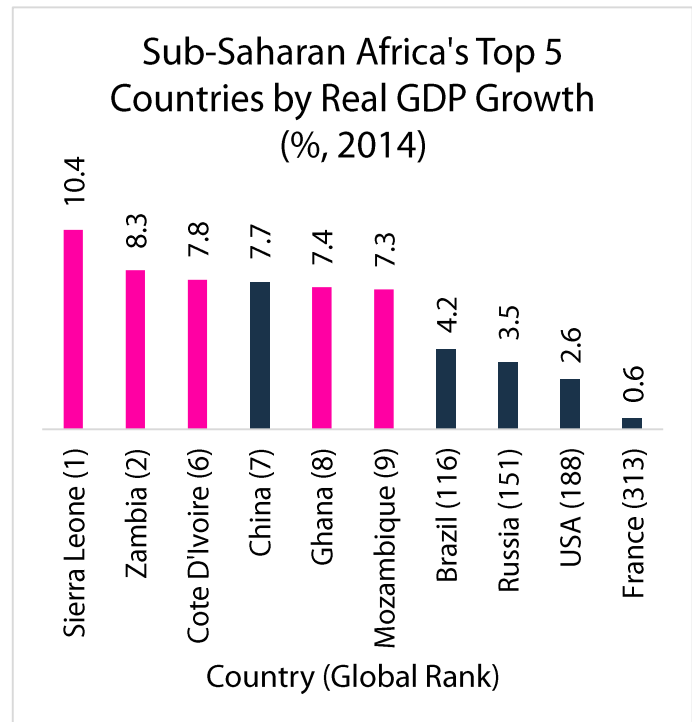


Sierra Leone and Zambia lead the world in real GDP growth

Data from the UN's World Economic Situation and Prospects (2015) report shows that 13 of the top 20 countries by annual growth rate of real GDP in 2014 are from Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), with Sierra Leone (10.4%) and Zambia (8.3%) leading the world. Projections for 2015 reveal similar trends with 12 countries from SSA poised to be in the top 20. At the regional level, SSA (5.4%) was the second fastest growing major world region by real GDP - second only to East and South Asia's 6.1% and quadruple Europe's 1.4%.



Data on annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation rates for 2014 shows several SSA countries outperforming traditionally stable countries from the developed world. Niger's annual CPI inflation rate at 1.1% in 2014 was lower than the United Kingdom (1.6%), United States (1.7%) and Germany (1.8%). Similar CPI stability was observed in Senegal (2%) and Somalia (2.1%) which both outperformed the BRIC nations. Observed low CPI inflation rates among SSA countries is one indicator of economic stability in the region.

