

Do You Know?

...the African Economic Outlook assesses economic changes through in-depth analysis of 22 countries?

...Africa's growth rates rose from 2.7% to 3.6% in 2003, due to good prices for raw material exports, a significant increase in international aid to the continent, and improved security in some countries?

Despite the weak growth in the world economy, Africa's growth rate in 2003 was the highest in the last four years. External and domestic factors have supported this recovery: High oil and gold prices allowed for strong gains for exporting countries, and mainly due to adverse weather conditions, the world price of cotton almost doubled between October 2001 and December 2003. ODA has continued to rise in the last two years and US aid to Africa has risen by 15%. Domestically, prudent macroeconomic policies and the restoration of peace, albeit fragile, in the Great Lakes Region, Angola, and West Africa helped to boost their economic performance. Growth is expected to hold up through 2005, however, it will remain far below the rate required to attain the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

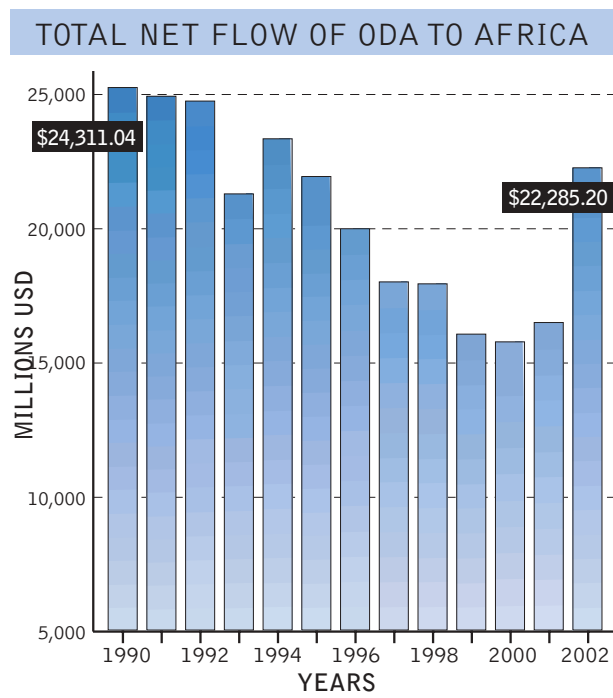
...the Statistical Annex of the African Economic Outlook contains the following?

- Basic Indicators
- Real GDP Growth Rates
- Demand Composition
- Public Finances
- Monetary Indicators
- Current Account
- Exports
- Diversification and Competitiveness
- International Prices of Exports
- Foreign Direct Investments
- Aid Flows
- External Debt Indicators
- Demographic Indicators
- Poverty and Income Distribution Indicators
- Basic Health Indicators
- Sanitary Conditions
- Major Diseases
- Basic Education Indicators
- School Enrolment
- Corruption perception index
- Political Troubles
- Softening of the Regime
- Hardening of the Regime

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■ OECD, African Economic Outlook 2003/2004,
ISBN 92-64-01624-4;
\$95.00 (also available in PDF)

"The cotton price illustrates the special problem encountered by some of the poorest sub-Saharan countries in the context of today's international trade regime. West and Central African countries produce low-cost, high-grade cotton but face unattractive and declining world prices because of the subsidies some countries accord to their producers."



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Do You Know?



...Africa's vast energy potential is very little used, resulting in a substantial energy deficit?

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