

Trans-border Crime and Its Socio-economic Impact on Developing Economies

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ABSTRACT This article examines the implications of trans-border crime on the socio-economic development of developing societies. The phenomenal rise in money laundering and drug trafficking and other trans-border crimes within the West African sub region has generated much concerns to scholars and policy makers. The paper which is essentially library research argues that trans-border crime is growing in scale and momentum without a corresponding clear and coordinated strategy for dealing with this hydra-headed monster in the sub-region. These significantly affect the economies of developing societies and possess the capacity of undermining and fueling insecurity across the globe. Organized criminal activities affect our joint security and the stability of the region and economies and core democratic values. We concluded that the extent and magnitude of the problem necessitate a definitive strategy within the broad frame of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) a sub-regional body to deal with it. This may also involve public-private partnerships.