

1 ARDL Modeling of the Impact of Financial Reforms on Private 2 Domestic Saving in Cameroon

3 Neba Cletus Yah¹ and Ebo oh Ntjen Salomon Desiree²

4 ¹ University of Douala

5 *Received: 9 December 2018 Accepted: 3 January 2019 Published: 15 January 2019*

6

7 **Abstract**

8 The aim of this study is to model the effects of financial sector reforms on private domestic
9 savings in Cameroon. After building an econometric model of private domestic savings from
10 the theory of financial repression of McKinnon and Shaw (1973), it is analyzed using ARDL co
11 integration approach. The results indicate that there exist a long run negative and significant
12 relationship between private domestic savings and financial reforms.

13

14 **Index terms**— financial reforms, private domestic savings, ARDL modeling approach

15 **1 Introduction**

16 The financial system plays an important role in economic development. It intermediates between savers and
17 borrowers (investors) in the economy. Economies with well-developed financial systems boast of liquidity
18 availability created by financial institutions through the mobilization of savings (resources). The savings are
19 allocated to the different productive investment sectors of the economy. A healthy and developed financial
20 system does not only benefit the economy through savings mobilization but also through increased efficiency
21 of financial intermediation (Levine, 1997). The efficiency of financial intermediation increases the ratio of
22 private domestic savings to income. This in turn will make the process of domestic savings mobilization more
23 effective. Thus efficient resource allocation and financial deepening will be achieved hence economic development
24 ??Shaw, 1973). According to Levine (1997), the financial intermediation functions of savings mobilization and
25 the efficient allocation of resources leads to capital accumulation and technological innovation which in turn
26 promotes economic growth and development.

27 One of the main aims of financial sector reforms is to enhance the efficient mobilization and allocation of private
28 domestic savings in an economy by removing price distortions and decreasing the problem of incentives for both
29 borrowers and lenders. Financial reforms therefore, entail usage of indirect monetary policy instruments, money
30 and capital markets development, liberalization of interest rate and credit control relaxation. These efforts work
31 towards promoting the efficiency of the financial sector in the mobilization and allocation of the savings of the
32 economy (Ngugi, 2000).

33 Many countries, influenced by economic theories en vogue, applied different financial sector policies with the
34 aim of ensuring the efficiency of financial intermediation. Kase kende and Atingi-Ego (2008) observed that most
35 of the developing countries in the periods from 1970 to mid-1980s were characterized by financial repression.
36 The wisdom behind financial restriction was to persuade financial institutions and other instrument from which
37 the government obtains revenue disregarding other sectors. This was based on Keynes argument that capital
38 formation could only be promoted by keeping interest rates low ??Levine, 2001). This theoretical argument
39 came under sharp criticism in the works of McKinnon (1973) and ??haw (1973) who termed the position as
40 financial repression. According to these authors, financial repression policies lead to a loss in the efficiency of the
41 financial sector in saving mobilization and allocation. McKinnon (1973) and ??haw (1973) argued that LDCs
42 underdevelopment was mainly as a result of financial repression which according to them interferes with financial
43 deepening and financial intermediation. They hold that when interest rates are controlled, savings mobilization
44 through financial institutions will not be allocated efficiently among competitive uses. This implies that the

3 LITERATURE REVIEW

45 returns on the savings will be unpredictable and unstable. Capital investments are discouraged making the
46 economy to stagnate. Interest rates therefore need to be attractive so as to mobilize more savings for productive
47 and profitable investments. The McKinnon and Shaw hypothesis is based on the assumption that savings are
48 always positively related to real interest rates and that if nominal interest rates are administratively determined,
49 they will always be below the equilibrium level of real interest rates. The expected benefits of financial reforms
50 therefore include among others; an increase in the size of domestic savings channelled through the formal financial
51 sector, T increased efficiency of financial intermediation and the effectiveness of monetary policy (Levine (1997)).
52 There is therefore need to develop well-functioning financial systems to aid the process of economic development.

53 A large number of Sub Saharan African (SSA) Countries widely adopted Structural Adjustment Programs
54 (SAPs) in view of reviving their deteriorating economies in the mid-80s (World Bank, 1994). SAPs were basically
55 meant to encourage governments to pursue measures of economic liberalization in order to remove restriction
56 in financial intermediation process, improve resource mobilization, productivity and operational efficiency which
57 had made the process of economic development unachievable (Aryeetey, Hettige, Nissanke, & Steel, 1997). One
58 of the major economic liberalization measures was the reform of the financial sector. Financial liberalization was
59 therefore viewed as a process of allowing market forces to determine who receives or makes credit and what price.
60 The financial liberalization measures that were to be adopted included deregulation of interest rates; elimination
61 or reduction of directed credit control; allowing free entry in the banking sector as well as giving autonomy to
62 commercial banks; allowing private ownership of banks; and liberalizing international capital flows (Odhiambo,
63 2009).

64 Cameroon as most of the countries in SSA initiated financial sector reforms in the late 1980s with liberalization
65 of interest rates taking the lead in 1991 followed by removal of credit guidelines, free entry into the banking sector
66 and opening of the financial sector to foreign investors (Noula, 2012). Despite the implementation of these reforms,
67 private domestic savings rate has been falling and remains very low. Domestic savings divided by GDP stood
68 at 16.19% in 2018 according to the World Development Indicators 2019 online version. This figure is half its
69 1990 level which stood at 30% when reforms were undertaken. Furthermore, the performance of Cameroon in
70 this indicator is very poor as it is below the average of Sub-Saharan Africa which stands at 18.89% in 2018. For
71 high income countries, the domestic savings rate in 2018 was 24%, making us to believe that the low growth
72 performance observed during the past years can be partly explained by its poor savings rate. As such, if the
73 country intends to accomplish its ambitions of meeting the millennium development goals and becoming an
74 emerging nation in 2035, it needs to increase its efforts in mobilizing financial resources to finance its projects.
75 This might permit the country to realize the minimum required growth rate of 5.5% as stipulated in its Growth
76 and Employment Strategy Paper (GESP) elaborated after the attainment of the completion point of the Heavily
77 Indebted Poor Country (HIPC) Initiative in 2009.

78 2 II.

79 3 Literature Review

80 The important role played by the financial sector in economic development can be traced back to Schumpeter
81 (1911) who highlighted the key role of banks in facilitating financial intermediation between entrepreneurs who
82 require credit to finance the acquisition of new products. His line of argument was later supported by authors
83 such as Gurley and Shaw (1955), Goldsmith (1969) and Hicks (1969). These authors were in agreement with
84 Schumpeter on the important role that the financial sector plays. They therefore recommended the formulation of
85 policies which aim at enhancing the role of the financial sector in the process of economic development. However,
86 though economists agreed on the important role played by the financial sector, they differed in the policies that
87 would enhance its efficiency. This Keynesians proposed the ideology of financial repression which was highly
88 adopted in developing countries. The governments in these economies used the policy measure of keeping interest
89 rates low in order to finance their fiscal deficits. This measure was preferred because no increase in taxes or
90 inflation was desirable. Other policy measures included high reserve requirement, selected credit to priority
91 sectors of the economy, weak monetary policy and accommodation of government borrowing. There was no
92 incentive to hold money anymore and other financial assets in these economies limiting, as such, credit available
93 to investors. These diminished the size of the banking system and restrained financial intermediation.

94 The Keynesian ideology was later in the 1970s challenged by McKinnon (1973) and Shaw (1973).

95 McKinnon model argued that since investment is selffinanced, there is need therefore to have sufficient savings.
96 On the other hand Shaw's model postulated on the role that financial intermediaries play in the process of
97 economic growth by promoting investment through borrowing and lending. McKinnon (1973) analysed an open
98 economy with little possibility of external finance for vast majority of investors. He argues that because of
99 the lumpiness of physical capital, savers may find it convenient to accumulate funds in monetary assets until
100 they have enough resources to invest in high yielding physical assets. In his words, McKinnon stipulated that
101 deposits may serve as a conduit for capital formation making deposits and capital complementary assets. The
102 availability of deposits generating real rates of returns may thus encourage both savings and capital accumulation.
103 This however is in contrast with the neoclassical theory where these two assets (money and physical assets) are
104 considered substitutes.

105 Shaw (1973) also stressed on the importance of positive real interest as an inducement to save in financially

106 repressed economies. However unlike McKinnon, Shaw hypothesized on external rather than internal financial
107 possibilities as the effective constraint on capital formation. Focusing on the role of deposits as a source of funds
108 for financial intermediaries, Shaw argues that deposit rates would stimulate investment spending by allowing the
109 supply of credit to expand in line with financial needs.

110 One clear argument of both Shaw and McKinnon hypothesis is the assumption that savings are always
111 positively related to real interest rates and that administratively determined nominal interest rates were therefore
112 always below the equilibrium market level of real interest rates. Their framework therefore advocates that
113 economies should implement financial liberalization policies in order to enhance the mobilization of domestic
114 savings, improve efficiency in resource allocation among the many investment alternative projects so as to
115 contribute to economic development. Other financial liberalization policies apart from interest rate liberalization
116 include: adoption of measures that enhance security markets development; reserve requirement reduction;
117 privatization of publicly owned financial institutions; removal of entry into the banking sector; directed credit
118 elimination; openness of both the capital and current accounts and enhancing prudential regulation measures
119 ??Levine, 2001).

120 The McKinnon and Shaw school of thought came under sharp criticism in the 1980s by the Neo-Structuralists
121 school lead by Wijnbergen (1983), Taylor (1983) and Buffie (1984) due to their failure of including the informal
122 financial market in the model. This school of thought contends that the benefits associated with financial
123 liberalization will not be realized in the presence of an efficient curb market or informal financial market. This is
124 because commercial banks were still subjected to reserve requirement which hinders efficiency of intermediation
125 between savers and investors. The neostructuralists school therefore saw households to be holding three types
126 of financial assets which were substitutes. They are bank deposit, currency or gold and curb market loan.
127 After financial liberalization, the neostructuralists foresaw an increase in bank deposits rates. This will make
128 households to demand more or want to hold more of bank deposits against curb market loans. This increases the
129 cost of getting working capital from the informal sector since their rates will also increase as a result of financial
130 liberalization. This implies that players in the curb market will disappear leading to a transfer of all the funds
131 in this market to the banking system (Ang, 2007).

132 Later on, Campbell and Mankiw (1990) examined the effect that liquidity constraints could have on private
133 savings rate. They divided households into two types in both developing and developed countries; those that
134 are liquidity constrained and others who are not liquidity constrained. Those households that are liquidity
135 constrained, their consumption is determined by current income while those that are not liquidity constrained
136 can smooth out consumption since they can access capital markets freely. Financial liberalization enables the
137 liquidity constrained households to freely access the capital market hence smoothing their consumption path.
138 This implies that the household consumption has been stimulated at the expense of savings. Therefore a fall in
139 the saving rates will be expected. This means that financial liberalization leads to a fall in private savings rates.
140 This sentiment is shared by a host of other authors who felt that easing credit constraints as a result of financial
141 liberalization reduce the incentive of previously constrained households or individuals to save (Bayoumi, 1993;
142 ??andieraet al., 2000).

143 Other critics of the McKinnon-Shaw framework are found in the works of Stiglitz (1994), Akyuz (1995) and
144 Ogaki, Ostry and Reinhart (1996). According to Stiglitz (1994), financial markets experience imperfections
145 which call for some form of intervention from the government to correct the imperfections. The government
146 should intervene and keep interest rates below their market clearing level. The wisdom behind the government
147 intervention is due to the presence of a certain level of interest rate threshold beyond which will lead to lower
148 lending. This is because the quality of borrowers will be changed in favour of the high risk category. Akyuz
149 (1995) criticized the efficacy of the McKinnon-Shaw framework in an analysis in which households, private firms
150 and governments were considered. According to the his analysis, a rise in interest rates that result from financial
151 liberalization tends to benefit deposit holding households though they are perceived to be low savers compared
152 to firms. As a result, the profit of the firms falls due to high cost of debt. This further results to a fall in private
153 savings rate since the profit of higher saving firms would have declined as opposed to low saving households who
154 end up getting the highest share of total income. This also happens in public sector savings too since financial
155 liberalization makes interest payments on government debt high. This will reduce tax revenue from interest
156 income leading to a fall in public sector savings. Thus overall savings decline as compared to financial savings.
157 Ogaki et al. (1996) on their part focused on the subsistence level of households in a country. According to
158 them, countries with a significant proportion of households near subsistence level of income, their elasticity of
159 substitution will approach zero whenever there is a change in income. This implies that when interest rates rise
160 as a result of financial liberalization, private savings in these countries will not respond to the rise, thus no effect
161 in the levels of savings. On the contrary, countries which have a significant proportion of its households just
162 above the income subsistence level will have an increase in their levels of private savings as a result of interest
163 rates from financial liberalization.

164 In summary, there exists a vast body of literature that supports the efficacy of financial liberalization theory.
165 However some authors have argued that fall in savings rates are more pronounced after implementation of
166 financial liberalization policies. The authors have attributed the decline in private savings rate to either income
167 distribution effect (Akyuz, 1995), easing liquidity constraint (Campbell and Mankiw, 1990; ??991;Bayoumi, 1993;
168 ??andieraet al., 2000) or presence of subsistence consumption (Ogaki et al., 1996). These theoretical arguments

169 against the McKinnon and Shaw hypothesis lead to the question whether financial liberalization has indeed
170 promoted savings mobilization. According to Odhiambo (2009) demystifying this remains as an empirical issue.
171 This study aims at empirically testing the case of Cameroon. An earlier study was carried out in Cameroon by
172 Noula (2012) who used cointegration time series techniques to investigate the effects of financial liberalisation
173 on household savings. He found a long run positive effect of financial liberalisation on household savings. The
174 present study improves on this previous study by using the Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) cointegration
175 technique which deals with issues of simultaneity bias and short time series that could have flawed the first study.

176 4 III.

177 5 Methodology a) Model Specification

178 The theoretical base of financial liberalization is the seminal works of McKinnon (1973) and Shaw ??1973). They
179 argued that nominal interest rates which are administratively determined; a situation largely evidenced in LDCs
180 in the 1960s and early 1970s; would hold real interest rates below their equilibrium level. This according to
181 McKinnon and Shaw (1973) is financially repressing. This is because interest rates will be fixed at very low
182 level leading to very low amount of savings that hinders investment levels. According to them, real interest
183 rates at each rate of economic growth are assumed to be positively related to savings. The theory of McKinnon
184 (1973) Where, S/Y is the actual savings to income ratio. Since real deposit rates are below equilibrium under a
185 financially repressed economy, there is therefore a positive relationship between savings and the real deposit rate
186 ($e d ? ?$). This is because a rise in interest rates towards equilibrium induces economic agents to shift from
187 other assets to savings.

188 In order therefore to get the relationship between savings and growth in the demand for real money balances,
189 equations (??) and (??) are differentiated with respect to arguments and then dividing their differentials,
190 equation (??) is obtained: $0 (.) (.) /] / [(.) /] / [] / [? f 1 d Y S d d P M d Y S d P M d = = (4)$

191 Equation (??) above states that there is a positive relation between savings rate and the demand for real
192 money balances. The complementarity hypothesis holds true on the assumption that investment opportunity are
193 plentiful and that the binding constraint is the supply of savings and not the demand for investable funds. Thus
194 savings rate can be incorporated as one of the determinants of demand for real money balances. ??) and (??)
195 exhibit a case where there is disequilibrium in the money market; where the supply of loanable funds is less than
196 its demand. Thus in the model a rise in real interest rates leads to an increase in savings and also growth in the
197 demand for real money leading to an increase in savings. The problem now is to reverse the complementarity
198 hypothesis. However, since complementarity hypothesis works on both ways in that the conditions of money
199 supply have first order impact on the decision to save and invest, a savings function that must be determined
200 simultaneously with demand for real money is specified as follows: $) , / , / , , (/ v Y S P M r y f Y S f = (6)$

201 Using equation (??) and since the complementarity hypothesis works in both directions, a savings function is
202 estimated in order to examine the effects of financial reforms on private domestic savings as specified in equation
203 (6).

204 In order to test the effects of financial reforms on private domestic savings in Cameroon, equation (?? ? ? ?
205 ? ? ? (8)

206 Where: PDSG is the ratio of private domestic savings to GDP; RMBP is real money balances ($M2/GDP$);
207 FD is financial development (private domestic credit to GDP ratio); PGDP is per capita real GDP; TOT is
208 terms of trade; FR is an index of financial reforms and v is the error term. In order to deal with the problem
209 of spurious association and heteroscedasticity which arise from variables trend movements, real money balances
210 and real income have been expressed in per capita terms (Thornton, 1990). Per capita real money balances and
211 terms of trade are expressed in logarithmic form so as to smooth them since they are in ratios. Per capita Real
212 GDP is also expressed in logarithmic form so as to smooth it out since it has large figures. All the variables are
213 constructed by the authors using data from the World Bank's World Development Indicators (WDI) 2019 online
214 version.

215 6 b) Measuring financial reforms (FR)

216 Financial reform is a process that involves the implementation of a number of policies. In order to show the degree
217 or the level of financial reform at a particular time, a financial reform index (FLI) is constructed based on the
218 method proposed by Abiad and Mody (2005). Their measure of financial reform takes into account six different
219 dimensions of financial market policies. These are: restrictions on staffing, branching and advertising, and the
220 establishment of securities markets, ? Privatization of financial institutions, and ? Restrictions on international
221 financial transactions: capital current account controls and the use of multiple exchange rates.

222 For each of these six dimensions, a country gets a score that runs from zero to three. The meaning of the
223 scores is as follows:

224 1. means that for a particular dimension of financial market policies, the country is fully repressed; 2. means
225 partial repression; 3. means largely liberalized; and 4. means fully liberalized.

226 The way the financial reform measure is constructed allows for identifying changes in financial market policies
227 and quantifying the extent to which they contribute to liberalizing financial markets. It also allows us to take
228 into account periods in which governments decide to re-control markets, for instance during or after periods of

229 severe financial and/or economic crisis. In short, the measure enables to determine more exactly the magnitude
230 and timing of changes of various dimensions of financial market policies.

231 In this study, we consider a time period from 1973 to 2018 and the following dimensions of financial reforms
232 for the construction of the financial liberalization index for Cameroon: credit controls, interest rate controls,
233 entry barriers, privatization of public financial institutions, restrictions on international capital movement, and
234 prudential regulations. Figure1, shows the evolution of the process of financial reforms in Cameroon.

²³⁵ 7 Figure 1: Evolution of financial reform index in Cameroon

236 8 Source: Authors c) ARDLcointegration technique

237 Equation (??) will be estimated using the ARDL bound testing approach. The bounds technique is based on
 238 three validations. First, Pesaran et al. (2001) advocated the use of the ARDL model for the estimation of level
 239 relationships because the model suggests that once the order of the ARDL has been determined, the relationship
 240 can be estimated by OLS. Second, the bounds test allows a mixture of $I(1)$ and $I(0)$ variables as regressors,
 241 that is, the order of integration of appropriate variables may not necessarily be the same. Therefore, the ARDL
 242 technique has the advantage of not requiring a specific identification of the order of the underlying data. Third,
 243 this technique is suitable for small or finite sample size (Pesaran et al., 2001).

Following Pesaran et al. (2001), we assemble the vector auto regression (VAR) of order p , denoted VAR (p), for the following saving function: $t \in \mathbb{R}^p$ $i \in \mathbb{R}^p$ $p \in \mathbb{R}^p$ $t = i + p + \epsilon$ (9)

246 where z_t is the vector of both x_t and y_t , where y_t is the dependent variable defined as Private Domestic
 247 Savings on GDP (PDSG), x_t is the vector matrix which represents a set of explanatory variables i.e., financial
 248 reforms(FR), real money balances(RMBP), Financial Development(FD), per capita GDP (PGDP), Terms of
 249 Trade(TOT) and Public savings(PS). According to Pesaran et al. (2001), y_t must be $I(1)$ variable, but the
 250 regressor x_t can be either $I(0)$ or $I(1)$. We further developed a vector error correction model (VECM) as
 251 follows: $t \cdot i \cdot p \cdot i \cdot t \cdot i \cdot p \cdot i \cdot t \cdot x \cdot y \cdot z \cdot ? \cdot ? \cdot ? \cdot p \cdot + \cdot ? \cdot + \cdot + \cdot + = \cdot ? \cdot ? \cdot = \cdot ? \cdot ? \cdot = \cdot ? \cdot ? \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot (10)$

252 Where, Δ is the first-difference operator. The long-run multiplier matrix Δ as: $\Delta = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} X & X & Y & X & Y & Y \end{bmatrix}$
 253 $\Delta = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

259 Where Δ is the first-difference operator and u_t is a white-noise disturbance term.

Equation (11) can also be viewed as an ARDL of order (p, q, r, s, t, u) . Equation (11) indicates that private domestic savings ratio tends to be influenced and explained by its past values. The structural lags are established by using minimum Akaike's information criteria (AIC). From the estimation of UECMs, the longrun elasticities are the coefficient of one lagged explanatory variable (multiplied by a negative sign) divided by the coefficient of one lagged dependent variable (Bardsen, 1989). The short-run effects are captured by the coefficients of the first-differenced variables in equation (11).

After regressing Equation (11), the Wald test (Fstatistic) was computed to differentiate the long-run relationship between the concerned variables. The Wald test is carried out by imposing restrictions on the estimated long-run coefficients. The null and alternative hypotheses are as follows: 0 : The computed F-statistic value will be evaluated with the critical values tabulated in Table CI (iii) of Pesaran et al. (2001). According to these authors, the lower bound critical values assumed that the explanatory variables $t x$ are integrated of order zero, or $I(0)$, while the upper bound critical values assumed that $t x$ are integrated of order one, or $I(1)$. Therefore, if the computed F-statistic is smaller than the lower bound value, then the null hypothesis is not rejected and we conclude that there is no long-run relationship between private domestic saving ratio and its determinants. Conversely, if the computed F-statistic is greater than the upper bound value, private domestic saving ratio and its determinants share a long-run level relationship. On the other hand, if the computed F-statistic falls between the lower and upper bound values, then the results are inconclusive.

277

278 9 Results and Discussions a) Unit root test results

279 The order of integration of variables should be checked because ARDL-bounds test approach depends on the time
 280 series characteristics of the data sets. Although both $I(0)$ and $I(1)$ variables can be used in the ARDL approach,
 281 the variables must not be $I(2)$ stationary because, in the presence of $I(2)$ variables the computed F-statistics
 282 provided by Pesaran et al (2001) are not valid as the bound test is based on the assumption that the variables
 283 are $I(0)$ or $I(1)$. Therefore, the implementation of unit root tests in the ARDL procedure is still necessary in
 284 order to ensure that none of the variables is $I(2)$ or higher. The ADF test is applied for unit root test of all series
 285 under consideration. The results of the stationarity tests on the variables are presented in table 1 below. As the
 286 computed F-statistics (10.20296) is greater than the upper bound at the five percent level (4.01), we conclude
 287 that there exist a long run relationship between private domestic saving ratio and its determinants in Cameroon.
 288 We then proceed to compute the long and short run coefficients.

289 10 c) Long run relationship

290 The coefficients of the long run relationship between the private domestic savings ratio and its determinants are
291 reported in table ?? The results show that there exist a long run negative relationship between financial reforms
292 and private domestic savings ratio in Cameroon. Also, per capita GDP has a very positive impact on private
293 domestic savings.

294 11 d) Short run relationship

295 The estimation of the short run parameters show that there exist a strong error correction mechanism, through
296 the error correction term, that ARDL Modeling of the Impact of Financial Reforms on Private Domestic Saving in
297 Cameroon absorbs 94% of a shock the following year. This confirms the existence of the cointegration relationship.
298 In the short run, there is also a positive and significant effect of per capita GDP on private domestic saving ratio.

299 12 Volume XIX Issue VIII Version I

300 13 Conclusion

301 The objective of this study was to test for the relationship between financial reforms and private domestic saving
302 behavior in Cameroon using an ARDL cointegration modeling approach. The results reveal that there exist
303 a long run negative and significant relationship between financial reforms and private domestic saving ratio in
304 Cameroon. Also, per capita GDP is found to have a positive and significant effect both in the short and long
305 run.

306 This therefore has significant policy implications for government authorities in Cameroon. In their search for
307 resources to carry out their ambitious programs of higher economic growth and prosperity, they should revise
308 the ongoing reform process in the country so as to permit its financial sector better mobilize domestic resources.
309 This should obviously begin by carrying out further studies so as to determine the effect of each reform measure
and even determine their optimal levels. ^{1 2}

0 ? =
yy

0 ? = , the GIIE hypothesis function can be stated as
the following unrestricted error correction model
(UECM):

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} \text{PDSG} & & \text{RMBPt} & & \text{FD} & & & & \\ \text{p} & & \text{q} & & & & & & \\ \text{FRt} & \text{PDSG} & \text{i} & \text{FR} & \text{t} & \text{i} & & & \\ \text{i} & & \text{i} & & & & & & \\ & \text{t} & & & \text{u} & & & & \\ & & \text{PGDP} & & \text{t} & \text{i} & & & \\ & \text{i} & & & & \text{i} & & & \\ & & & & & & \text{t} & \text{PGDP} & \text{t} & \text{TOT} \\ & & & & & & \text{r} & & \text{s} \\ & & & & & & & \text{RMBP} & \text{t} & \text{i} \\ & & & & & & & \text{i} & & \text{i} \\ & & & & & & & & \text{TOT} & \text{t} & \text{i} & \text{t} \end{array}$$

Figure 1:

1

Variables	Level	ADF	TEST	Decision
		STATISTICS		
PDSG	-	First difference -7.304418***		I(1)
	2.893872			
RMBP	-	-3.627007***		I(1)
	1.129090			
FD	-	-2.643870***		I(1)
	1.439138			
PGDP	-	-5.626483***		I(1)
	1.353104			
TOT	-	—		I(0)
	5.871967**			

Source: Authors calculations

NB: (*), (**), (***)) indicates significance at 10%, 5%, and 1% respectively

b) Cointegration test results

The bound test procedure begins by estimating equation (11), followed by the verification of the robustness of the model using several diagnostic tests such as Breusch-

Figure 2: Table 1 :

2

Wald F-Statistics	Critical value	Lower Bound Value	Upper Bound Value
10.20296	1%	3.74	5.06
	5%	2.86	4.01
	10%	2.45	3.52

[Note: Note: Computed F-statistic: 10.20296 (Significant at 0.01 marginal values). Critical Values are cited from Pesaran et al. (2001), Table CI (iii), Case 111: Unrestricted intercept and no trend.]

Figure 3: Table 2 :

Variable	Coefficien t	Std. Error	Long-run coefficients		
				t-Statistic	Prob.
FD	-0.148126	0.117092		-1.265045	0.2180
FR	-0.872285	0.197110		-4.425374	0.0002
LOG(PGDP)	4.268669	4.153708		3.435164	0.0022
LOG(RMBP)	7.821694	4.388518		-1.782309	0.0874
LOG(TOT)	2.764350	2.478589		1.115292	0.2758
C	-134.625705	46.413959		-2.900543	0.0079

Source: Authors' calculations

Figure 4:

34

Cointegrating Form				
Variable	Coefficien t	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
D(FD)	-0.197790	0.163834	-1.207260	0.2391
D(FR)	-0.442915	0.480818	-0.921170	0.3661
DLOG(PGDP)	23.946474	10.972280	2.182452	0.0391
DLOG(PGDP(-1))	17.202912	9.334074	1.843023	0.0777
DLOG(RMBP)	3.361143	5.692924	0.590407	0.5604
DLOG(RMBP(-1))	6.456417	4.912707	1.314228	0.2012
DLOG(RMBP(-2))	1.094555	5.070514	0.215867	0.8309
DLOG(RMBP(-3))	7.919262	4.534231	1.746550	0.0935
DLOG(TOT)	-1.936732	2.454001	-0.789214	0.4377
DLOG(TOT(-1))	4.111056	3.303551	1.244436	0.2254
DLOG(TOT(-2))	-3.988065	3.109966	-1.282350	0.2120
DLOG(TOT(-3))	-5.814529	3.031494	-1.918041	0.0671
ECT(-1)	-0.935280	0.185527	-7.197221	0.0000

Source: Authors' calculations

V.

Figure 5: Table 3 :Table 4 :

-
- 311 [LOG] , *LOG* (2) .
- 312 [Hannan-Quinn] , Hannan-Quinn . criter. 4.652796.
- 313 [Durbin-Watson] , Durbin-Watson . stat 1.907854.
- 314 [Ang ()] *A survey of recent developments in the literature of finance and growth*, *Discussion Paper 03/07*, J Ang
315 . 2007. Department of Economics, Monash University
- 316 [Gurley and Shaw ()] 'ARDL Modeling of the Impact of Financial Reforms on Private Domestic Saving in
317 Cameroon 11'. J G Gurley , E S Shaw . *Financial Aspects of Economic Development* 1955. 45 p. . (American
318 Economic Review)
- 319 [Pesaran and Shin ()] 'Bounds testing approaches to the analysis of level relationships'. M H Pesaran , Y Shin ,
320 SmithR . *Journal of Applied Econometrics* 2001. 16 p. .
- 321 [Bandiera et al. ()] 'Does Financial Reform raise or reduce saving?'. O Bandiera , G Caprio , Honohan , F
322 Schiantarelli . *Review of Economics and Statistics* 2000. 82 (2) p. .
- 323 [Bardsen ()] 'Estimation of long-run coefficients in error correction models'. G Bardsen . *Oxford Bulletin of
324 Economics and Statistics* 1989. 51 p. .
- 325 [Levine ()] 'Financial Development and Economic Growth: Views and Agenda'. R Levine . *Journal of Economic
326 Literature* 1997. 35 (2) p. .
- 327 [Noula (2012)] 'Financial liberalisation and household savings in Cameroon: A bound testing approach'. A Noula
328 . *Global Advanced Research Journal of Educational Research and Review* 2012. March, 2012. 1 (2) p. .
- 329 [Kase Kende and Atingi-Ego ()] 'Financial liberalization and its implications for the domestic financial system:
330 The case of Uganda, African Economic Research Consortium 16'. L A Kase Kende , M Atingi-Ego . *Levine,*
331 *R* 2008. 2001. (International Financial)
- 332 [Odhiambo ()] *Financial Liberalization and savings in South Africa, African review of money finance and banking*,
333 N M Odhiambo . 2009. p. .
- 334 [Akyuz (ed.) ()] *Financial liberalization in developing countries: Keynes, Kalecki and the Rentier in Poverty,
335 Prosperity and the World Economy*, Y Akyuz . Memory of Sidney Dell, Gerry Helleiner et al. (ed.) 1995.
336 London: MacMillan Press Ltd.
- 337 [Aryeetey et al. ()] 'Financial Market Fragmentation and Reforms in Ghana'. E Aryeetey , H Hettige , M Nissanke
338 , W Steel . *World Bank Economic Review* 1997. 11 (2) p. .
- 339 [Ngugi ()] 'Financial reform process in Kenya: 1989-96'. R W Ngugi . *African Development Review* 2000. 12 (1)
340 p. .
- 341 [Abiad and Mody ()] 'Financial Reform: What Shakes It? What Shapes It?'. A Abiad , A Mody . *American
342 Economic Review* 2005. 95 (1) p. .
- 343 [Buffie ()] 'Financial Repression, the New Structuralists, and Stabilization Policy in Semi-Industrialized
344 Economies'. E F Buffie . *Journal of Development Economics* 1984. 14 p. .
- 345 [Bayoumi (1993)] 'Financial Saving and Household Saving'. T Bayoumi . *Economic Journal* 1993. November.
346 103.
- 347 [Goldsmith ()] *Financial Structure and Development*, R W Goldsmith . 1969. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- 348 [Hicks ()] J R Hicks . *Theory of Economic History*, (Oxford) 1969. Oxford University Press.
- 349 [Wijnbergen ()] 'Interest Rate Management in LDCs'. V S Wijnbergen . *Journal of Monetary Economics* 1983.
350 12 p. .
- 351 [Jappelli and Pagano ()] Jappelli , M Pagano . *Saving, Growth and Liquidity Constraints*, 1994. 109 p. .
- 352 [Mckinnon ()] *Money and Capital in Economic Development*, R I Mckinnon . 1973. Brookings Institution, and
353 Washington D.C.
- 354 [Campbell and Mankiw ()] 'Permanent income, current income, and consumption'. J Campbell , G Mankiw .
355 *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics* 1990. 8 (3) p. .
- 356 [Ogaki et al. ()] 'Saving Behaviour in Low-Income Developing Countries'. M Ogaki , J D Ostry , C M Reinhart
357 . *IMF Staff Papers* 1996. 43 (1) p. .
- 358 [Jappelli and Pagano ()] 'Saving, Growth and Liquidity Constraints'. T Jappelli , M Pagano . *Quarterly Journal
359 of Economics* 1994. 109 p. .
- 360 [Schumpeter and Shaw (ed.) ()] J A Schumpeter . *Financial Deepening in Economic Development*, G S Shaw
361 (ed.) (Oxford; New York) 1911. 1973. Oxford University Press. (The Theory of Economic Development)
- 362 [Thornton ()] 'The demand for money in India: A test of McKinnon's complementarity hypothesis'. J Thornton
363 . *Savings and Development* 1990. 14 p. .
- 364 [Stiglitz ()] 'The role of the state in financial markets'. J E Stiglitz . *Proceedings of the World Bank Annual
365 Conference on Development Economics* 1994. 1993. The World Bank.