

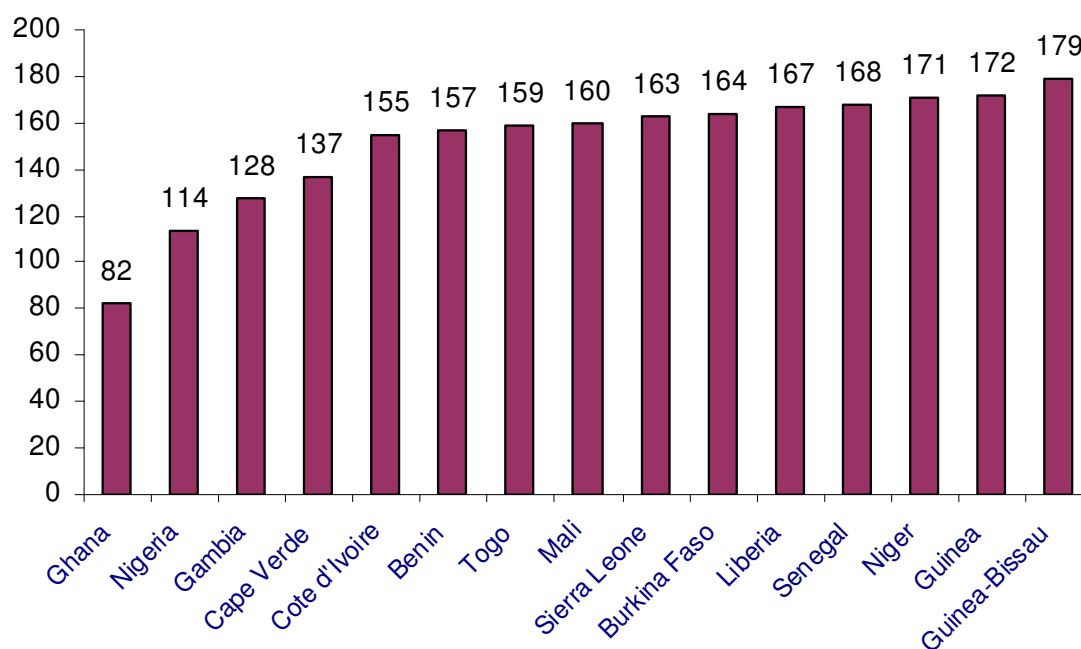
EASE OF DOING BUSINESS INDEX – REGIONAL RANKINGS 2007 - 2008

The Ease of Doing Business Index is intended to measure the overall attractiveness of the business environment. The index is based on variety of elements (see **Definition of Indicators**) and is calculated annually by the World Bank as part of its Doing Business surveys (<http://www.doingbusiness.org/>).

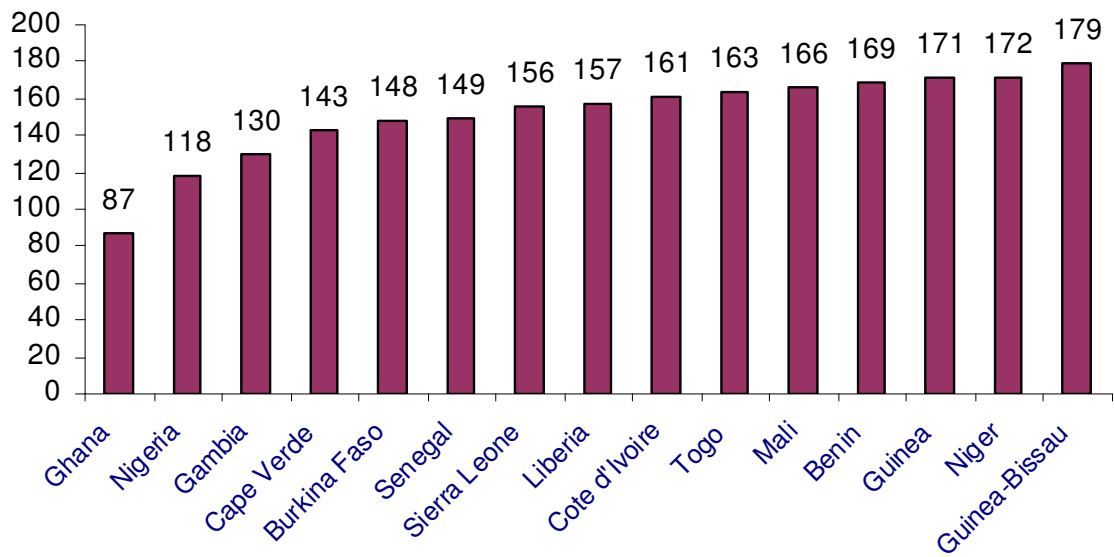
In both 2007 and 2008, ECOWAS countries performed rather poorly, with 12 countries being ranked in the lowest quartile (between the 136th and 181st position). Only Ghana (ranked 87th in 2008 and 82nd in 2007) is regarded as having a fairly conducive business environment. Nigeria and Cape Verde are in a somewhat intermediate situation, ranking between the 114th and the 130th positions in both years.

Between 2007 and 2008, the assessment of ECOWAS countries remained broadly stable. Only Senegal and Burkina Faso improved significantly their positioning, improving their ranking by some fifteen places. Overall, 5 countries improved their ranking, 9 worsened it, and one (Guinea Bissau, the lowest ranking in the region) remained stable.

Ease of Doing Business – Overall Ranking of ECOWAS Countries – 2007 (out of 181 countries surveyed)



Ease of Doing Business – Overall Ranking of ECOWAS Countries – 2008 (out of 181 countries surveyed)



Ease of Doing Business – Overall Ranking of ECOWAS Countries – 2007 and 2008 (out of 181 countries surveyed)

