

EconWorld2016@Barcelona

Does Economic Globalization Make Africa Healthier?

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ABSTRACT

This study empirically examines the impact of economic globalization on the health status of African countries. There are contrarian views about impact of globalization and trade on health: view stating benefits for all through higher income and the other view stating inequality in benefits resulting in no gains from globalization for underdeveloped world. It is an attempt to check which of the contrarian view about globalization and trade stands true in context of African health. The paper checks what the impact of globalization, various dimensions of globalization and international trade on the health using panel data methodology. Analysis extends to find out whether this impact gets affected by initial level of income and development status of a country. The empirical analysis suggests that globalization and trade has a positive impact on the health. Low income or low human development countries seem to be garnering more benefits in terms of health compared to medium income or medium human development countries.

KEYWORDS Globalization; International Trade; Health

JEL I15, F63, O55