



Challenges to fisheries policy reform in Senegal

Perspectives of stakeholders

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Context (2011 data) (1)

- Fisheries sector estimated to account for 4.8% of GDP
- 12.5% of balance of payments (3rd most important economic sector)
- Important role in food security at national and regional levels
- Huge, but poorly quantified role in employment, about 58,000 fishers, more postharvest

Context – institutional aspects (2)

- The Basic Sector Bill N° 98-32 of 14 April 1998 established the Fisheries Code of Senegal
- The Decree N° 98-498 of 10 June 1998 established boat registration conditions and technical measures (mesh sizes, ...)
- By Order N° 005916 of 25 Octobre 2005 artisanal fishers were required to purchase a fishing licence to manage resources in Senegal
- Since 2006, Order N°005720 of 16 Aug. 1999 about registering fishing vessels should be implemented to limit capacity

Context – institutional aspects (3)

- By Order N° 9388 of 5 Nov. 2008, Local Marine Artisanal Fishing Committees (CLPA) are established
- They are composed of people in the sector nominated by the Head of the adm. district
- They have far-reaching mandates, including to organise the fishermen, resolve local conflicts, support monitoring, control and surveillance, inform local actors about admin. Reform, support fisheries management, monitor socio-economic impact of protection measures, advise on fishing permits

Context – reform challenges (4)

- Order 12-6397 of 29 March 2012 put a stop to registering new pirogues, extending the earlier ban on new industrial vessels
- The Interministerial Council on Fisheries noted in June 2013 that 19,600 artisanal pirogues were registered, a steep increase.
- The Council also noted that industrial boats had generated about 692 mio FCFA in licence fees, while the artisanal fleet generated only 3 mio.
- World Bank pressure: police intervenes against unlicensed artisanal boats end 2014/early 2015

Locations and actors (1)



LE LITTORAL SENEGALAIS

- Zone deltaïque
- Côte sableuse
- Côte rocheuse
- Zone de mangroves
- Isobathe

SOURCE : MATHIEU, 1991



Locations and actors (2)



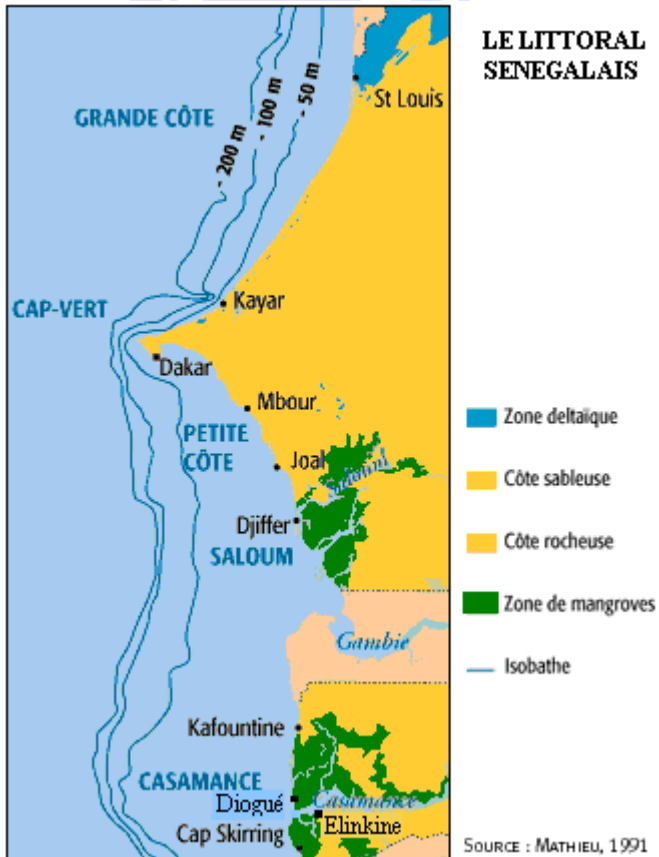
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Locations and actors (3)



Field Work to understand blockage

Intermediate snap shot as follows:

- 231 stakeholders interviewed so far in major landing places (N to S): St. Louis, Kayar, Yoff, Ouakam, Hann, Mbour, Toubab Dialaw, Joal.
- 107 fishermen: 50% operating outside Senegal
- 48 fish mongers: 20 local, 28 international
- 33 retail fish sellers (women)
- 20 local traditional leaders (settling conflicts)
- 9 boat builders of 3 major carpenter families
- 12 representatives of local fishing committees

What we found (1)

Capital influx: -->> bigger boats, engines,..

- Traditional families keep up only in Guet Ndar and Joal, otherwise many new investors.
- Unskilled youths from rural Senegal and abroad
- Longer fishing trips with ice boxes
- Increasing reliance on resources outside
- Wide-spread transshipment, use of monofilament nets ... (all prohibited)
- Changing contract arrangements (fishing under contract for investors/factories in Mauritania...)

What we found (2)

Sobering results:

- Only 12 Committee members and 8 traditional leaders were familiar with the legal Code, 4 fish mongers had heard about it.
- All others heard about it in the media when police cracked down on non-licence holders.
- Traditional leaders apparently orchestrate the challenge to the reform perceived as top-down as they are feeling side-stepped
- 80% were in favour of registration of boats, provided there is consultation

What we found (3)

Typical comment from a local leader:

We have our places, where we discuss everything. The police used to ask for our help with solving local conflicts in the municipality. Only if we could not solve it, was it dealt with by the judicial service. We have not been consulted on the Code, so we feel not concerned. We are not against conservation measures. Our future depends on healthy resources.

Alioune Ndoeye in Mbour

What we found (4)

Many doubt the true intentions of the reform:

The fishermen can not be against management, but the administration should try to understand us. We fear that the traditional fisherman will be replaced by any economic actor. We have no guarantee about how the licence will be evaluated. What will remain of the communities whose identity and living depends on fishing without such guarantees? The World Bank and the EU are cooking us slowly to death.

Leaders' views from Guet Ndar, Yoff, Ouakam

What we found (5)

Fish mongers are unconvinced:

Our contribution could be considerable for regulating the fisheries, because we intervene in the most critical stages: finance and marketing. The fishermen can not continue fishing without us, but unfortunately, we are not involved in these initiative – important though they are.

Or:

No regulation will work without us...

Food for thought on change rather than a conclusion (1)

We observe that

(a) stakeholders refuse to act on aggregate, abstract sector policy etc, though these may cast light on the “bigger picture” - **no trust**

(b) we need new narratives that connect the local levels of experiences and possibilities with that bigger picture through critical engagement

Food for thought on change rather than a conclusion (1)

(c) we have forgotten past states of social conditions, of the environment or don't listen – imagining common futures is then difficult.

(d) safe spaces of experiencing difference, prototyping alternatives could be useful to overcome the impasse – engage ok?

(e) the transborder, international resource and trade issues make cooperative approaches an enduring requirement (though difficult).

**I'm still a baby,
let me live and grow**



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