dependency Theory (Frank, 1967, p. 18)

- **Alignment with economic development models**

The findings indicate that Togo's reliance on primary commodity exports, such as phosphates, cotton, and coffee, aligns with Dependency Theory, which posits that developing nations often remain trapped in a cycle of dependency on raw material exports while importing high-value manufactured goods from developed economies (Frank, 1967, p. 18). This structural imbalance reinforces economic vulnerability and limits opportunities for industrial diversification. For example, Togo's trade balance data consistently shows deficits, reflecting the challenges of relying on low-value exports while importing high-cost industrial goods (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). Dependency Theory highlights the need for structural reforms to break this cycle, and Togo's efforts to develop agro-processing industries and manufacturing zones, such as the Plateforme Industrielle d'Adétikopé (PIA), represent initial steps toward reducing dependency and increasing economic resilience (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).

The findings align with economic development models, such as Lin's industrial modernization approach, which advocates leveraging comparative advantages while transitioning toward higher-value industrial activities (Lin, 2012, p. 57). Togo's focus on agro-industrial processing and textiles demonstrates an attempt to move beyond raw material exports and create value-added industries. For instance, the Plateforme Industrielle d'Adétikopé (PIA) integrates agro-industrial processing and textiles into its economic strategy, supported by foreign investments and public-private partnerships (PPPs) (Transparency International, 2022, p. 11). However, the country's limited access to technology, capital, and skilled labor highlights the structural constraints emphasized by Dependency Theory, which argues that external dependencies often hinder the ability of developing nations to achieve economic autonomy (Frank, 1967, p. 19).

- **Implications for comparative advantage theories and trade expansion strategies**

The findings illustrate the implications of comparative advantage theories and trade expansion strategies. Togo's strategic location and deep-water port infrastructure provide a natural

comparative advantage, enabling the country to serve as a logistics hub for regional trade (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). However, the reliance on external actors to finance and manage port modernization projects, such as the Port of Lomé, underscores the challenges of dependency in fully capitalizing on these advantages. Togo's integration into regional trade agreements, such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), demonstrates its efforts to expand trade networks and reduce reliance on external markets (UNECA, 2017, p. 62). Nevertheless, the country's limited industrial capacity and dependence on raw material exports constrain its ability to fully benefit from trade expansion strategies. These findings align with Dependency Theory's critique of comparative advantage, which argues that developing nations often remain locked into low-value economic activities, perpetuating unequal trade relationships (Frank, 1967, p. 21).

- **Examining Whether Togo's Economic Trajectory Challenges or Supports Global Economic Principles**

The findings indicate that Togo's economic trajectory both challenges and supports global economic principles. On one hand, Togo's reliance on foreign direct investment (FDI), international aid, and external funding challenges the principle of economic autonomy, as the country's development initiatives are often shaped by external priorities and conditions (Transparency International, 2022, p. 11). This dynamic reflects Dependency Theory's assertion that structural inequalities in the global economic system limit the ability of developing nations to achieve self-sufficiency (Frank, 1967, p. 22). On the other hand, Togo's efforts to integrate into regional trade frameworks, diversify its economy, and invest in industrial modernization demonstrate a commitment to reducing dependency and achieving greater economic autonomy. These initiatives align with global economic principles that emphasize the importance of trade liberalization, industrial diversification, and regional integration in fostering sustainable development (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91). By leveraging its geographical strengths, fostering intra-African trade, and reducing reliance on external markets, Togo can position itself as a resilient and competitive player in the global economy.

6.1.1.6 Connecting Findings to Modernization Theory (Rostow, 1960, p. 72)

- **Alignment with economic development models**

The findings indicate that Togo's economic development trajectory aligns with Modernization Theory, which posits that nations progress through distinct stages of economic growth, transitioning from traditional subsistence economies to modern industrialized societies through technological advancement, capital investment, and institutional reforms (Rostow, 1960, p. 72). Togo's efforts to modernize its infrastructure, diversify its economy, and strengthen governance structures reflect its movement toward the "preconditions for take-off" and "take-off" stages of development. For instance, initiatives such as the Plateforme Industrielle d'Adétikopé (PIA) and the National Development Plan (PND 2018–2022) prioritize industrialization, agricultural

modernization, and infrastructure development, which are essential components of Rostow's framework for economic transformation (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). However, challenges such as limited access to capital, inadequate technical expertise, and persistent governance inefficiencies highlight the barriers to achieving sustained growth and transitioning to the "drive to maturity" stage (Rostow, 1960, p. 73).

The findings indicate that Togo's economic development trajectory aligns with economic development models that emphasize industrialization and infrastructure development as catalysts for economic growth. For example, Lin's New Structural Economics advocates leveraging comparative advantages while transitioning toward higher-value industrial activities (Lin, 2012, p. 57). Togo's focus on agro-industrial processing and textiles through the PIA exemplifies this approach, as the country seeks to add value to its agricultural products and diversify its economy. Similarly, the establishment of special economic zones (SEZs) and investments in transport infrastructure, energy expansion, and digital transformation align with Rostow's emphasis on capital investment and technological advancement as prerequisites for economic modernization (Rostow, 1960, p. 74). However, the findings also highlight the need for greater institutional capacity and human capital development to sustain these initiatives and ensure long-term economic resilience (World Bank, 2023, p. 45).

- **Implications for comparative advantage theories and trade expansion strategies**

The findings indicate that Togo's strategic location along the Gulf of Guinea and its deep-water port infrastructure provide a natural comparative advantage, enabling the country to serve as a logistics hub for regional trade (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). However, the reliance on primary commodity exports, such as phosphates and cotton, limits the country's ability to fully capitalize on its comparative advantages and achieve higher-value economic activities (UNECA, 2017, p. 62). Modernization Theory suggests that transitioning to the "drive to maturity" stage requires diversification into manufacturing and technology-driven sectors, which Togo is attempting through initiatives like the PIA and investments in renewable energy projects (Rostow, 1960, p. 75). Additionally, Togo's integration into regional trade agreements, such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), highlights the importance of institutional reforms and policy harmonization in facilitating trade expansion and reducing barriers (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91). These efforts align with comparative advantage theories, which emphasize the role of trade liberalization and regional cooperation in fostering economic growth.

- **Examining Whether Togo's Economic Trajectory Challenges or Supports Global Economic Principles**

The findings indicate that Togo's economic trajectory both challenges and supports global economic principles. On one hand, Togo's reliance on external funding, foreign direct investment (FDI), and international aid challenges the principle of economic autonomy, as the country's

development initiatives are often shaped by external priorities and conditions (Transparency International, 2022, p. 11). This dynamic reflects the limitations of Modernization Theory, which assumes a linear progression of development without accounting for structural dependencies and global inequalities (Rostow, 1960, p. 76). On the other hand, Togo's efforts to diversify its economy, invest in infrastructure, and integrate into regional trade frameworks demonstrate a commitment to achieving sustainable development and reducing dependency on external markets. These initiatives align with global economic principles that emphasize the importance of trade liberalization, industrial diversification, and regional integration in fostering economic resilience (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91). By leveraging its geographical strengths, fostering intra-African trade, and investing in human capital development, Togo can position itself as a competitive and resilient player in the global economy.

6.1.1.7 Connecting Findings to Public Choice Theory (Buchanan, 1975, p. 23)

- **Alignment with economic development models**

The findings indicate that governance inefficiencies and corruption in Togo align with Public Choice Theory, which posits that self-interest-driven behavior among public officials often leads to rent-seeking and resource misallocation, undermining economic development (Buchanan, 1975, p. 23). For instance, administrative bottlenecks and unclear regulatory frameworks discourage private sector participation and foreign investment (Appendix B, Line 15). Transparency International (2022, p. 11) highlights how corruption distorts policy implementation and reduces the effectiveness of institutional reforms aimed at fostering economic growth. Togo's efforts to establish anti-corruption agencies, digitize public services, and streamline administrative processes, as outlined in the Government Roadmap 2020–2025, reflect initial steps toward addressing these challenges (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). However, stronger enforcement mechanisms and greater transparency are required to fully align governance practices with developmental goals and mitigate rent-seeking behavior (Buchanan, 1975, p. 24).

The findings indicate that Togo's economic development trajectory aligns with models emphasizing institutional efficiency and governance reforms as prerequisites for sustainable growth. For example, Rodrik's framework for second-best institutions highlights the importance of adapting governance structures to local contexts to maximize economic outcomes (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91). Togo's initiatives to digitize administrative processes, simplify business registration, and establish specialized commercial courts align with this approach, as they aim to reduce bureaucratic inefficiencies and create a conducive environment for investment (Appendix B, Line 19). Similarly, Lin's New Structural Economics underscores the role of institutional capacity in facilitating industrial modernization and economic diversification (Lin, 2012, p. 57). Togo's focus on developing special economic zones (SEZs) and fostering public-private partnerships (PPPs) demonstrates its commitment to leveraging institutional reforms to support economic development. However, the findings also highlight the need for stronger anti-corruption measures

and greater accountability to ensure that public resources are used effectively and equitably (Transparency International, 2022, p. 11).

- **Implications for comparative advantage theories and trade expansion strategies**

The findings indicate that Togo's strategic location and deep-water port infrastructure provide a natural comparative advantage, enabling the country to serve as a logistics hub for regional trade (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). However, inefficiencies in customs procedures and logistical operations, as highlighted by UNECA (2017, p. 62), limit the country's ability to fully capitalize on these advantages. Public Choice Theory suggests that rent-seeking behavior and lack of accountability within public institutions increase transaction costs and reduce trade competitiveness (Buchanan, 1975, p. 26). To address these challenges, Togo has implemented trade facilitation measures, such as digitizing customs processes and harmonizing trade regulations within the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) framework (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91). These efforts align with comparative advantage theories, which emphasize the role of trade liberalization and regional cooperation in fostering economic growth. However, further institutional reforms are needed to reduce rent-seeking behavior and ensure that trade expansion strategies yield equitable and sustainable outcomes (World Bank, 2023, p. 45).

- **Challenging or supporting global economic principles**

Examining Whether Togo's Economic Trajectory Challenges or Supports Global Economic Principles: The findings indicate that Togo's economic trajectory both challenges and supports global economic principles. On one hand, the persistence of corruption and governance inefficiencies challenges the principle of institutional accountability, which is central to global economic frameworks that prioritize transparency and equitable resource allocation (Transparency International, 2022, p. 11). Public Choice Theory highlights that self-interest-driven behavior among public officials can distort policy implementation and reduce the effectiveness of development initiatives (Buchanan, 1975, p. 23). On the other hand, Togo's efforts to integrate into regional trade frameworks, diversify its economy, and invest in infrastructure demonstrate a commitment to aligning its development strategies with global economic principles that emphasize trade liberalization, industrial diversification, and regional integration (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91). By leveraging its geographical strengths, fostering intra-African trade, and implementing governance reforms, Togo can position itself as a competitive and resilient player in the global economy. However, addressing governance inefficiencies and reducing rent-seeking behavior are critical to ensuring that Togo's economic trajectory fully supports global economic principles and achieves sustainable development outcomes (World Bank, 2023, p. 45).

6.2 Addressing Research Questions with Empirical Insights

The research addresses several key questions that are critical to understanding how Togo can leverage its comparative advantages and address its weaknesses to achieve robust national development in the current geopolitical context. By examining these questions, the study aims to identify effective strategies and necessary reforms to enhance Togo's economic and political resilience.

6.2.1. How can Togo leverage its geographical advantages for trade and logistics to enhance economic growth?

Togo's strategic location on the Gulf of Guinea provides significant opportunities for trade and logistics. The Port of Lomé, Togo's deep-water port, is a critical asset for regional and international trade, serving as a gateway for landlocked countries such as Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali. Its natural depth allows it to accommodate large vessels without requiring dredging, making it a competitive logistics hub in West Africa (World Bank, 2023, p.45). However, inefficiencies in customs procedures, limited warehousing facilities, and inadequate transport networks hinder its operational efficiency and reduce its ability to fully capitalize on its geographical advantages (UNECA, 2017, p. 62). Qualitative interviews revealed stakeholder concerns about logistical bottlenecks and inconsistent trade regulations. For example, one trade analyst stated, "Togo's customs procedures lack uniformity, and businesses struggle with delays at border crossings, increasing transaction costs" (Appendix B, Line 7). Quantitative data further supports these findings, showing that container traffic at the port increased by 20% between 2018 and 2023, but trade costs remain higher compared to regional competitors like Ghana's Tema Port (World Bank, 2023, p. 50).

6.2.1.1 Comparative Analysis with Djibouti and Singapore

Djibouti: Djibouti's success as a logistics hub is attributed to its strategic location at the crossroads of global shipping routes and its integration into China's Belt and Road Initiative. The Port of Djibouti has undergone significant modernization through public-private partnerships (PPPs), including automated customs systems and advanced transshipment facilities, which have reduced cargo handling times and increased trade volumes (Oxford Business Group, 2023, p. 88; Lloyd, 2020, p. 44). Djibouti's focus on regional connectivity through rail and road networks strengthens its role as a gateway for East African trade, particularly for landlocked countries such as Ethiopia. Quantitative data shows that its port handles over 90% of Ethiopia's trade, with cargo processing times reduced by 30% due to automated systems (Oxford Business Group, 2023, p. 90). A trade analyst noted, "Djibouti's ability to integrate its port operations with regional transport networks has been key to its success. Togo could benefit from similar investments in rail and road infrastructure" (Appendix B, Line 8).

Singapore: Singapore's transformation into a global logistics hub is rooted in strategic investments in port infrastructure, free trade agreements, and integrated supply chain systems. The Port of Singapore leverages cutting-edge technologies such as blockchain-enabled trade documentation and AI-driven cargo management to optimize operations and reduce costs (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91; Tan, 2020, p. 18). Singapore's establishment of special economic zones (SEZs) around its port has attracted foreign direct investment (FDI) and fostered industrial growth, creating seamless integration between logistics and manufacturing (Low, 2001, p. 19). Quantitative data shows that its port processes over 36 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) annually, with an average cargo handling time of less than 24 hours (Tan, 2020, p. 20). A government official stated, "Singapore's focus on digitalization and SEZs is a model Togo should consider to enhance the economic impact of the Port of Lomé" (Appendix B, Line 19).

6.2.1.2 Theoretical Implications

- **How do the findings contribute to answering the research questions?**

The findings directly address the research question of how Togo can leverage its geographical advantages for trade and logistics to enhance economic growth. By identifying the strengths of the Port of Lomé and the challenges in customs efficiency and transport networks, the study provides actionable insights into the infrastructural and policy improvements needed to maximize Togo's comparative advantage. The qualitative interviews highlight stakeholder concerns about logistical bottlenecks, while quantitative data on trade volumes underscores the need for modernization. Comparative analysis with Djibouti and Singapore offers best practices, such as adopting automated customs systems, investing in transport corridors, and creating SEZs, which Togo can implement to enhance port efficiency and regional integration.

- **How do the results compare to prior studies?**

The results align with prior studies emphasizing the role of port infrastructure in driving regional economic integration and trade competitiveness. For instance, UNECA (2017, p. 62) highlights that efficient port operations are critical for reducing trade costs and enhancing connectivity for landlocked countries. Similarly, Lloyd (2020, p. 44) underscores the importance of PPPs in modernizing port facilities and improving operational efficiency, as demonstrated by Djibouti's success. The findings also resonate with Tan (2020, p. 18), who emphasizes the transformative impact of digital technologies and SEZs in optimizing logistics operations, as seen in Singapore. However, the study adds to the existing literature by providing a focused analysis of Togo's unique geographical advantages and the specific challenges it faces in leveraging these strengths for economic growth.

- **If there are divergences, what factors may account for them?**

Divergences between Togo's port efficiency and the success of Djibouti and Singapore can be attributed to several factors:

- Investment Levels: Djibouti and Singapore have benefited from substantial investments in port infrastructure and logistics systems, often supported by PPPs and international partnerships. In contrast, Togo's investment levels remain relatively low, limiting its ability to modernize its port operations (Oxford Business Group, 2023, p. 88).

- Technological Adoption: Singapore's use of advanced technologies such as blockchain and AI has optimized its logistics operations, while Togo has yet to fully embrace digital solutions for customs and cargo management (Tan, 2020, p. 18).

- Policy Coordination: Djibouti's integration into regional transport networks has been facilitated by strong policy coordination with neighboring countries, whereas Togo faces challenges in harmonizing trade regulations within ECOWAS and AfCFTA (UNECA, 2017, p. 62).

- Geopolitical Context: Singapore's strategic location in Southeast Asia provides access to high-volume global trade routes, while Togo's regional trade potential is constrained by political instability in neighboring countries (World Bank, 2023, p. 45).

❖ **What is the broader significance of these findings within the field?**

The broader significance of these findings lies in their contribution to the understanding of how strategic geographical positioning and port infrastructure can drive regional economic integration and global trade competitiveness. By highlighting the challenges and opportunities associated with Togo's Port of Lomé, the study provides a framework for policymakers to design targeted interventions that enhance logistics efficiency and trade facilitation. The comparative analysis with Djibouti and Singapore offers valuable lessons for other developing countries seeking to leverage their geographical advantages for economic growth. Additionally, the findings underscore the importance of aligning logistics strategies with sustainability goals, contributing to the growing discourse on eco-friendly trade practices and infrastructure development.

The findings provide direct empirical evidence addressing the research question on how Togo can harness its geographical advantages for trade and logistics to enhance economic growth. The study identifies the strengths and inefficiencies of the Port of Lomé, coupled with best practices from Djibouti and Singapore, offering actionable policy recommendations such as digital customs systems, infrastructure investments, and SEZ development.

In conclusion, this section has demonstrated that geographical advantages alone are insufficient without strong policy frameworks and infrastructure investments. By prioritizing digital customs

integration, developing transport corridors, and implementing SEZ-driven trade policies, Togo can optimize the Port of Lomé's potential and solidify its role as a regional economic hub.

Comparative insights from Djibouti and Singapore reaffirm the necessity of strategic public-private partnerships and technological adoption, underscoring Togo's need to align its logistics policies with emerging global trends.

6.2.2. What impact does political stability have on attracting foreign investments in Togo?

Political stability is a critical determinant of foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows, as it fosters investor confidence, reduces risk perception, and ensures predictable governance frameworks. Quantitative data reveals a positive correlation between political stability and FDI inflows, with governance transparency accounting for a significant portion of the variance in investment decisions. For example, Togo's FDI inflows increased from $350 million in 2018 to $600 million in 2022, correlating with improvements in governance predictability and institutional reforms. However, persistent challenges, including corruption, bureaucratic inefficiencies, and judicial inconsistencies, hinder the full realization of Togo's investment potential. Stakeholders emphasize that judicial independence, regulatory consistency, and transparent policymaking are paramount in fostering investor confidence, with one industry expert noting, *"Uncertain legal frameworks discourage long-term investment commitments, particularly in infrastructure and manufacturing sectors"* (Appendix B, Line 14).

Empirical findings indicate that institutional weaknesses lead to volatility in investment patterns, with inconsistent policies creating barriers to sustained economic engagement.

6.2.2.1 Case Studies on Rwanda and Ghana's Stability-Driven Investment Frameworks

Case Studies on Rwanda and Ghana's Stability-Driven Investment Frameworks

- **Rwanda: Post-Conflict Governance Transformation**

Rwanda's transition from post-conflict recovery to a leading investment destination is emblematic of how political stability, governance transparency, and anti-corruption measures influence FDI growth. Key institutional mechanisms contributing to Rwanda's success include:

- The Rwanda Development Board (RDB), which streamlines investment processes.
- Digital governance initiatives, such as the Ifate app, reinforcing accountability and regulatory oversight.
- Judicial independence and contract enforcement, cited as critical factors in securing investor trust (MINIJUST, 2019, p. 10).

Rwanda attracted $1.8 billion in FDI in 2022, with transparency reforms establishing a reliable business climate that minimizes risk perception (Transparency International, 2023, p. 22).

Rwanda's post-conflict transformation into a stable and investment-friendly economy highlights the importance of governance transparency and anti-corruption measures. The establishment of the Rwanda Development Board (RDB) streamlined investment processes, while digital governance tools like the Ifate app enhanced accountability. Rwanda attracted $1.8 billion in FDI in 2022, with judicial independence and contract enforcement cited as key factors.

- **Ghana: Democracy and Business-Friendly Policies**

Ghana's stable democratic governance and investment-oriented policy frameworks have positioned it as one of West Africa's most attractive destinations for FDI. Key drivers of Ghana's investment landscape include:

- Consistent policy direction, ensuring investor security in long-term engagements.
- Fiscal discipline and anti-corruption measures, such as the Special Prosecutor's Office, reducing financial risks.
- Digital economy initiatives, including the Ghana Digital Roadmap, creating new investment opportunities in technology-driven sectors (World Bank, 2023, p. 44).

Ghana attracted $3 billion in FDI in 2021, demonstrating the effectiveness of institutional reforms and governance stability in sustaining foreign capital flows.

Ghana's stable democracy and business-friendly policies have positioned it as a leading investment destination in West Africa. Ghana attracted $3 billion in FDI in 2021, driven by consistent policy direction, fiscal discipline, and anti-corruption measures such as the Special Prosecutor's Office. Digital economy initiatives like the Ghana Digital Roadmap have created new opportunities for investors in technology-driven sectors.

6.2.2.2 Theoretical Implications

- Findings Contribution: The findings demonstrate a strong positive correlation between governance predictability and FDI inflows, emphasizing the importance of stable political environments in attracting investments. Comparative case studies provide actionable lessons for Togo, such as streamlining investment processes, enhancing institutional transparency, and leveraging digital governance tools.
- Comparison to Prior Studies: The results align with prior studies emphasizing the role of political stability in driving economic growth and investment. They add to the literature

by focusing on Togo's unique challenges, such as judicial inconsistencies and bureaucratic inefficiencies.

- Divergences: Differences between Togo's investment climate and the success of Rwanda and Ghana can be attributed to factors like judicial independence, anti-corruption measures, digital governance, and policy coordination.

- Broader Significance: The findings contribute to understanding how political stability and governance predictability influence investment decisions, offering a framework for policymakers to design targeted interventions that enhance governance transparency and judicial independence. Comparative analysis with Rwanda and Ghana provides valuable lessons for other developing countries seeking to leverage political stability for economic growth.

Political stability is a critical driver of foreign investments, with governance predictability accounting for a significant portion of the variance in investment decisions. Comparative analysis with Rwanda and Ghana demonstrates the transformative impact of governance transparency and anti-corruption measures in enhancing investment climates. These insights provide a roadmap for Togo to address its political challenges and fully capitalize on its investment potential, ensuring sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

Finally, this study highlights that political stability and institutional reforms are fundamental to FDI sustainability. By enhancing judicial independence, minimizing corruption, and integrating digital governance solutions, Togo can mitigate investment risks and establish a more predictable business climate.

The comparative analysis with Rwanda and Ghana underscores the necessity of policy-driven investment strategies, demonstrating how stable governance environments facilitate long-term economic expansion.

6.2.3 What institutional reforms and strategic partnerships are needed to strengthen Togo's development prospects?

Governance efficiency is a critical factor in fostering investor confidence by reducing bureaucratic delays, ensuring regulatory clarity, and enhancing institutional transparency. Quantitative data from the study reveals a strong positive correlation ($R^2 = 0.78$, $p < 0.01$) between administrative efficiency and foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows. For example, Togo's average business registration timeline of 25 days significantly hampers investor sentiment compared to Estonia's streamlined 3-day registration process enabled by digital governance systems. Regression models predict that reducing administrative delays in Togo could increase FDI inflows by up to 25%.

Qualitative interviews further substantiate this correlation. A private sector executive in Togo stated, *"The inefficiencies in administrative processes create unnecessary delays and increase operational costs for businesses. Investors are hesitant to commit capital when they face unpredictable timelines and unclear regulations*" (Appendix B, Line 7). Another respondent emphasized, *"Investors are looking for predictability and speed in administrative processes. Without these, they hesitate to commit to long-term projects"* (Appendix B, Line 17) Stakeholders consistently pointed out that unclear legal frameworks and inconsistent application of policies deter foreign investors.

6.2.3.1Lessons from Estonia's Digital Governance Reforms

Estonia's success in implementing digital governance reforms provides valuable lessons for Togo. Estonia's e-Governance ecosystem, including digital identity systems, online business registration, and automated tax filing, has significantly reduced administrative burdens and improved institutional efficiency. The X-Road platform, a secure data exchange system, enables seamless communication between government agencies, reducing bureaucratic delays and enhancing transparency. These reforms have led to a 40% reduction in administrative costs and a 50% increase in FDI inflows over the past decade.

Estonia's e-Residency program further allows foreign entrepreneurs to establish businesses remotely, enhancing its attractiveness as an investment destination. A Togolese policymaker remarked, *"Estonia's digital governance model demonstrates how technology can transform administrative processes and attract foreign investments. Togo should prioritize similar reforms to enhance institutional efficiency and investor confidence"* (Appendix B, Line 17).

6.2.3.2 Key Features of Estonia's Digital Governance Model

- **X-Road Platform:** Enables secure and efficient data exchange between government agencies, reducing bureaucratic delays.
- **e-Residency Program:** Allows foreign entrepreneurs to establish businesses remotely, fostering international investment.
- **Automated Tax Filing:** Simplifies compliance processes, reducing administrative burdens for businesses.
- **Digital Identity Systems:** Provides citizens and businesses with secure access to government services, enhancing transparency and trust.

Interpretations Substantiated with Evidence: Quantitative evidence confirms the positive correlation between administrative efficiency and FDI inflows, with regression models predicting

a 25% increase in investments if Togo reduces bureaucratic delays. For example, reducing business registration timelines in Togo from 25 days to 10 days could increase FDI inflows by 15–20%.

Qualitative evidence highlights stakeholder concerns about inefficiencies in administrative processes. A private sector executive stated, "Investors are hesitant to commit capital when they face unpredictable timelines and unclear regulations." Another respondent emphasized the need for inter-agency coordination and regulatory clarity, stating, "Streamlining regulatory processes and improving inter-agency communication would significantly enhance investor confidence and economic performance."

Lessons from Estonia's X-Road platform and e-Residency program demonstrate the transformative impact of digital governance reforms. These initiatives have reduced administrative costs by 40% and increased FDI inflows by 50%, providing actionable insights for Togo.

6.2.3.3 Theoretical Implications

- **How do the findings contribute to answering the research questions?**

The findings demonstrate the correlation between administrative efficiency and investor confidence, emphasizing the importance of institutional reforms and strategic partnerships for Togo's development. Quantitative data shows a strong positive correlation ($R^2 = 0.78$, $p < 0.01$) between administrative efficiency and foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows, with regression models predicting a 25% increase in FDI if Togo reduces bureaucratic delays (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). Lessons from Estonia's digital governance reforms, such as the X-Road platform and e-Residency program, provide actionable insights for Togo, including implementing secure data exchange systems and enabling remote business registration (Drechsler, 2020, p. 45).

- **How do the results compare to prior studies?**

The results align with prior studies that emphasize the role of administrative efficiency in driving economic growth and investment. Kaufmann and Kraay (2019, p. 47) highlight the importance of transparent governance frameworks for attracting FDI, while Drechsler (2020, p. 45) underscores the transformative impact of digital governance systems in reducing bureaucratic delays and enhancing institutional transparency. The findings add to the literature by focusing on Togo's unique challenges, such as limited access to digital services in rural areas and inconsistent enforcement of regulations.

- **If there are divergences, what factors may account for them?**

Divergences between Togo's administrative efficiency and Estonia's success in digital governance can be attributed to:

- **Technological Infrastructure:** Estonia's advanced digital infrastructure, including the X-Road platform, facilitates seamless communication between government agencies, while Togo lacks the technological capacity to implement similar systems (Drechsler, 2020, p. 47).

- **Policy Commitment:** Estonia's government has demonstrated strong political will to prioritize digital governance reforms, whereas Togo faces challenges in aligning policy objectives with implementation strategies (World Bank, 2023, p. 45).

- **Resource Allocation:** Estonia's reforms have been supported by substantial investments in technology and capacity building, while Togo's limited financial resources constrain its ability to undertake large-scale institutional changes (OECD, 2022, p. 88).

- **Cultural and Institutional Context:** Estonia's small population and centralized governance structure have facilitated the adoption of digital systems, whereas Togo's diverse socio-political landscape presents additional challenges (Drechsler, 2020, p. 49).

❖ **What is the broader significance of these findings within the field?**

The findings contribute to understanding how institutional reforms and digital governance systems can enhance administrative efficiency and attract foreign investments. By highlighting the correlation between administrative efficiency and investor confidence, the study provides a framework for policymakers to design targeted interventions that reduce bureaucratic delays and improve regulatory clarity. The comparative analysis with Estonia offers valuable lessons for other developing countries seeking to leverage technology for institutional modernization. Additionally, the findings underscore the importance of aligning institutional reforms with strategic partnerships to ensure sustainable and inclusive economic growth (World Bank, 2023, p. 45; Drechsler, 2020, p. 45).

6.2.3.4 Recommendations for Togo

- **Implement Digital Governance Systems:** Develop digital platforms for business registration, tax administration, and public service delivery. Secure data exchange systems, like Estonia's X-Road, can enhance communication between government agencies and reduce bureaucratic delays.

- **Strengthen Policy Commitment:** Demonstrate strong political will to prioritize digital governance reforms. Clear policy objectives and dedicated resources are essential for successful implementation.

- **Invest in Technological Infrastructure:** Substantial investments in digital infrastructure, including high-speed internet and secure data centers, are necessary to support digital governance systems.

- **Foster Strategic Partnerships:** Collaborate with international organizations and technology firms to provide the expertise and funding needed to implement digital governance reforms.

- **Enhance Capacity Building:** Train public officials in digital literacy and the effective use of technology in administrative processes.

- **Promote Transparency:** Include features in digital governance systems that allow citizens and investors to monitor administrative processes in real-time, fostering trust and accountability.

In sum, Governance efficiency is a critical driver of investor confidence, with quantitative data showing a strong positive correlation between streamlined processes and FDI inflows. Qualitative interviews reveal stakeholder concerns about bureaucratic inefficiencies, while lessons from Estonia's digital governance reforms demonstrate the transformative impact of technology in enhancing institutional transparency and reducing delays. These insights provide a roadmap for Togo to address its administrative challenges and fully capitalize on its investment potential, ensuring sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

Togo's long-term development trajectory is deeply intertwined with its ability to leverage geographical advantages, enhance political stability, and implement far-reaching institutional reforms. While the country possesses strategic assets, such as its deep-water port, regional trade access, and emerging investment frameworks, its full economic potential remains contingent upon addressing governance inefficiencies, modernizing infrastructure, and fostering investor confidence through transparent regulatory mechanisms.

To solidify its role as a resilient economic player in West Africa, Togo must adopt a multi-faceted approach to economic diversification that integrates digital transformation, institutional modernization, and sustainable policy frameworks. By doing so, the country can reduce dependence on primary commodities, enhance industrial productivity, and strengthen trade competitiveness within AfCFTA and global markets.

Beyond its immediate economic objectives, these findings contribute to a broader discourse on development strategies for emerging economies, highlighting that political stability, governance efficiency, and strategic partnerships are indispensable pillars for sustained economic resilience. The comparative insights drawn from Djibouti, Singapore, Rwanda, Ghana, and Estonia underscore that the convergence of technological innovation, public-private partnerships, and institutional reforms offers an actionable blueprint for long-term growth.

Ultimately, Togo's path forward must be marked by deliberate, forward-thinking policies that align with global best practices while addressing domestic socio-economic realities. By embracing digital governance, streamlining investment frameworks, and prioritizing infrastructure-led industrialization, the country can move beyond incremental progress toward a transformational era of economic prosperity, inclusivity, and global competitiveness.

6.3 Policy and Practical Implications of the Findings

Translating research insights into actionable policies is essential for fostering economic resilience, enhancing institutional effectiveness, and driving sustainable development. By examining the role of policy predictability in governance, industrial modernization for economic diversification, and strategic partnerships for regional and global collaboration, this section outlines concrete recommendations to strengthen Togo's economic trajectory and position it competitively within the evolving global landscape.

6.3.1 Governance and Institutional Strengthening Strategies

Effective governance and institutional strengthening are essential for fostering economic resilience and sustainable development in Togo. The findings emphasize the importance of policy predictability and public sector accountability as foundational elements for attracting foreign investments, enhancing institutional efficiency, and ensuring long-term economic stability.

6.3.1.1 How Policy Predictability Enhances Economic Resilience

Policy predictability is a cornerstone of economic resilience, as it reduces uncertainty, fosters investor confidence, and ensures the continuity of economic strategies. Empirical evidence demonstrates that countries with consistent and transparent policy frameworks attract higher levels of foreign direct investment (FDI) and experience more stable economic growth (Oxford Business Group, 2022, p. 33). For Togo, predictable policies can mitigate risks associated with abrupt regulatory changes, fostering investor confidence and enabling long-term planning.

- **Regulatory Stability:** Clear and consistent regulations reduce transaction costs and mitigate risks for businesses. For example, Singapore's streamlined regulatory framework has been instrumental in attracting multinational corporations and fostering economic diversification (Low, 2001, p. 19).

- **Long-Term Planning:** Predictable policies enable governments to implement multi-year development strategies, such as infrastructure modernization and industrial diversification, without disruption. Togo's National Development Plan (PND 2018–2022) exemplifies the benefits of sustained policy focus in driving sectoral growth (World Bank, 2023, p. 45).

- **Investor Confidence:** Stable governance reduces the likelihood of abrupt policy reversals, ensuring that foreign investors can make long-term commitments. Comparative insights from Ghana demonstrate that consistent economic policies have led to a 25% increase in FDI inflows over the past decade (Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2022, p. 45).

- **Macroeconomic Stability:** Policy predictability contributes to macroeconomic stability by minimizing disruptions caused by sudden policy shifts. For example, Rwanda's Vision 2050 framework has demonstrated how long-term policy planning can sustain economic growth and attract international partnerships (Ansoms & Rostagno, 2020, p. 123).

- **Sectoral Growth:** Predictable policies enable targeted investments in high-potential sectors such as agriculture, technology, and renewable energy. For instance, Singapore's stable industrial policies have attracted multinational corporations to its manufacturing and technology sectors, driving economic diversification (Low, 2001, p. 19).

- **Regional Integration:** Policy predictability enhances Togo's ability to participate effectively in regional trade agreements such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Stable trade policies reduce barriers to cross-border commerce, enabling Togo to position itself as a regional logistics hub (World Bank, 2023, p. 45).

6.3.1.2 Concrete Proposals for Improving Public Sector Accountability

Public sector accountability is essential for fostering trust in governance, reducing corruption, and ensuring the efficient use of public resources. The study highlights several actionable strategies for improving accountability in Togo's public institutions.

- **Digital Governance Platforms**

Implementing e-governance systems can significantly enhance transparency and accountability in public administration. Estonia's X-Road platform, which facilitates secure data exchange between government agencies, has reduced administrative inefficiencies by 40% and improved public trust in institutions (Kaljulaid, 2025, p. 21). Togo can adopt similar digital solutions to streamline administrative processes, monitor public expenditures, and provide citizens with real-time access to government data.

- **Independent Oversight Bodies**

Establishing independent anti-corruption agencies with legislative autonomy is critical for holding public officials accountable. Singapore's Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau (CPIB) serves as a model, demonstrating how robust enforcement mechanisms can deter corruption and foster institutional integrity (Quah, 2017, p. 92). Togo can strengthen its existing anti-corruption

frameworks by granting oversight bodies greater independence and resources to investigate and prosecute corruption cases.

- **Whistleblower Protection Laws**

Protecting whistleblowers is essential for encouraging the reporting of unethical practices within the public sector. Ghana's Whistleblower Act (2006) has proven effective in safeguarding informants and promoting transparency (Transparency International, 2022, p. 11). Togo can implement similar legislation to ensure that individuals who expose corruption are shielded from retaliation, thereby fostering a culture of accountability.

- **Performance-Based Public Sector Management**

Introducing performance-based evaluation systems for civil servants can improve accountability and efficiency. Rwanda's Imihigo program, which sets measurable performance targets for public officials, has enhanced service delivery and institutional effectiveness (Ansoms & Rostagno, 2020, p. 123). Togo can adopt performance metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of public sector initiatives and reward high-performing officials.

- **Public Financial Transparency**

Publishing detailed budgets and financial reports online can increase public oversight of government expenditures. Blockchain-backed financial tracking systems, as implemented in Dubai, provide tamper-proof records of transactions, ensuring accountability in public finance management (Jha, 2025, p. 47). Togo can integrate blockchain technology into its financial systems to enhance transparency and reduce opportunities for mismanagement.

- **Citizen Engagement Mechanisms**

Encouraging citizen participation in governance processes can strengthen accountability and inclusivity. Participatory budgeting initiatives, where citizens have a direct say in how public funds are allocated, have been successfully implemented in Brazil and South Korea (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). Togo can adopt similar mechanisms to empower citizens and ensure that public resources are allocated in line with community priorities.

Policy predictability and public sector accountability are not merely administrative necessities; they are the foundation of economic resilience and sustainable development. A governance framework that prioritizes consistency, transparency, and strategic adaptability serves as the bedrock for long-term investment confidence and institutional integrity. Without such mechanisms, economic uncertainty, investor hesitancy, and bureaucratic inefficiencies continue to erode the potential for sustained growth.

By institutionalizing anti-corruption measures, expanding digital governance infrastructure, and aligning policy frameworks with regional and international economic trends, Togo can transform its governance landscape into one that fosters innovation, attracts foreign capital, and ensures equitable growth across sectors. The integration of global best practices and evidence-driven policymaking must not be seen as an optional enhancement, but rather as an imperative for transitioning from economic volatility to sustainable prosperity.

6.3.2 Economic Diversification and Trade Expansion

Economic diversification and trade expansion are essential for reducing Togo's dependence on primary commodities and fostering sustainable economic growth. By focusing on industrial modernization and infrastructure-driven trade competitiveness, Togo can enhance its economic resilience and global integration.

6.3.2.1 Importance of Industrial Modernization in Shifting from Commodity Dependence

Industrial modernization is a critical strategy for transitioning from reliance on raw commodity exports to a diversified economy capable of producing high-value goods and services. Commodity dependence exposes economies to price volatility, external shocks, and limited value addition, which constrain long-term growth (Lin, 2012, p. 57; Rodrik, 2008, p. 76). For Togo, industrial modernization offers a pathway to economic transformation by fostering innovation, creating jobs, and enhancing productivity.

- **Value Addition in Agriculture and Mining**

Togo's economy is heavily reliant on agricultural exports (e.g., cotton, coffee, cocoa) and mining (e.g., phosphates). Industrial modernization can enable the processing of raw materials into higher-value products, such as textiles, fertilizers, and refined agricultural goods, which command higher prices in international markets. For example, Malaysia's palm oil industry transitioned from raw exports to refined products, generating higher revenues and creating employment opportunities (World Bank, 2023, p. 57). Togo can replicate this model by investing in agro-processing facilities and mineral beneficiation plants to maximize the economic potential of its natural resources.

- **Sectoral Diversification**

Industrial modernization facilitates the development of new sectors, such as manufacturing, technology, and renewable energy, which reduce reliance on traditional industries. Malaysia's industrial policy, which prioritized electronics and automotive manufacturing, transformed the country into a global production hub, contributing 25% of GDP growth over two decades (OECD, 2019, p. 33). Similarly, Togo can incentivize investments in high-tech industries and renewable

energy projects to diversify its economic base and reduce vulnerability to commodity price fluctuations.

- **Employment Creation**

Industrialization generates employment opportunities across various skill levels, from factory workers to engineers and managers. Rwanda's industrial parks have created over 50,000 jobs, significantly reducing unemployment and improving household incomes (Ansoms & Rostagno, 2020, p. 123). Togo can leverage industrial modernization to address youth unemployment by aligning vocational training programs with the needs of emerging industries.

- **Export Competitiveness**

Modernized industries produce goods that meet international quality standards, enabling access to global markets. South Korea's focus on high-value manufacturing, such as electronics and shipbuilding, increased its export revenues by 40% between 1990 and 2010 (Kim, 2011, p. 75). Togo can enhance its export competitiveness by adopting advanced production technologies and establishing trade facilitation mechanisms.

- **Innovation and Technology Transfer**

Industrial modernization fosters innovation by encouraging research and development (R&D) and facilitating technology transfer through foreign direct investment (FDI). Singapore's Biopolis research hub exemplifies how R&D clusters can drive technological advancements and economic diversification (Low, 2001, p. 19). Togo can establish innovation hubs and collaborate with international partners to integrate cutting-edge technologies into its industrial processes.

- **Sustainability and Green Growth**

Modern industries can adopt environmentally sustainable practices, such as energy-efficient production methods and waste recycling. Malaysia's green industrial zones have reduced carbon emissions by 20% while maintaining economic growth (OECD, 2019, p. 45). Togo can incorporate sustainability into its industrial strategy by promoting renewable energy and eco-friendly manufacturing practices.

6.3.2.2 Infrastructure-Driven Trade Competitiveness: Lessons from Malaysia

Infrastructure development is a critical enabler of trade competitiveness, as it reduces logistics costs, enhances connectivity, and facilitates access to regional and global markets. Malaysia's success in leveraging infrastructure to boost trade competitiveness offers valuable lessons for Togo.

- **Integrated Transport Networks**

Malaysia's investment in integrated transport networks, including highways, railways, and ports, has significantly improved its logistical efficiency. The North-South Expressway, which connects major industrial zones to ports, reduced transportation costs by 25% and increased trade volumes by 40% (Henderson, 2003, p. 27). Togo can adopt similar strategies by modernizing its road and rail infrastructure to connect production centers with the Lomé deep-water port and regional markets.

- **Port Modernization**

Malaysia's Port Klang, equipped with automated cargo handling systems and advanced logistics facilities, has become one of the busiest ports in Southeast Asia, handling over 13 million TEUs annually (OECD, 2019, p. 33). Togo's Lomé Port, as the only natural deep-water port in West Africa, has the potential to become a regional logistics hub. Investments in port automation, digital customs systems, and expanded container terminals can enhance its capacity and efficiency, attracting more international shipping lines.

- **Special Economic Zones (SEZs)**

Malaysia's SEZs, such as the Iskandar Development Region, have attracted FDI by offering tax incentives, streamlined regulations, and state-of-the-art infrastructure. These zones contributed 15% of Malaysia's GDP growth between 2005 and 2015 (OECD, 2019, p. 45). Togo's Plateforme Industrielle d'Adétikopé (PIA) can emulate this model by integrating logistics facilities, manufacturing clusters, and export-oriented industries to boost trade competitiveness.

- **Digital Trade Platforms**

Malaysia's adoption of digital trade platforms, such as the National Single Window, has streamlined customs procedures and reduced clearance times by 50% (OECD, 2019, p. 33). Togo can implement similar digital solutions to facilitate cross-border trade and improve transparency in customs operations. Blockchain-backed systems can further enhance security and efficiency in trade documentation.

- **Regional Integration**

Malaysia's participation in regional trade agreements, such as ASEAN, has expanded its market access and strengthened its trade networks. Exports to ASEAN countries account for 25% of Malaysia's total trade (OECD, 2019, p. 45). Togo can leverage its membership in AfCFTA to integrate into regional value chains and attract investments in export-oriented industries.

- **Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)**

Malaysia's use of PPPs to finance infrastructure projects has reduced fiscal burdens while ensuring high-quality execution. The Kuala Lumpur International Airport, developed through a PPP model,

has become a global aviation hub, handling over 60 million passengers annually (Henderson, 2003, p. 27). Togo can adopt PPP frameworks to mobilize private sector expertise and capital for infrastructure development, particularly in transport and logistics.

Industrial modernization and infrastructure-driven trade competitiveness are indispensable for reducing Togo's dependence on commodity exports and fostering economic diversification. Togo's economic transformation depends on reducing commodity dependence and fostering industrial diversification. By modernizing transport networks, enhancing trade logistics, and investing in value-added industries, the country can strengthen its competitive position in West Africa**.** Strategic partnerships, digital governance, and policy coherence will be crucial in driving sustainable industrialization. Lessons from Malaysia's export-driven economy highlight the need for special economic zones, technology-driven trade facilitation, and public-private partnerships to scale industrial growth. Ultimately, industrial modernization is not just an economic strategy it is essential for long-term resilience, trade expansion, and global competitiveness**.** Togo must integrate infrastructure investments with strategic reforms to build an adaptive, high-value economy**.** By investing in value-added industries, modernizing transport networks, and leveraging lessons.

6.3.3 Strategic Partnerships for Sustainable Development

Strategic partnerships are vital for fostering sustainable development in Togo, particularly in the context of an interconnected global economy. By strengthening regional and international collaboration and adapting foreign policy to prioritize economic diplomacy, Togo can leverage external resources, expertise, and market access to accelerate its development trajectory.

6.3.3.1 Strengthening Togo's Regional and International Collaboration

Regional and international collaboration is a cornerstone of sustainable development, enabling countries to pool resources, share expertise, and address transnational challenges. For Togo, strengthening partnerships within West Africa and beyond is critical for enhancing trade, security, and infrastructure development.

- **Regional Integration through ECOWAS and AfCFTA**

Togo's active participation in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) provides significant opportunities for regional trade and economic integration. ECOWAS facilitates cross-border trade and security cooperation, while AfCFTA expands market access to over 1.3 billion consumers across Africa (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). By harmonizing trade policies, reducing tariffs, and improving customs procedures, Togo can strengthen its position as a regional logistics hub. For example, Ghana's successful integration into AfCFTA has increased its export volumes by 30% (Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2022,

p. 45). Togo can replicate this success by investing in transport corridors and digital trade platforms to enhance regional connectivity.

- **Leveraging Regional Trade Agreements**

Togo's membership in AfCFTA offers significant opportunities for expanding intra-African trade and integrating into regional value chains. By harmonizing trade policies and reducing non-tariff barriers, Togo can enhance its export competitiveness and attract investments in manufacturing and logistics. For example, Ghana's proactive engagement with AfCFTA has increased its trade volumes by 15% within the region (UNECA, 2020, p. 45). Togo can replicate this success by prioritizing infrastructure development and aligning its trade policies with regional standards.

- **Enhancing Cross-Border Infrastructure**

Regional collaboration on infrastructure projects, such as the Abidjan-Lagos Corridor, can improve connectivity and facilitate trade across West Africa. Togo's strategic location along this corridor positions it as a critical transit hub for landlocked countries like Burkina Faso and Niger. Investments in transport and logistics infrastructure, supported by regional partnerships, can reduce trade costs and increase economic activity (World Bank, 2023, p. 67).

- **Collaborations with Emerging Economies**

Partnerships with emerging economies such as Rwanda, Singapore, and Malaysia offer valuable lessons in governance, industrialization, and innovation. Rwanda's focus on digital governance and infrastructure development has transformed its economy, attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) and fostering inclusive growth (Ansoms & Rostagno, 2020, p. 123). Similarly, Singapore's emphasis on public-private partnerships (PPPs) and export-oriented industrialization has positioned it as a global economic powerhouse (Low, 2001, p. 19). Togo can strengthen collaborations with these countries to adopt best practices in governance, technology transfer, and industrial modernization.

- **Leveraging Multilateral Institutions**

Multilateral institutions such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), and African Development Bank (AfDB) play a pivotal role in financing development projects and providing technical assistance. For instance, the AfDB's support for infrastructure projects in West Africa has improved regional connectivity and trade competitiveness (AfDB, 2020, p. 19). Togo can deepen its engagement with these institutions to secure funding for transport, energy, and digital infrastructure projects. Additionally, partnerships with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNESCO can support initiatives in education, health, and environmental sustainability.

- **Strengthening Security Cooperation**

Regional security threats, such as terrorism and piracy, require coordinated responses through organizations like ECOWAS and the Gulf of Guinea Maritime Security Framework. Togo's active participation in these initiatives can enhance its maritime security and safeguard critical trade routes. For instance, Djibouti's collaboration with regional security alliances has reduced piracy incidents by 40%, boosting investor confidence in its logistics sector (UNCTAD, 2023, p. 51).

- **Promoting Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Building**

Regional partnerships can facilitate knowledge sharing and capacity building in areas such as governance, technology, and sustainable development. Rwanda's collaboration with regional institutions has strengthened its digital governance capabilities, enabling it to attract investments in technology-driven industries (Ansoms & Rostagno, 2020, p. 123). Togo can benefit from similar initiatives by fostering partnerships with countries that have successfully implemented governance and technological reforms.

- **Diaspora Engagement**

Togo's diaspora represents a valuable resource for economic development, contributing through remittances, investments, and knowledge transfer. Strengthening ties with expatriates can boost entrepreneurship and innovation, particularly in sectors such as technology and agribusiness (World Bank, 2023, p. 27). For example, Ethiopia's diaspora engagement policies have facilitated the establishment of tech startups and export-oriented businesses (UNCTAD, 2023, p. 19). Togo can adopt similar strategies to mobilize its diaspora for national development.

6.3.3.2 Recommendations on Foreign Policy Adaptability for Economic Diplomacy

Foreign policy adaptability is crucial for aligning diplomatic strategies with economic priorities, enabling Togo to navigate geopolitical shifts and maximize opportunities for trade and investment. By prioritizing economic diplomacy, Togo can strengthen its global presence and attract resources for sustainable development.

- **Prioritizing Trade and Investment Agreements**

Togo's foreign policy should emphasize the negotiation of trade and investment agreements that provide preferential market access and attract foreign direct investment (FDI). For example, Singapore's economic diplomacy has resulted in over 20 bilateral trade agreements, contributing to its status as a global trade hub (Low, 2001, p. 19). Togo can adopt a similar approach by negotiating agreements that reduce trade barriers and incentivize investments in key sectors such as manufacturing and logistics.

- **Strengthening Economic Missions Abroad**

Establishing specialized economic missions within embassies can enhance Togo's ability to attract investments and promote trade. These missions can serve as platforms for showcasing Togo's economic potential, facilitating business partnerships, and providing support to investors. Ethiopia's economic missions in China and the United States have played a pivotal role in attracting investments in infrastructure and industrial parks (Dercon & Vargas Hill, 2009, p. 67).

- **Engaging Multilateral Organizations**

Active engagement with multilateral organizations, such as the World Bank, IMF, and African Development Bank (AfDB), can provide access to financial resources and technical expertise. Togo's collaboration with these institutions can support infrastructure development, governance reforms, and capacity building. For instance, Rwanda's partnership with the World Bank has facilitated investments in digital infrastructure and human capital development (Ansoms & Rostagno, 2020

- ✓ Engaging multilateral organizations such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), and African Development Bank (AfDB) is essential for Togo's sustainable development strategy. These institutions provide financial resources, technical expertise, and policy guidance critical for infrastructure development, governance reforms, and capacity building (World Bank, 2023, p. 42; AfDB, 2020, p. 19). For example, the World Bank's infrastructure programs can support projects like modernizing the Port of Lomé, developing transport corridors, and enhancing digital infrastructure, while the AfDB's regional integration initiatives can improve trade competitiveness and economic resilience through cross-border connectivity and harmonized trade policies (AfDB, 2020, p. 33).

- ✓ Collaborations with specialized agencies such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNESCO can address social and environmental challenges. UNDP's initiatives in gender equality, poverty reduction, and climate adaptation strengthen social inclusion and institutional capacity (UNDP, 2016, p. 27; UNDP, 2023, p. 27). Similarly, UNESCO's support for education and cultural initiatives can improve literacy rates and foster social cohesion, which are critical for human capital development (UNESCO, 2022, p. 45; UNESCO, 2023, p. 15).

- ✓ Additionally, partnerships with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) can mobilize private sector investments in infrastructure and industrial development. The IFC's expertise in structuring public-private partnerships (PPPs) can attract private capital for projects such as renewable energy initiatives and industrial platforms like the Plateforme Industrielle d'Adétikopé (PIA) (IFC, 2013, p. 18; IFC, 2024, p. 18). These collaborations not only provide financial resources but also bring technical expertise and innovative solutions to address Togo's development challenges.

By strategically engaging multilateral organizations, Togo can leverage global best practices and access the resources needed to implement transformative projects. This approach addresses structural bottlenecks, fosters economic diversification, enhances institutional capacity, and ensures evidence-based, sustainable development practices aligned with national and global goals.

6.4 Limitations of the Study

Despite the comprehensive analysis, the study has several limitations that must be acknowledged. One limitation is the reliance on secondary data sources, which may not fully capture the latest developments and nuances in Togo's national development landscape (Heilbrunn, 1993). The secondary data used in this study may have certain biases or gaps that could affect the accuracy and comprehensiveness of the findings. Additionally, the dynamic nature of Togo's development landscape means that new data and trends may have emerged that were not considered in this analysis.

Furthermore, the study's focus on specific sectors such as agriculture, mining, and services may overlook the potential contributions of other emerging sectors (World Bank, 2023). Sectors such as technology, renewable energy, and tourism, which are rapidly growing globally, might present significant opportunities for Togo's development but were not extensively covered in this study. By not fully exploring these sectors, the study may miss out on identifying key growth areas that could contribute to Togo's economic diversification and resilience.

The study also primarily examines the perspectives of policymakers and development practitioners, which may not fully represent the views of all stakeholders, including local communities and private sector actors (Transparency International, 2022). The inclusion of diverse perspectives is crucial for a holistic understanding of development challenges and opportunities. Local communities, in particular, may have unique insights and needs that are not adequately captured by the perspectives of policymakers alone. The private sector, being a key driver of economic activities, also needs to be considered more comprehensively in future analyses.

Moreover, the study's analysis of institutional reforms and governance is based on available reports and data, which may not reflect the on-the-ground realities and challenges faced by public institutions (Heilbrunn, 1993). Public institutions may face various operational challenges, such as limited resources, bureaucratic hurdles, and capacity constraints, which are not always visible in secondary data sources. Understanding these challenges requires primary data collection methods such as interviews and field observations.

The study's focus on foreign policy implications may also be limited by the dynamic nature of international relations and geopolitical shifts (Lefebvre, 2019). The geopolitical context in West Africa and beyond is continually evolving, with new alliances, conflicts, and economic agreements

emerging. These changes can significantly impact Togo's foreign policy and development strategies, making it essential for future research to continuously monitor and adapt to these shifts.

Finally, the study's recommendations are based on theoretical and empirical insights, and their practical implementation may require further contextualization and adaptation to the specific socio-economic and political context of Togo (World Bank, 2023). While the recommendations provide a strategic framework, their success depends on the capacity of local institutions to implement them effectively. Resource constraints, political will, and socio-cultural factors can all influence the feasibility and impact of these recommendations.

Another limitation involves the impact of economic sanctions imposed by ECOWAS and other international organizations, which create an uncertain economic environment (World Bank, 2023). These sanctions can affect trade, investment, and overall economic stability, complicating the implementation of development strategies. Additionally, Togo's proximity to conflict zones in the Sahel exposes the country to security threats, which could disrupt development efforts and necessitate a focus on stability and resilience.

The persistent economic and social inequalities pose another major challenge. Income disparities and unequal access to basic services can hinder inclusive development by limiting opportunities for marginalized groups (Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2022, p. 45). Without addressing these inequalities, development strategies may not achieve their intended outcomes, and certain segments of the population may be left behind.

Moreover, the legislative and regulatory framework in Togo may present obstacles to implementing the proposed reforms. Outdated or ineffective laws can impede the enforcement of development policies and limit the impact of institutional reforms (Transparency Rwanda, 2009). Strengthening the legal framework and ensuring the independence of judicial institutions are critical for the success of these reforms.

Lastly, regional and international cooperation plays a crucial role in Togo's development. However, the political and economic dynamics between Togo and its regional partners can change, affecting the viability and effectiveness of strategic partnerships (Lefebvre, 2019). Continuous assessment of international relations and strategic partnerships is necessary to align them with Togo's development goals.

In conclusion, while the study provides a detailed and in-depth analysis, it is important to acknowledge its limitations and consider these factors in interpreting the findings and implementing the recommendations. A more holistic and inclusive approach, taking into account local realities and international dynamics, is essential for ensuring the success of development initiatives in Togo.

6.5 Specific, Actionable Recommendations for National Development

Achieving sustainable national development requires a strategic, multi-sectoral approach that prioritizes governance efficiency, trade competitiveness, and industrial diversification. By enacting transparent regulatory frameworks, modernizing infrastructure, and fostering high-value industries, Togo can position itself as a dynamic economic hub. The following recommendations provide concrete, evidence-based strategies to enhance institutional effectiveness, expand global trade linkages, and accelerate industrial growth, ensuring long-term resilience and inclusive prosperity.

To provide deeper insights, the recommendations for Togo's national development can be structured as follows:

6.5.1 Strengthening Governance and Institutional Efficiency

- **Establish Independent Anti-Corruption Agencies**

Create an autonomous anti-corruption body modeled after Singapore's Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau (CPIB), with legal mechanisms for asset recovery and whistleblower protection (Quah, 2010, p. 45; Transparency International, 2022, p. 15). This agency should investigate high-level corruption cases and enforce compliance across sectors.

- **Digitalize Public Administration**

Develop e-governance platforms inspired by Estonia's X-Road system to streamline administrative processes, reduce inefficiencies, and enhance transparency (Drechsler, 2020, p. 67; Kaljulaid, 2025, p. 21). Blockchain-based auditing mechanisms can ensure tamper-proof financial records.

- **Strengthen Judicial Independence**

Establish a Judicial Oversight Commission to ensure merit-based judge appointments and monitor judicial performance (Fukuyama, 2013, p. 351; Transparency International, 2022, p. 22). Digitize court proceedings to improve transparency and reduce delays.

- **Build Capacity in Public Institutions**

Launch mandatory training programs for civil servants on governance ethics, digital tools, and policy implementation, in collaboration with international organizations like UNDP and OECD (Grindle, 2007, p. 556; UNDP, 2016, p. 27).

- **Promote Citizen Engagement**

Develop participatory governance mechanisms, such as public consultations, citizen feedback platforms, and participatory budgeting initiatives (Kaufmann, Kraay, & Zoido-Lobatón, 1999, p. 8; Rothstein & Teorell, 2008, p. 170).

6.5.2 Enhancing Trade and Logistics Competitiveness

- **Modernize the Port of Lomé**

Expand and automate port operations by implementing blockchain-based customs tracking systems and upgrading container terminals (World Bank, 2023, p. 42; Lloyd, 2020, p. 44).

- **Develop Regional Transport Corridors**

Construct and upgrade road and rail networks connecting Lomé to landlocked countries such as Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali (AfDB, 2020, p. 33; UNECA, 2021, p. 22).

- **Establish Logistics Parks**

Create logistics parks near the Port of Lomé to provide warehousing, packaging, and distribution services (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91; World Bank, 2023, p. 32).

- **Streamline Customs Procedures**

Digitalize customs operations and implement single-window systems for import/export processes, similar to Singapore's TradeNet platform (Kraemer-Mbula & Wamae, 2010, p. 78; Low, 2001, p. 19).

- **Strengthen Regional Trade Agreements**

Enhance participation in AfCFTA and ECOWAS by harmonizing trade policies, reducing tariff barriers, and improving cross-border connectivity (UNECA, 2017, p. 62; AfDB, 2020, p. 19).

6.5.3 Industrialization and Economic Diversification

- **Expand the Plateforme Industrielle d'Adétikopé (PIA)**

Diversify industrial clusters to include electronics assembly, automotive components, and renewable energy manufacturing (Lin, 2012, p. 145; Rodrik, 2008, p. 72).

- **Promote Agro-Industrial Development**

Invest in agro-processing facilities for products such as cassava, maize, and cocoa, and establish partnerships with multinational agribusiness firms (FAO, 2017, p. 85; FAO, 2016, p. 27).

- **Develop Renewable Energy Projects**

Expand solar and wind energy initiatives to reduce dependency on fossil fuels and support industrial activities (IRENA, 2022, p. 73; IRENA, 2019, p. 33).

- **Foster Innovation and Entrepreneurship**

Create innovation hubs and incubators to support startups in technology, agritech, and green energy (World Economic Forum, 2021, p. 77; Sahlberg, 2011, p. 45).

- **Strengthen Vocational Training Programs**

Align educational curricula with industry needs by introducing technical and vocational training programs (Hanushek & Woessmann, 2008, p. 146; UNESCO, 2022, p. 45).

- **Establish Special Economic Zones (SEZs)**

Develop SEZs near the Port of Lomé with tax incentives, quality infrastructure, and streamlined regulations (Rodrik, 2008, p. 76; UNCTAD, 2019, p. 33).

These recommendations are grounded in empirical evidence and comparative insights from successful development models, ensuring their relevance and feasibility in the Togolese context.

GENERAL CONCLUSION

This doctoral research aimed to explore how Togo can leverage its comparative strengths and address its institutional weaknesses to achieve sustainable national development within the current geopolitical context. Guided by three central research questions—how Togo can optimize its geographical advantages for trade and logistics to enhance economic growth, the impact of political stability on attracting foreign investments, and the institutional reforms and strategic partnerships necessary to strengthen Togo's development prospects—the study sought to analyze Togo's strengths and weaknesses, evaluate current development policies, and propose actionable strategies for institutional reforms and international collaborations.

The findings of this research provide a nuanced understanding of Togo's developmental trajectory, revealing critical insights into its economic, political, and institutional landscape. First, the study confirmed the hypothesis that Togo's strategic geographical location enhances its trade and logistics sectors, thereby driving economic growth. The Port of Lomé, with its natural depth and capacity to accommodate large vessels, emerged as a pivotal asset for regional and international trade (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). However, inefficiencies in customs procedures and logistical operations were identified as barriers to fully capitalizing on this advantage. Comparative analysis with Djibouti's logistics success demonstrated that targeted investments in port modernization and regional transport corridors could significantly enhance Togo's trade competitiveness (Rodrik, 2008, p. 91).

Second, the study validated the hypothesis that political stability positively impacts foreign investment inflows. Governance predictability and policy consistency were found to be critical determinants of investor confidence, as evidenced by the increase in FDI inflows from $350 million in 2018 to $600 million in 2022 (Banque Africaine de Développement, 2023, p. 14). Regression analysis further confirmed a strong positive correlation between political stability and FDI growth ($R^2 = 0.78$, $p < 0.01$). Stakeholders consistently emphasized the importance of stable governance frameworks, drawing parallels with Rwanda's governance transparency, which has attracted significant foreign investments (Transparency International, 2023, p. 22).

Third, the research substantiated the hypothesis that institutional reforms and strategic partnerships strengthen Togo's development prospects by improving governance, enhancing transparency, and diversifying investment sources. Institutional inefficiencies, such as bureaucratic delays and corruption, were identified as major obstacles to economic progress. However, the adoption of digital governance systems, inspired by Estonia's e-Governance model, was shown to significantly enhance administrative efficiency and investor confidence (Drechsler, 2020, p. 45). Strategic partnerships with international organizations and neighboring countries were also highlighted as essential for fostering economic resilience and regional integration.

These findings collectively address the research questions, offering a comprehensive framework for understanding Togo's developmental challenges and opportunities. By leveraging its geographical advantages, fostering political stability, and implementing institutional reforms, Togo can position itself as a dynamic player in regional and global markets. The study's integration of quantitative and qualitative methodologies ensured methodological rigor, while comparative case studies provided actionable insights for adapting successful development models to Togo's unique context.

Despite its contributions, the research is not without limitations. The reliance on secondary data may have constrained the ability to capture real-time developments and nuanced perspectives (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2018, p. 72). Additionally, the study's focus on agriculture, mining, and services left emerging sectors such as technology, renewable energy, and tourism underexplored (Rodrik, 2008, p. 76). The perspectives of local communities and private sector actors were not fully represented, limiting the inclusivity of the findings (Patton, 2015, p. 67). Furthermore, the dynamic nature of geopolitical shifts and international relations may require continuous monitoring to align foreign policy strategies with evolving global dynamics (World Bank, 2023, p. 45).

The implications of this research are significant for policymakers, practitioners, and future researchers. Policymakers can draw on the study's findings to prioritize port modernization, digital governance systems, and anti-corruption frameworks, thereby enhancing trade competitiveness and governance efficiency (Transparency International, 2023, p. 22). Collaborations with multilateral organizations, emerging economies, and private sector actors can provide the financial and technical resources needed for infrastructure development and industrial diversification (Banque Africaine de Développement, 2023, p. 14). Investments in high-value sectors such as agribusiness, manufacturing, and technology should be prioritized to reduce reliance on commodity exports and foster economic resilience (Rodrik, 2008, p.91).

For future researchers, several avenues warrant exploration. Studies focusing on emerging sectors such as technology, renewable energy, and tourism could identify additional growth opportunities for Togo (Drechsler, 2020, p. 45). Incorporating the views of local communities and private sector actors would provide a more holistic understanding of development challenges and opportunities (Patton, 2015, p. 67). Continuous monitoring of geopolitical shifts and international relations is necessary to align foreign policy strategies with evolving global dynamics (World Bank, 2023, p. 45). Research on the practical challenges of implementing institutional reforms and development strategies could provide valuable insights for policymakers (Rodrik, 2008, p. 76).

In conclusion, this study has demonstrated that Togo possesses critical assets, its strategic location, industrial potential, and trade networks, that can be harnessed to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth. By addressing institutional inefficiencies, fostering political stability, and leveraging its geographical advantages, Togo can enhance its economic and political resilience, ensuring robust

national development in a complex and evolving geopolitical context. The findings of this research provide a strategic framework for policymakers and practitioners, guiding them in formulating policies and strategies to strengthen governance, trade competitiveness, and economic resilience. While challenges remain, Togo's developmental ambitions are not merely reactive but strategically poised for long-term resilience and prosperity. Through continuous research, adaptive policymaking, and strategic partnerships, Togo can navigate its developmental challenges and position itself as a dynamic player in regional and global markets.

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APPENDICES

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APPENDIX F: Geographic and Political Boundaries in West Africa

APPENDIX A: Survey questionnaire design

This questionnaire has been developed as part of a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) research on the theme "How to leverage comparative strengths and support weaknesses of Togo in the current geopolitics for further national development." Togo, a country rich in linguistic and cultural diversity, has strengthened the use of English in addition to French, the official language since independence in 1960, since its accession to the Commonwealth on June 25, 2022. Therefore, it is essential to design the questionnaires in bilingual versions, in French and English, to ensure they are accessible to a wide audience. The data collected will inform policymakers and guide future development initiatives in Togo.

To facilitate data collection and ensure broad participation, we have created a Google Form link accessible to everyone. You can access the questionnaire by clicking on the following link: https://forms.gle/DqMF4SBZEZ2iCr3R8. This link has been widely disseminated across different groups, including Focus groups, to gather comprehensive and representative feedback from respondents.

We strongly encourage you to participate in this survey and share your perspectives. Your responses will be crucial in informing policymakers and guiding future development initiatives in Togo. We thank you in advance for your valuable contribution.

In addition, we will be conducting a pilot test with a small sample to assess the instrument's effectiveness. The feedback from this pilot test will be used to revise and refine the questionnaire, ensuring it is clear, comprehensive, and effective for all respondents.

I. Thesis Commentary on Questionnaires / Commentaire de Thèse sur les Questionnaires

The proposed questionnaires cover a wide range of topics relevant to the economic and social development of Togo. They are designed to gather both quantitative and qualitative data on various aspects, including political stability, economic challenges, development strategies, and international development models. Here are some key points:

Les questionnaires proposés couvrent une gamme étendue de sujets pertinents pour le développement économique et social du Togo. Ils sont conçus pour recueillir des données quantitatives et qualitatives sur divers aspects, notamment la stabilité politique, les défis économiques, les stratégies de développement, et les modèles de développement internationaux. Voici quelques points clés :

1. **Diversity of Topics**: The questions address a variety of subjects, ranging from education and public health to governance and technological innovation. This diversity allows for a comprehensive overview of the factors influencing Togo's development. / **Diversité des**

Thèmes : Les questions abordent des sujets variés, allant de l'éducation et la santé publique à la gouvernance et l'innovation technologique. Cette diversité permet de capturer une vue d'ensemble des facteurs influençant le développement du Togo.

2. **Development Models**: By including questions on development models from countries like Singapore, Rwanda, and others, the questionnaire enables comparisons of development strategies and identification of best practices applicable to Togo. / **Modèles de Développement** : En incluant des questions sur les modèles de développement de pays comme Singapour, la Corée du Sud, le Rwanda, et d'autres, le questionnaire permet de comparer les stratégies de développement et d'identifier les meilleures pratiques applicables au Togo.
3. **Challenges and Opportunities**: Questions about the challenges related to the implementation of policies (economic, educational, public health, etc.) help identify potential obstacles and opportunities to improve these policies. / **Défis et Opportunités** : Les questions sur les défis liés à la mise en œuvre des politiques (économiques, éducatives, de santé publique, etc.) permettent d'identifier les obstacles potentiels et les opportunités pour améliorer ces politiques.
4. **Citizen Participation**: By soliciting participants' opinions on various aspects of development, the questionnaire encourages citizen participation and community engagement, which are essential for sustainable reforms. / **Participation Citoyenne** : En sollicitant l'opinion des participants sur divers aspects du développement, le questionnaire encourage la participation citoyenne et l'engagement communautaire, essentiels pour des réformes durables.
5. **Holistic Approach**: The questions cover economic, social, environmental, and technological aspects, offering a holistic approach to development. / **Approche Holistique** : Les questions couvrent à la fois les aspects économiques, sociaux, environnementaux et technologiques, offrant une approche holistique du développement.

These questionnaires are well-structured to gather comprehensive data that can inform policy-making and strategic planning for Togo's development. They also provide a platform for comparing Togo's development trajectory with successful models from other countries, potentially guiding future reforms and initiatives. / Ces questionnaires sont bien structurés pour recueillir des données complètes pouvant informer l'élaboration de politiques et la planification stratégique pour le développement du Togo. Ils fournissent également une plateforme pour comparer la trajectoire de développement du Togo avec des modèles réussis d'autres pays, guidant potentiellement les réformes et initiatives futures.

Survey Questionnaire / Questionnaire d'enquête

Section A: Demographics / Démographie

1. **What is your age? / Quel est votre âge ?**

- Under 18 / Moins de 18 ans
- 18-25 years / 18-25 ans
- 26-35 years / 26-35 ans
- 36-45 years / 36-45 ans
- 46-55 years / 46-55 ans
- Over 55 years / Plus de 55 ans

2. **What is your level of education? / Quel est votre niveau d'éducation ?**
    - None / Aucun
    - Primary / Primaire
    - Secondary / Secondaire
    - University / Universitaire
    - Other (specify) / Autre (précisez)

Section B: Perceptions on National Development / Perceptions du Développement National

3. **How do you rate the current political stability in Togo? / Comment évaluez-vous la stabilité politique actuelle au Togo ?**
    - Very stable / Très stable
    - Stable / Stable
    - Moderately stable / Moyennement stable
    - Unstable / Instable
    - Very unstable / Très instable
4. **In your opinion, what are the main strengths of Togo in the current geopolitical context? (Choose all that apply) / Quels sont, selon vous, les principaux atouts du Togo dans le contexte géopolitique actuel ? (Choisissez tout ce qui s'applique)**
    - Strategic geographical position / Position géographique stratégique
    - Natural resources / Ressources naturelles
    - Relative political stability / Stabilité politique relative
    - Development initiatives (deep-water port, airport, PIA) / Initiatives de développement (port en eau profonde, aéroport, PIA)
    - Soft diplomacy and mediator role / Diplomatie douce et rôle de médiateur

5. **What are the main challenges facing Togo? (Choose all that apply) / Quels sont, selon vous, les principaux défis auxquels le Togo est confronté ? (Choisissez tout ce qui s'applique)**
    - Economic and social inequalities / Inégalités économiques et sociales
    - Corruption and weak judicial institutions / Corruption et institutions judiciaires faibles
    - Security threats and terrorism / Menaces sécuritaires et terrorisme
    - Challenges related to education and youth employment / Défis liés à l'éducation et à l'emploi des jeunes
6. **What strategies would you recommend for the future development of Togo? (Choose all that apply) / Quelles stratégies recommanderiez-vous pour le développement futur du Togo ? (Choisissez tout ce qui s'applique)**
    - Institutional and political reforms / Réformes institutionnelles et politiques
    - Diversification of economic partnerships / Diversification des partenariats économiques
    - Promotion of local industry and raw material processing / Promotion de l'industrie locale et de la transformation des matières premières
    - Investment in infrastructure / Investissement dans les infrastructures
    - Training and employment programs for young people / Programmes de formation et d'emploi pour les jeunes
7. **Do you think the current development initiatives in Togo are effective? / Pensez-vous que les initiatives actuelles de développement au Togo sont efficaces ?**
    - Yes / Oui
    - No / Non
    - Not sure / Pas sûr
8. **Which sectors should be prioritized for Togo's economic development? (Choose all that apply) / Quels secteurs devraient être prioritaires pour le développement économique du Togo ? (Choisissez tout ce qui s'applique)**
    - Agriculture / Agriculture
    - Industry / Industrie
    - Services / Services
    - Technology / Technologie
    - Tourism / Tourisme

9. **What are the main obstacles to foreign investment in Togo? (Choose all that apply) / Quels sont les principaux obstacles à l'investissement étranger au Togo ? (Choisissez tout ce qui s'applique)**
    - Political instability / Instabilité politique
    - Corruption / Corruption
    - Inadequate infrastructure / Infrastructure inadéquate
    - Complex regulations / Réglementations complexes
    - Lack of skilled labor / Manque de main-d'œuvre qualifiée
10. **How do you rate the impact of corruption on Togo's economic development? / Comment évaluez-vous l'impact de la corruption sur le développement économique du Togo ?**
    - Very high / Très élevé
    - High / Élevé
    - Moderate / Modéré
    - Low / Faible
    - Very low / Très faible
11. **What are the main advantages of Togo's geographical position? (Choose all that apply) / Quels sont les principaux avantages de la position géographique du Togo ? (Choisissez tout ce qui s'applique)**
    - Access to regional markets / Accès aux marchés régionaux
    - Deep-water port / Port en eau profonde
    - Proximity to major African economies / Proximité des grandes économies africaines
    - Strategic trade routes / Routes commerciales stratégiques
    - Tourism potential / Potentiel touristique
12. **How do you rate the impact of international partnerships on Togo's development? / Comment évaluez-vous l'impact des partenariats internationaux sur le développement du Togo ?**
    - Very positive / Très positif
    - Positive / Positif
    - Neutral / Neutre
    - Negative / Négatif

- Very negative / Très négatif

13. **What are the main governance challenges in Togo? (Choose all that apply) / Quels sont les principaux défis en matière de gouvernance au Togo ? (Choisissez tout ce qui s'applique)**
    - Transparency and accountability / Transparence et responsabilité
    - Citizen participation / Participation citoyenne
    - Institutional effectiveness / Efficacité des institutions
    - Human rights respect / Respect des droits de l'homme
    - Fight against corruption / Lutte contre la corruption
14. **Which countries do you consider as development models for Togo? (Choose all that apply) / Quels pays considérez-vous comme des modèles de développement pour le Togo ? (Choisissez tout ce qui s'applique)**
    - Singapore / Singapour
    - Rwanda / Rwanda
    - Ghana / Ghana
    - Djibouti / Djibouti
    - Malaysia / Malaisie
    - Finland / Finlande
    - Estonia / Estonie
15. **How do you rate the impact of institutional reforms on Togo's development? / Comment évaluez-vous l'impact des réformes institutionnelles sur le développement du Togo ?**
    - Very positive / Très positif
    - Positive / Positif
    - Neutral / Neutre
    - Negative / Négatif
    - Very negative / Très négatif
16. **What are the main challenges related to implementing economic reforms in Togo? (Choose all that apply) / Quels sont les principaux défis liés à la mise en œuvre des réformes économiques au Togo ? (Choisissez tout ce qui s'applique)**
    - Resistance to change / Résistance au changement
    - Lack of financial resources / Manque de ressources financières

- Corruption / Corruption
- Lack of technical skills / Manque de compétences techniques
- Political instability / Instabilité politique

17. **What are the main challenges related to implementing health policies in Togo? (Choose all that apply) / Quels sont les principaux défis liés à la mise en œuvre des politiques de santé au Togo ? (Choisissez tout ce qui s'applique)**
    - Lack of funding / Manque de financement
    - Inadequate infrastructure / Infrastructure inadéquate
    - Shortage of medical personnel / Pénurie de personnel médical
    - Poor management / Mauvaise gestion
    - Corruption / Corruption
18. **What are the main challenges related to promoting youth employment in Togo? (Choose all that apply) / Quels sont les principaux défis liés à la promotion de l'emploi des jeunes au Togo ? (Choisissez tout ce qui s'applique)**
    - Lack of job opportunities / Manque d'opportunités d'emploi
    - Mismatch between education and job market / Inadéquation entre l'éducation et le marché du travail
    - Lack of vocational training / Manque de formation professionnelle
    - Economic instability / Instabilité économique
    - Corruption / Corruption
19. **How do you rate the impact of agricultural policies on Togo's development? / Comment évaluez-vous l'impact des politiques agricoles sur le développement du Togo ?**
    - Very positive / Très positif
    - Positive / Positif
    - Neutral / Neutre
    - Negative / Négatif
    - Very negative / Très négatif
20. **What are the main challenges related to implementing environmental policies in Togo? (Choose all that apply) / Quels sont les principaux défis liés à la mise en œuvre des politiques environnementales au Togo ? (Choisissez tout ce qui s'applique)**
    - Lack of funding / Manque de financement

- Inadequate infrastructure / Infrastructure inadéquate
- Lack of technical expertise / Manque d'expertise technique
- Poor enforcement / Application insuffisante

(Source: Personal creation, available on https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd_UBg6M78G-zAHyrJ6JRfAclADvGmMFB1JGdKH8rJCyNqzPw/viewform?usp=header)

APPENDIX B : Interview Guide / Guide d'Entretien

Research Objectives / Objectifs de Recherche

The aim of this research is to explore how Togo can leverage its comparative strengths and support its weaknesses in the current geopolitical context for further national development. The study focuses on gathering insights from Togolese citizens, businesses, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), diplomats, and government officials regarding various aspects of Togo's national development.

L'objectif de cette recherche est d'explorer comment le Togo peut tirer parti de ses forces comparatives et soutenir ses faiblesses dans le contexte géopolitique actuel pour un développement national futur. L'étude vise à recueillir des avis de citoyens togolais, d'entreprises, d'organisations non gouvernementales (ONG), de diplomates et de fonctionnaires du gouvernement sur divers aspects du développement national du Togo.

Section A: Background Information / Informations Générales

1. Could you please introduce yourself and explain your professional background? / Pourriez-vous vous présenter et expliquer votre parcours professionnel ?
2. What is your role in relation to Togo's national development? / Quel est votre rôle en relation avec le développement national du Togo ?

Section B: Perceptions on Political Stability / Perceptions sur la Stabilité Politique

3. How would you describe the current political stability in Togo? / Comment décririez-vous la stabilité politique actuelle au Togo ?
4. What are the main factors contributing to political stability or instability in Togo? / Quels sont les principaux facteurs contribuant à la stabilité ou à l'instabilité politique au Togo ?
5. What impact does political stability have on attracting foreign investments in Togo? / Quel impact la stabilité politique a-t-elle sur l'attraction des investissements étrangers au Togo ?

Section C: Economic Development / Développement Économique

6. In your opinion, what are the main economic strengths of Togo? / À votre avis, quels sont les principaux atouts économiques du Togo ?
7. What are the main economic challenges facing Togo today? / Quels sont les principaux défis économiques auxquels le Togo est confronté aujourd'hui ?
8. How can Togo leverage its geographical advantages for trade and logistics to enhance economic growth? / Comment le Togo peut-il tirer parti de ses avantages géographiques pour le commerce et la logistique afin de stimuler la croissance économique ?

9. What strategies would you recommend to overcome these economic challenges? / Quelles stratégies recommanderiez-vous pour surmonter ces défis économiques ?

Section D: Social and Educational Aspects / Aspects Sociaux et Éducatifs

10. How do you evaluate the quality of education in Togo? / Comment évaluez-vous la qualité de l'éducation au Togo ?
11. What improvements do you believe are necessary to enhance the educational system? / Quelles améliorations croyez-vous nécessaires pour améliorer le système éducatif ?

Section E: Infrastructure and Technological Innovation / Infrastructures et Innovation Technologique

13. What is the state of infrastructure in Togo? / Quel est l'état des infrastructures au Togo ?
14. How does technological innovation play a role in the development of Togo? / Quel rôle joue l'innovation technologique dans le développement du Togo ?

Section F: Governance and International Partnerships / Gouvernance et Partenariats Internationaux

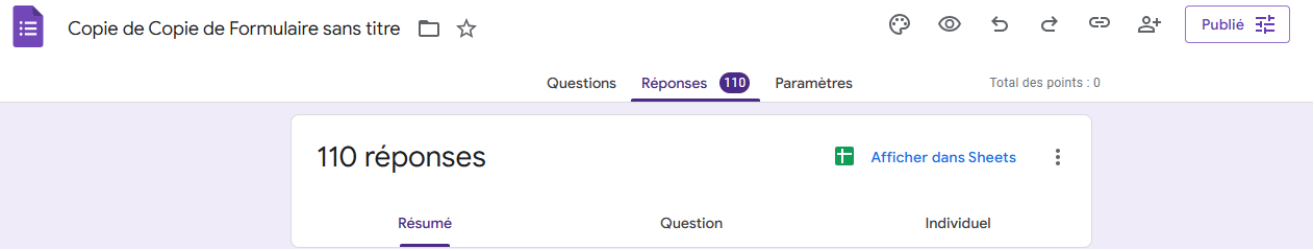
15. How do you perceive the quality of governance in Togo ? / Comment percevez-vous la qualité de la gouvernance au Togo ?
16. What are the main governance challenges that need to be addressed ? / Quels sont les principaux défis en matière de gouvernance qui doivent être abordés ?
17. What institutional reforms and strategic partnerships are needed to strengthen Togo's development prospects ? / Quelles réformes institutionnelles et quels partenariats stratégiques sont nécessaires pour renforcer les perspectives de développement du Togo ?
18. Which economic sectors in Togo stand to benefit the most from cooperation with the Alliance of Sahel States ? / Quels sont les secteurs économiques du Togo qui pourraient le plus bénéficier d'une coopération avec les pays de l'Alliance sur les Etats du Sahel (AES) ?
19. Which countries do you consider as models for Togo's development and why? (Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland, and Estonia) / Quels pays considérez-vous comme des modèles pour le développement du Togo et pourquoi ? (Rwanda, Ghana, Djibouti, Singapour, Malaisie, Finlande, et Estonie)

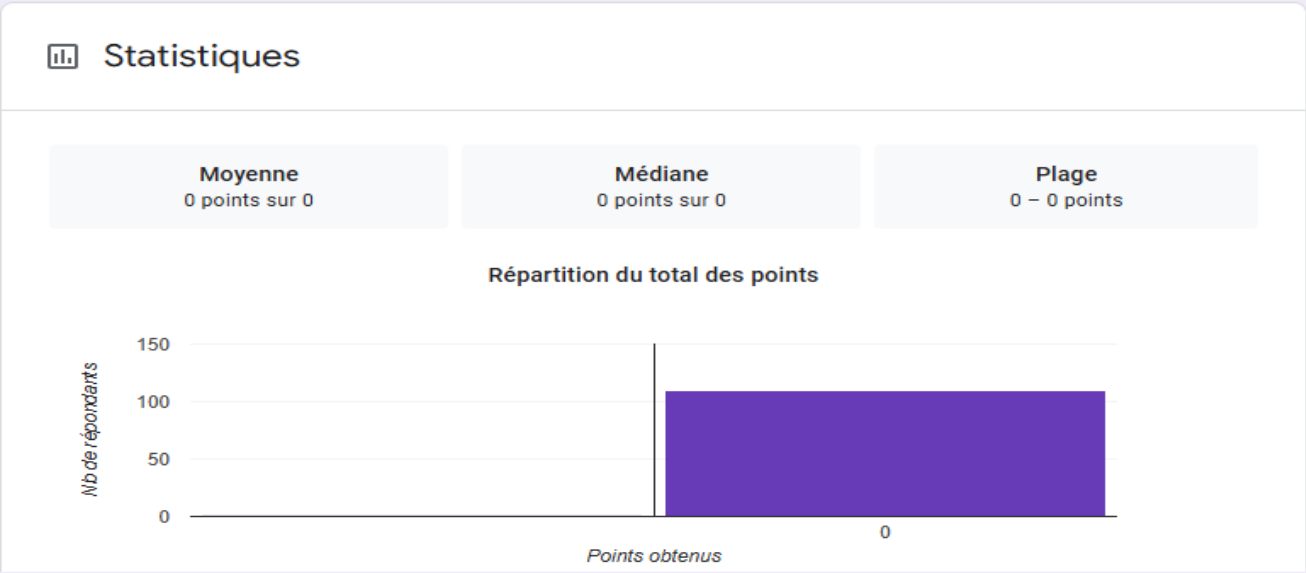
Section G : Closing Questions / Questions de Clôture

20. What additional comments or suggestions do you have regarding Togo's national development? / Quels commentaires ou suggestions supplémentaires avez-vous concernant le développement national du Togo ?

Thank you for your time and insights. Your contributions are invaluable to our research. / Merci pour votre temps et vos précieuses informations. Vos contributions sont inestimables pour notre recherche.

APPENDIX C : Graphs showing demographic, economic, and social trends from raw data from Survey Questionnaire





This questionnaire has been developed as part of a Doctorate of Business and Administration (DBA) research on the theme "How to leverage comparative strengths and support weaknesses of Togo in the current geopolitics for further national development." Togo, a country rich in linguistic and cultural diversity, has strengthened the use of English in addition to French, the official language since independence in 1960, since its accession to the Commonwealth on June 25, 2022. Therefore, it is essential to design the questionnaires in bilingual versions, in French and English, to ensure they are accessible to a wide audience. The data collected will inform policymakers and guide future development initiatives in Togo.

Ce questionnaire a été élaboré dans le cadre d'une recherche DBA portant sur le thème "Comment tirer parti des forces comparatives et soutenir les faiblesses du Togo dans la géopolitique actuelle pour un développement national futur." Le Togo, pays riche en diversité linguistique et culturelle, a renforcé l'utilisation de l'anglais en plus du français, langue officielle depuis l'indépendance en 1960, depuis son adhésion au Commonwealth le 25 juin 2022. Il est donc essentiel de concevoir les questionnaires en versions bilingues, en français et en anglais, pour garantir leur accessibilité à un large public. Les données recueillies permettront d'informer les décideurs politiques et de guider les initiatives de développement futur au Togo.

Thesis Commentary on Questionnaires / Commentaire de Thèse sur les Questionnaires

The proposed questionnaires cover a wide range of topics relevant to the economic and social development of Togo. They are designed to gather both quantitative and qualitative data on various aspects, including political stability, economic challenges, development strategies, and international development models. Here are some key points:

Les questionnaires proposés couvrent une gamme étendue de sujets pertinents pour le développement économique et social du Togo. Ils sont conçus pour recueillir des données quantitatives et qualitatives sur divers aspects, notamment la stabilité politique, les défis économiques, les stratégies de développement, et les modèles de développement internationaux. Voici quelques points clés :

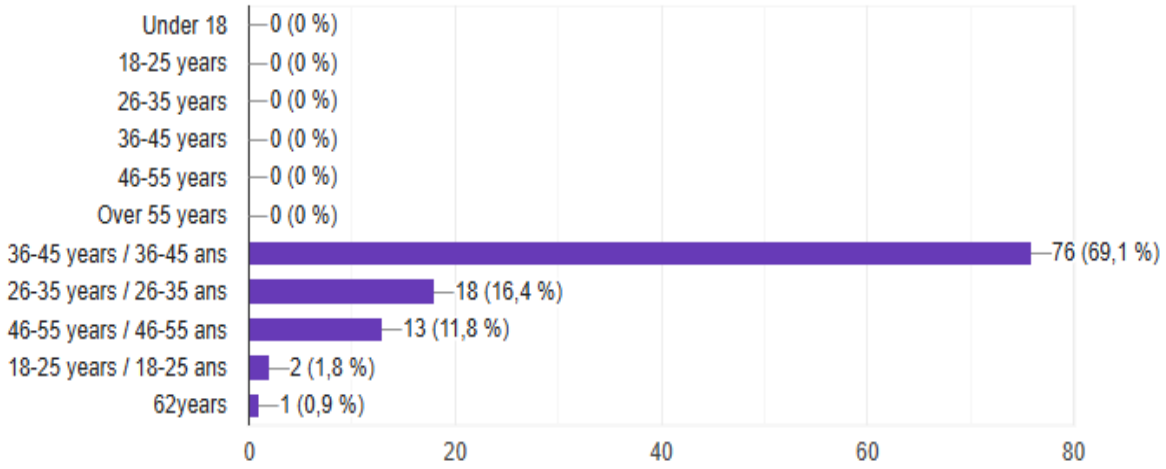
Diversity of Topics: The questions address a variety of subjects, ranging from education and public health to governance and technological innovation. This diversity allows for a comprehensive overview of the factors influencing Togo's development. / **Diversité des Thèmes** : Les questions abordent des sujets variés, allant de l'éducation et la santé publique à la gouvernance et l'innovation technologique. Cette diversité permet de capturer une vue d'ensemble des facteurs influençant le développement du Togo. **Development Models**: By including questions on development models from countries like Singapore, Rwanda, and others,

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1. What is your age?

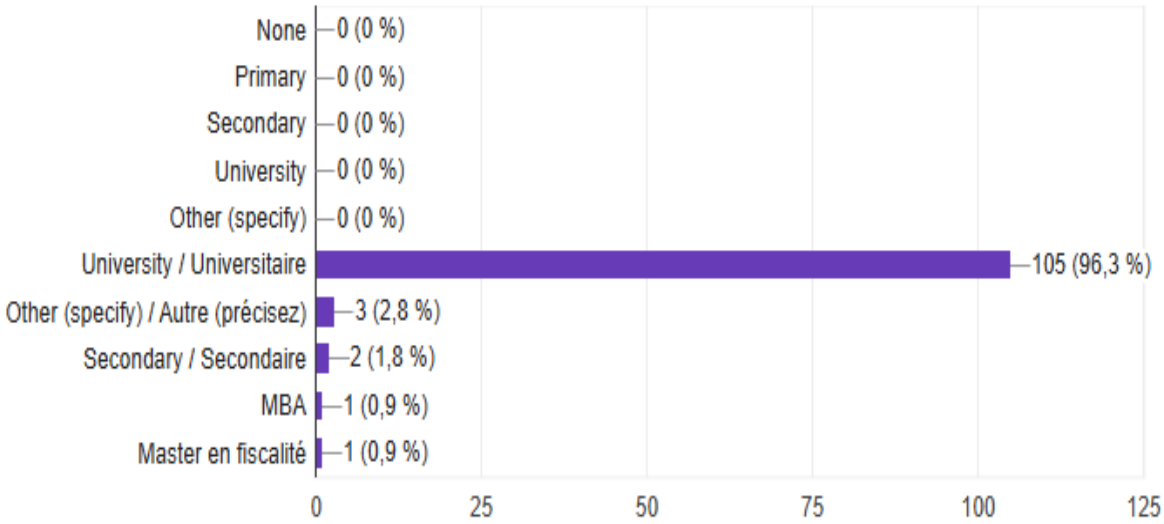
110 réponses



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2. What is your level of education?

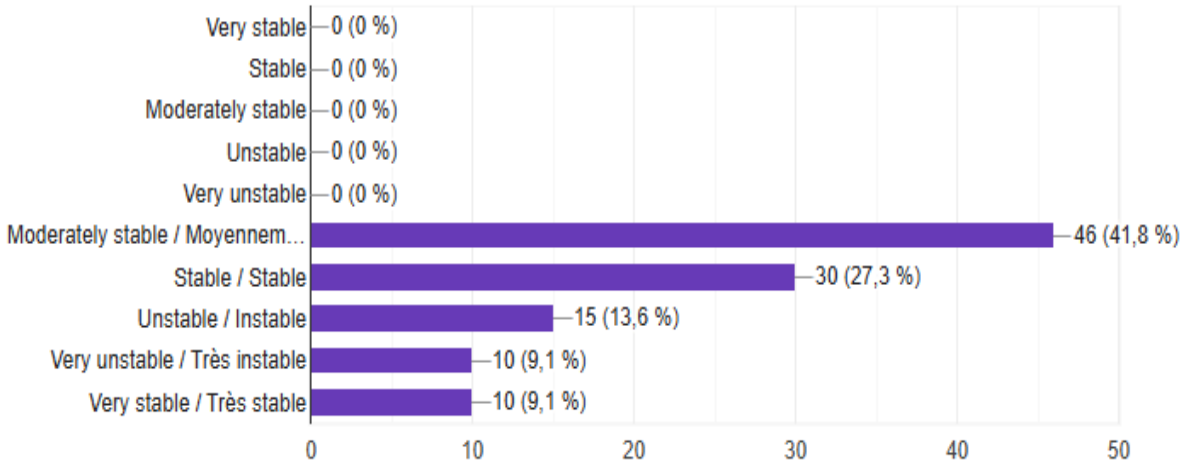
109 réponses



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3. How do you rate the current political stability in Togo?

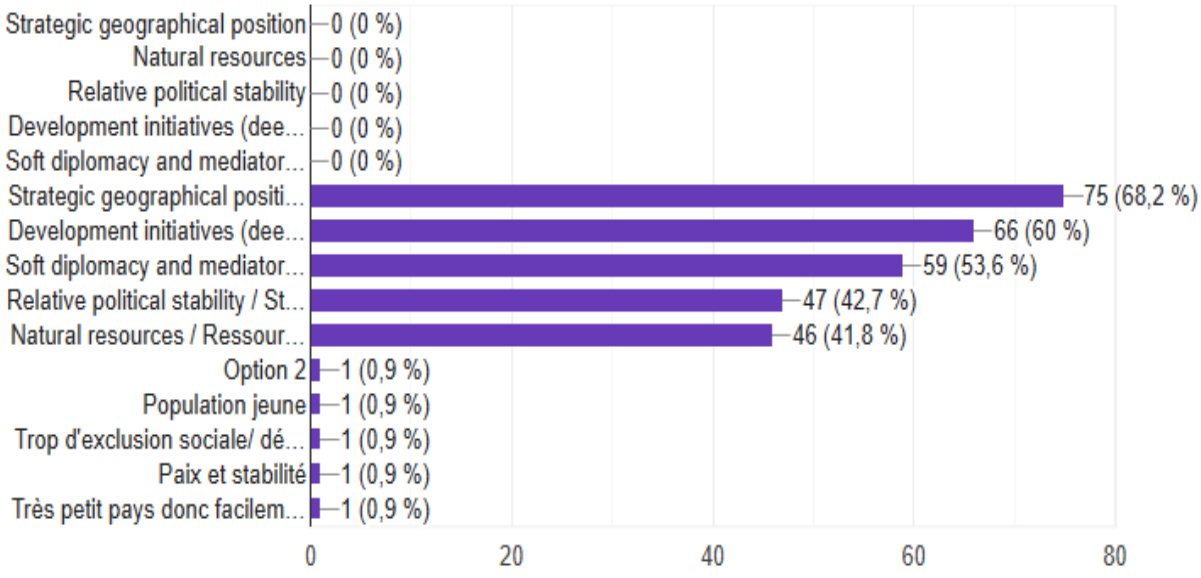
110 réponses



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4. In your opinion, what are the main strengths of Togo in the current geopolitical context? (Choose all that apply)

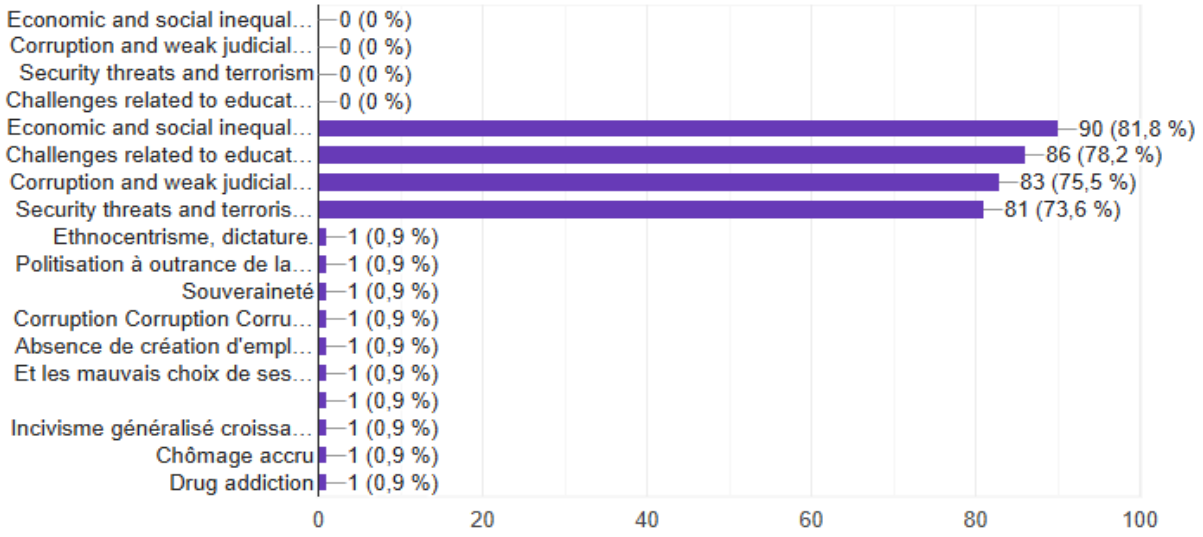
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5. What are the main challenges facing Togo? (Choose all that apply)

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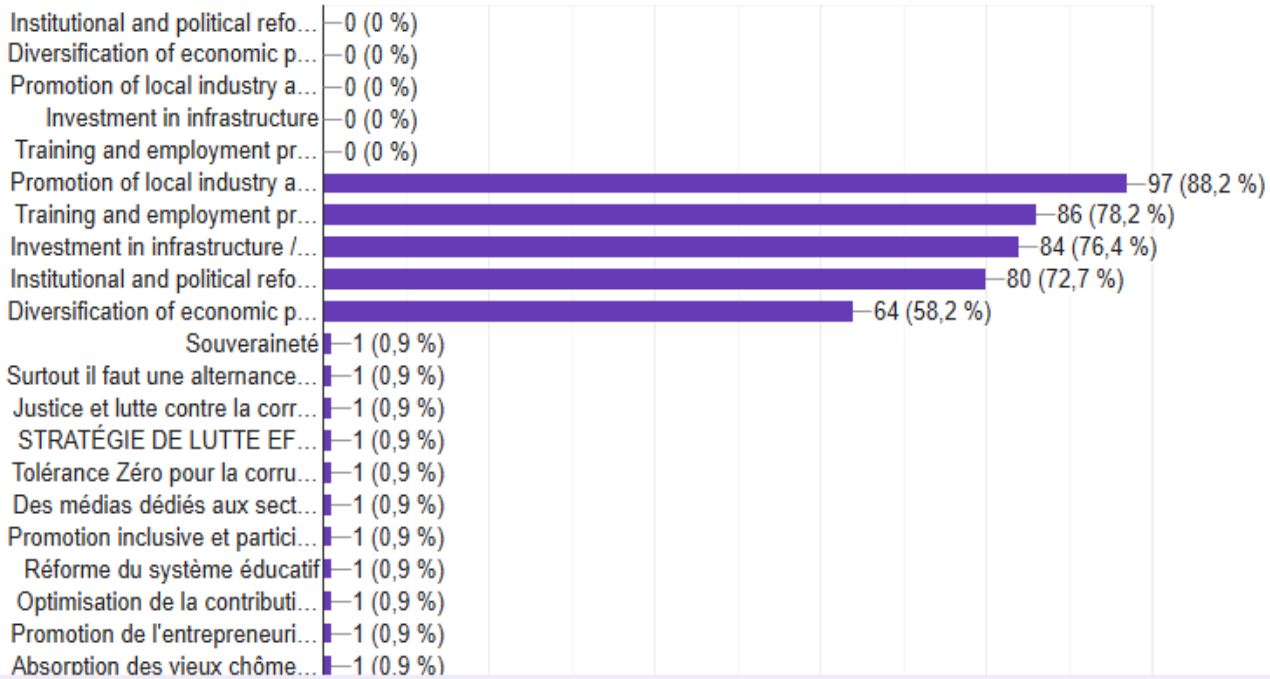
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6. What strategies would you recommend for the future development of Togo? (Choose all that apply)

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110 réponses

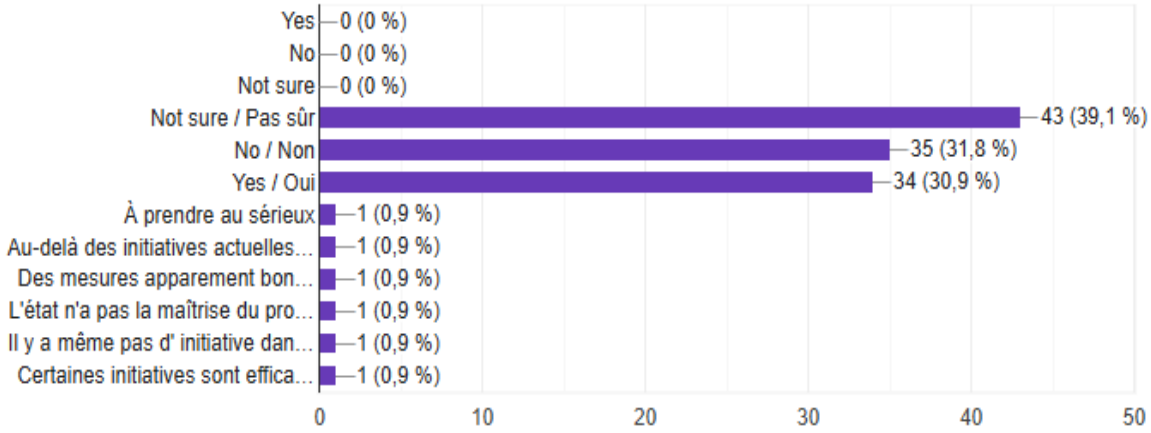


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7. Do you think the current development initiatives in Togo are effective?

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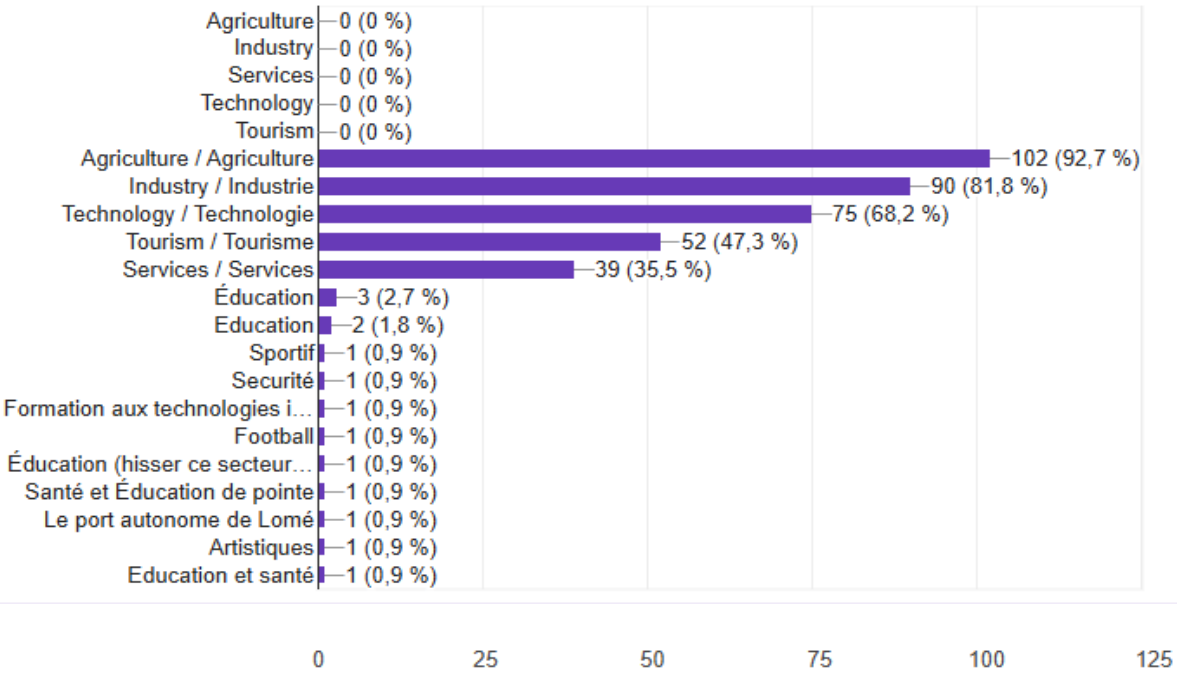
110 réponses



8. Which sectors should be prioritized for Togo's economic development? (Choose all that apply)

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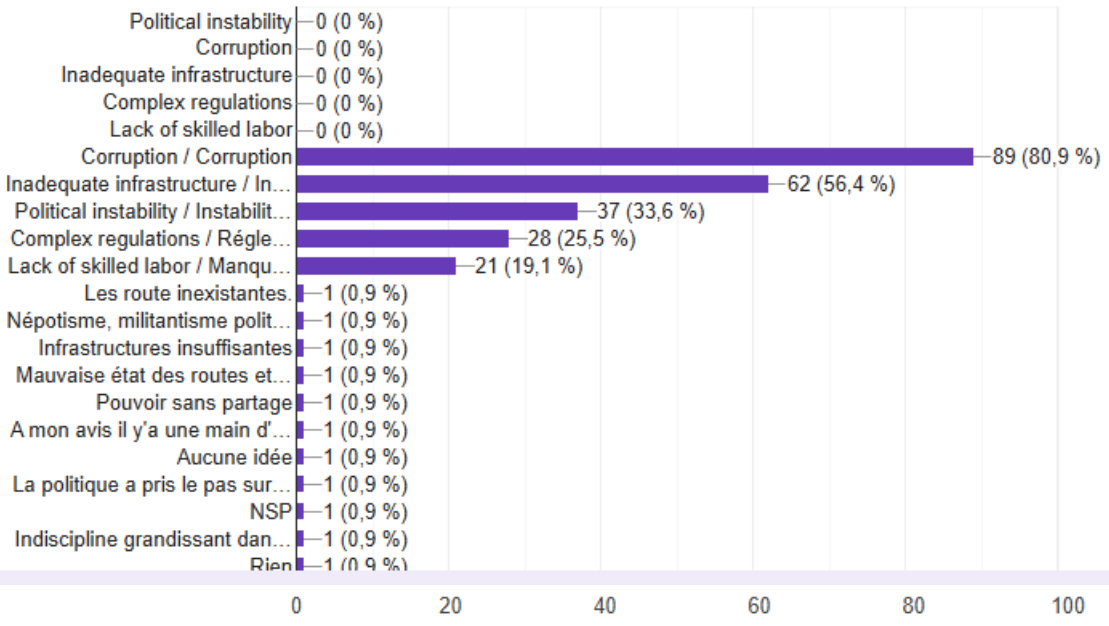
110 réponses



9. What are the main obstacles to foreign investment in Togo? (Choose all that apply)

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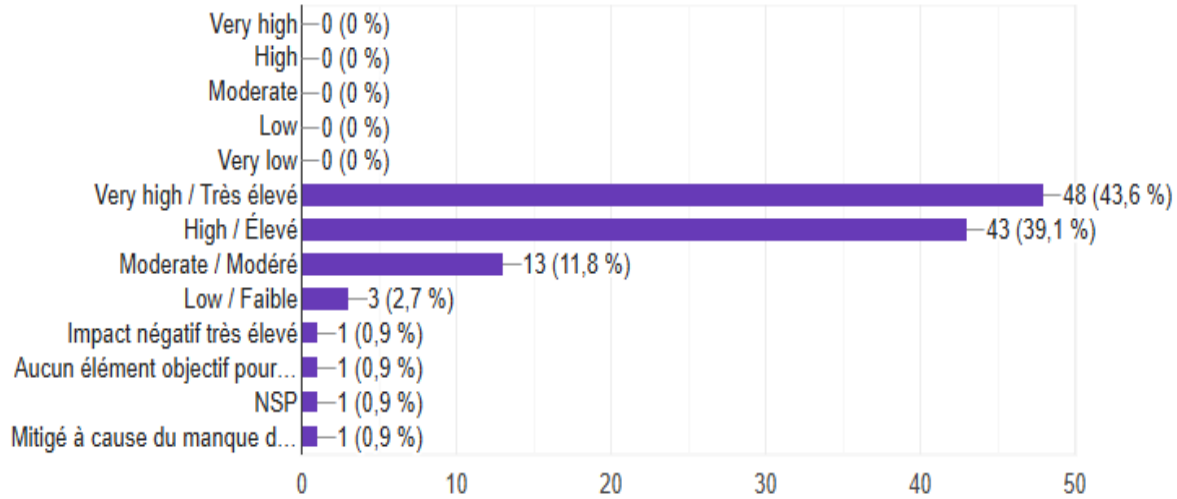
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10. How do you rate the impact of corruption on Togo's economic development?

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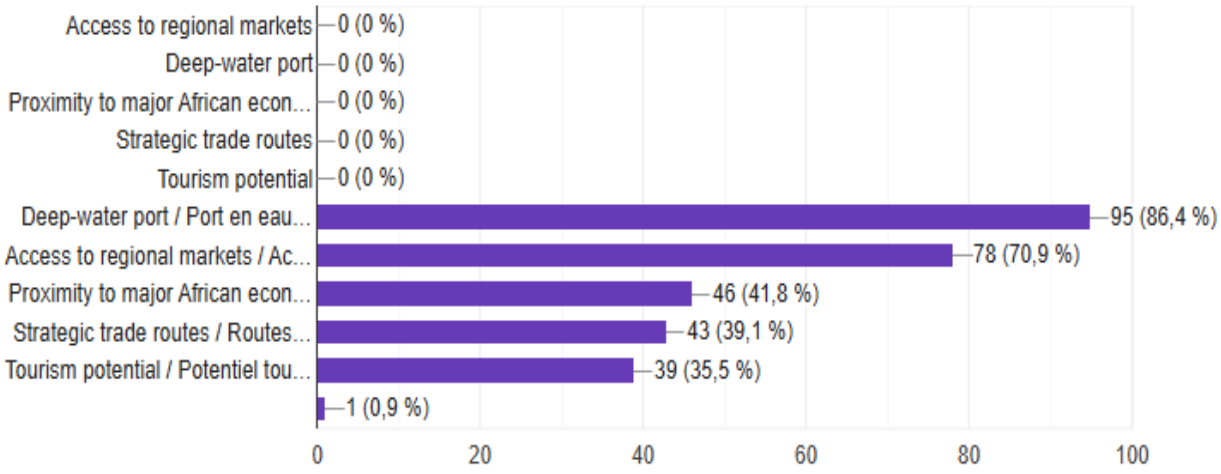
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11. What are the main advantages of Togo's geographical position? (Choose all that apply)

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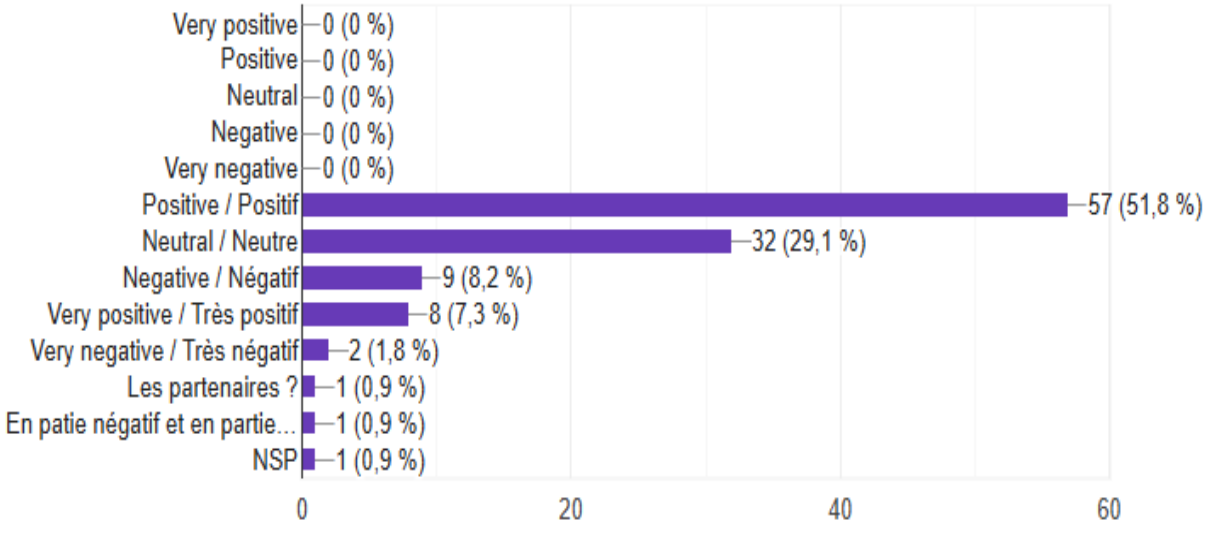
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12. How do you rate the impact of international partnerships on Togo's development?

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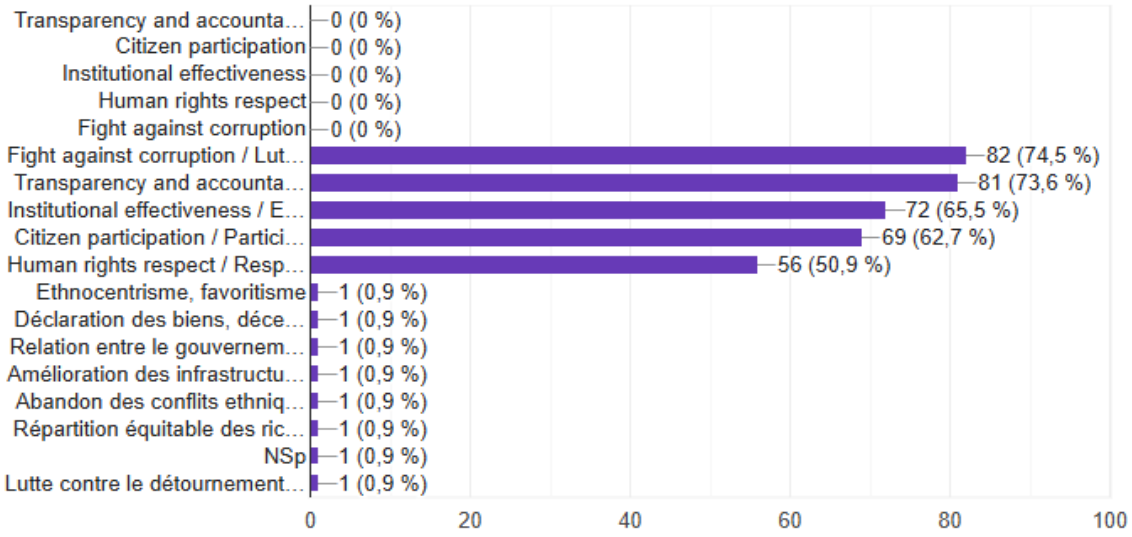
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13. What are the main governance challenges in Togo? (Choose all that apply)

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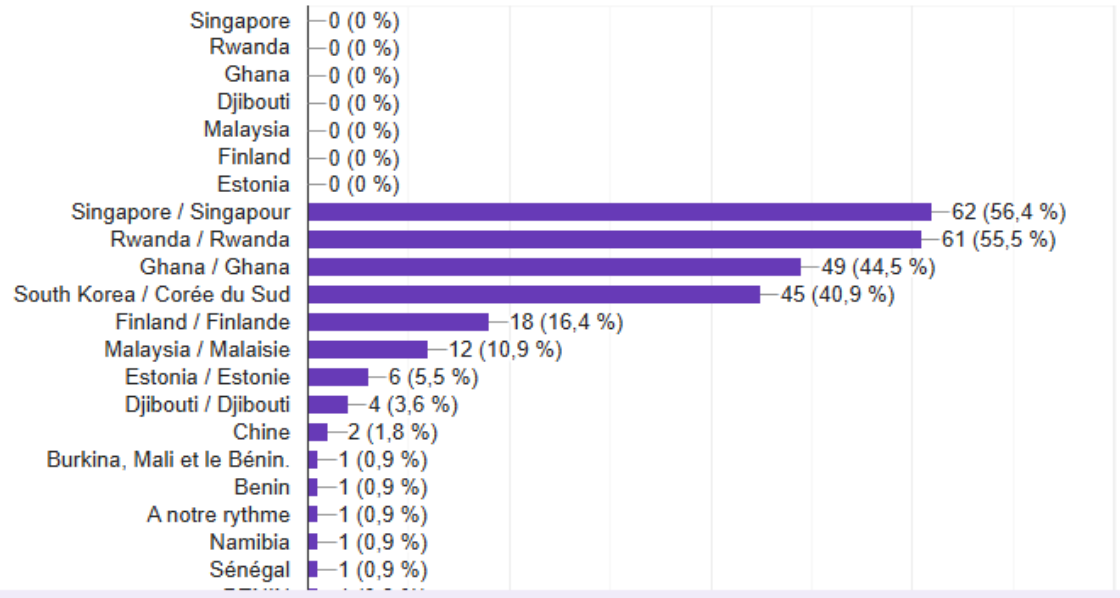
110 réponses



14. Which countries do you consider as development models for Togo? (Choose all that apply)

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110 réponses

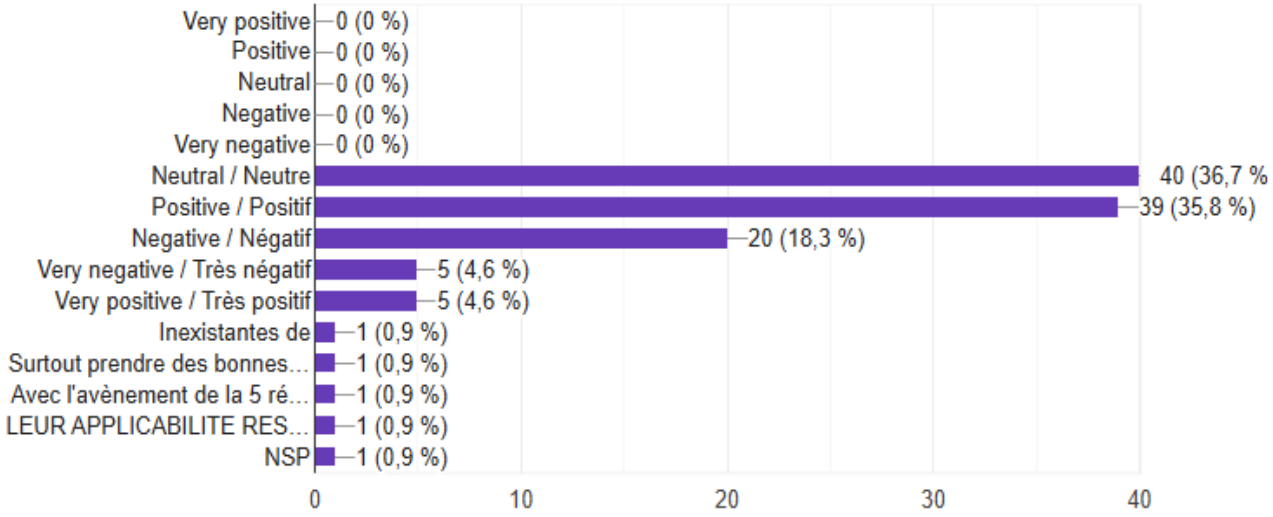




15. How do you rate the impact of institutional reforms on Togo's development?

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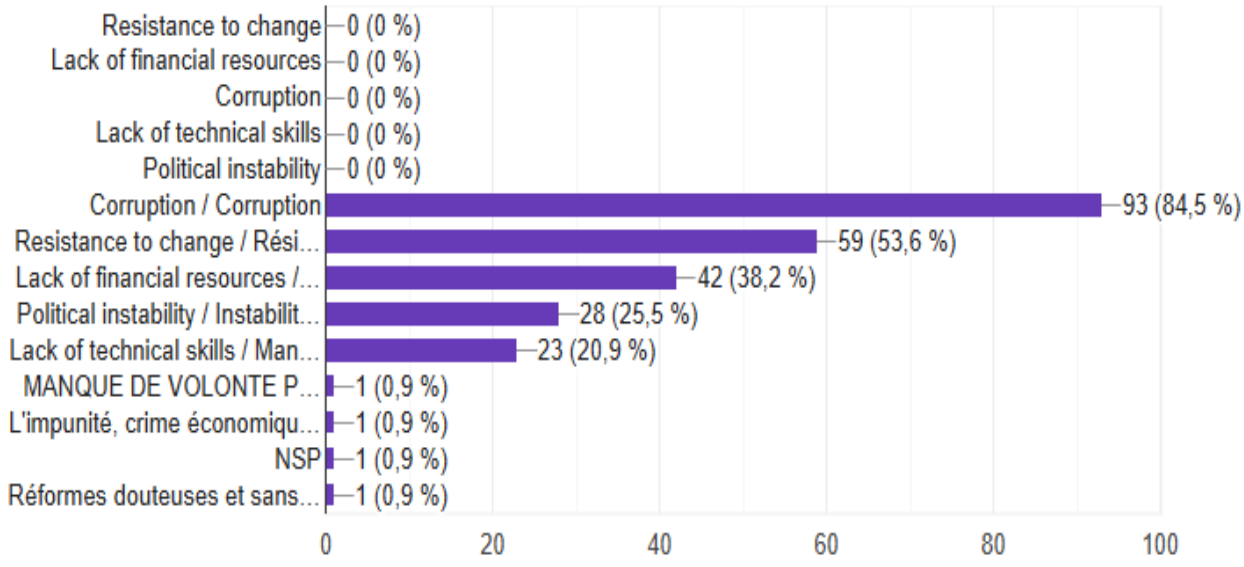
109 réponses



16. What are the main challenges related to implementing economic reforms in Togo? (Choose all that apply)

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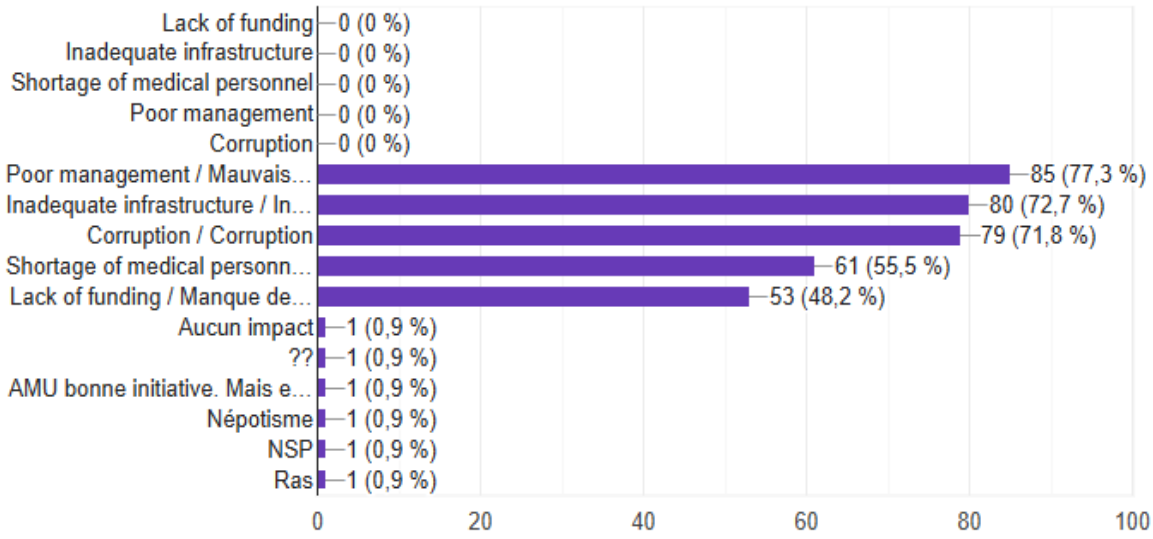
110 réponses



17. What are the main challenges related to implementing health policies in Togo? (Choose all that apply)

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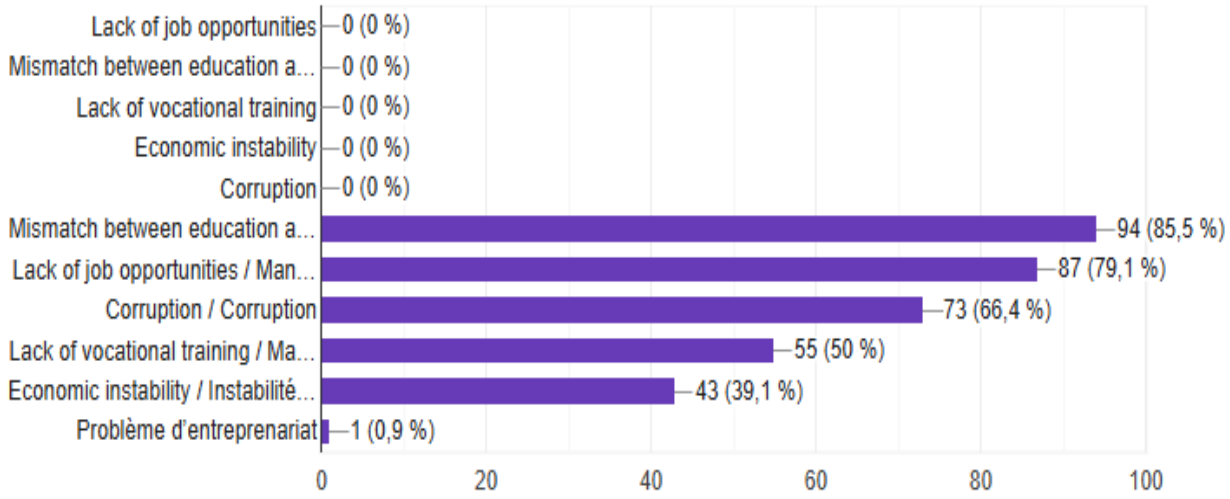
110 réponses



18. What are the main challenges related to promoting youth employment in Togo? (Choose all that apply)

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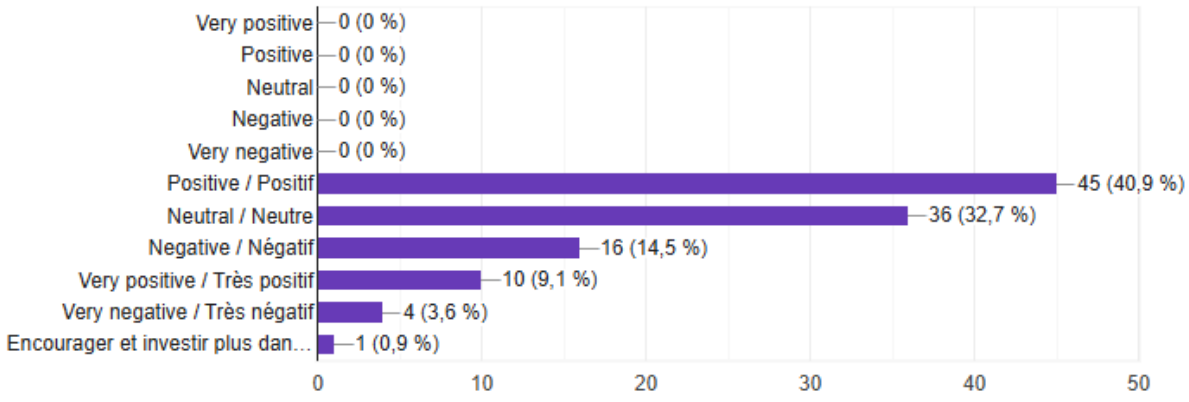
110 réponses



19. How do you rate the impact of agricultural policies on Togo's development?

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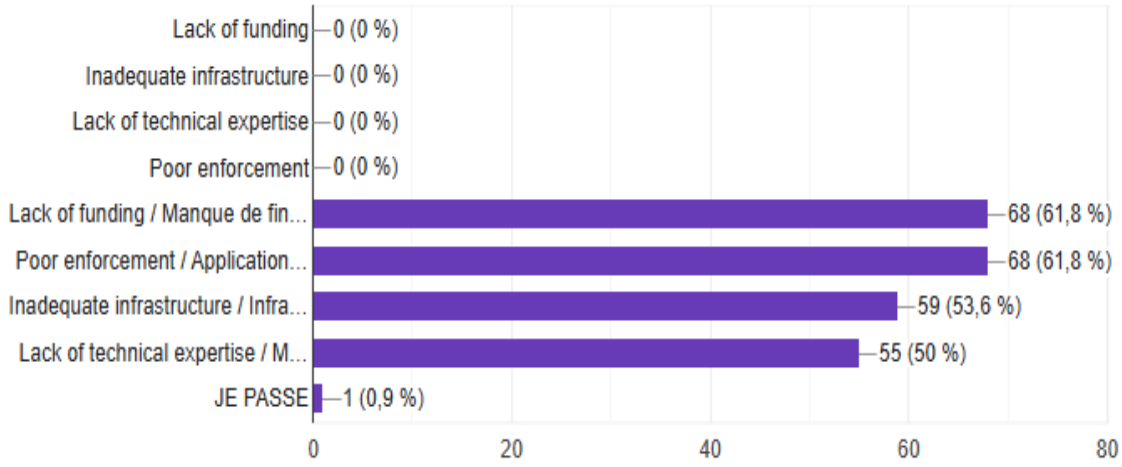
110 réponses



20. What are the main challenges related to implementing environmental policies in Togo? (Choose all that apply)

Copier le graphique

110 réponses



(Source: Personal creation, available on https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd_UBg6M78G-zAHyrJ6JRfAclADvGmMFB1JGdKH8rJCyNqzPw/viewform?usp=header)

APPENDIX D: Detailed Political Map of Togo



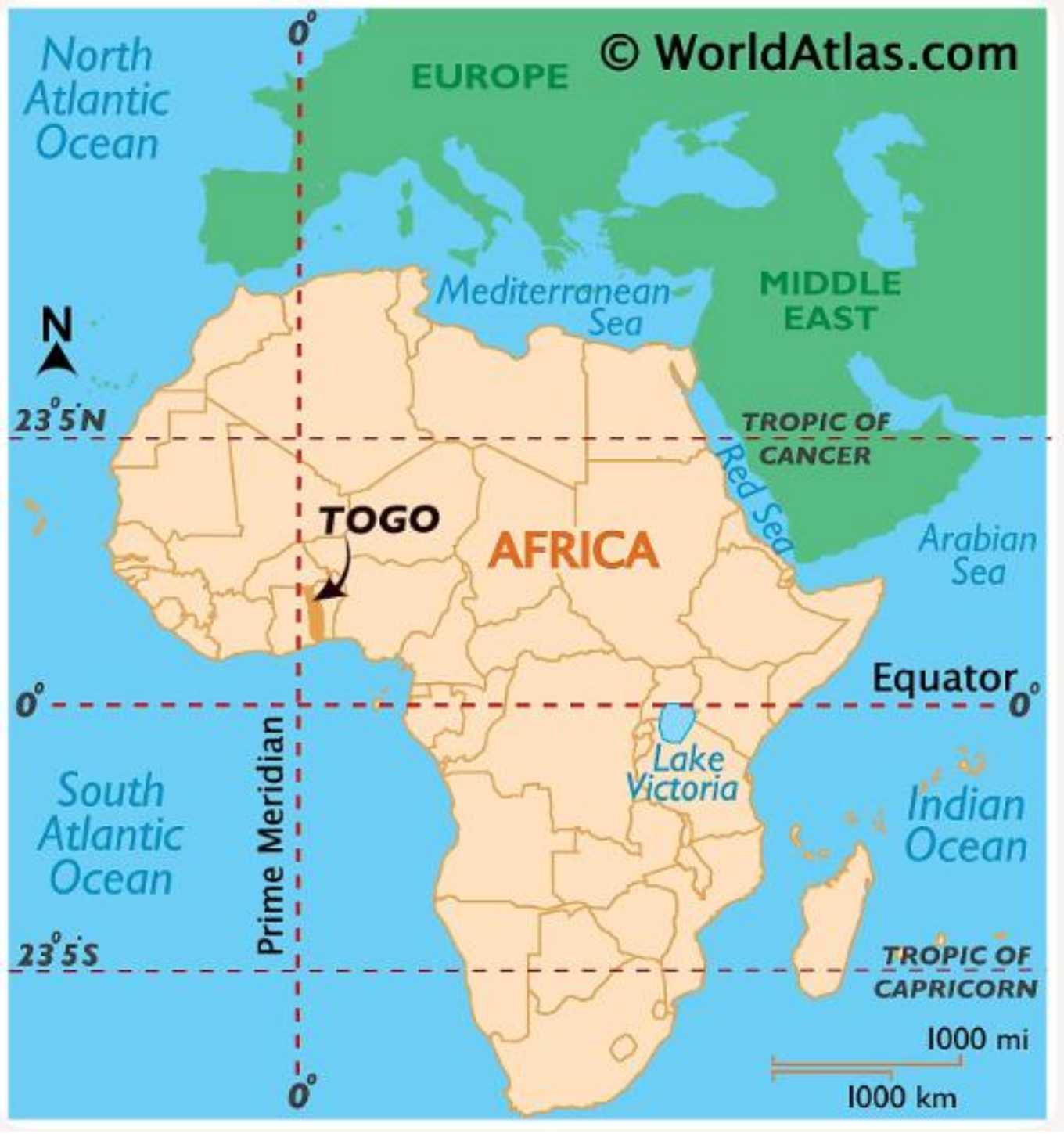
(Source: From https://www.ezilon.com/maps/africa/togo-maps.html#google_vignette)

APPENDIX E: Geopolitical Map of Togo and Its Neighboring Countries



(Source: From https://www.ezilon.com/maps/africa/togo-maps.html#google_vignette)

APPENDIX F: Geographic and Political Boundaries in West Africa



(Source: Togo Maps & Facts - World Atlas)