

A light blue world map is centered in the background of the slide.

Perspectives of stakeholders on fisheries policy reform in Senegal

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Greetings from Aliou Sall, first author



Context (2011 data) (1)

- Fisheries sector estimated to account for 4.8% of GDP, decreasing trend
- 12.5% of balance of payments (3rd most important economic sector)
- Important role in food security
- IUU fishing 2.6 mio. T, 1999-2011, illegal 0.7 mio t and growing (Belhabib *et al.*, 2015)
- Σ industrials report only 1/3 of real catches
- 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 2005 artisanal fishers are required to purchase a fishing licence
- Since 2006 registration of fishing vessels
- Since 2008 Local Artisanal Fishing Committees (CLPA), nominated by head of admin. district

Context – reform challenges (4)

- Since 2012 stop registration of new pirogues, extending earlier ban on new industrial vessels
- New constructions require authorisation
- The Interministerial Council on Fisheries (June 2013) counts 19,600 registered artisanal pirogues.
- Industrial vessels (SN): about 692 mio FCFA in licence fees – international permits: 839 mio FCFA - artisanal fleet: 3 mio FCFA.
- World Bank pressure: police intervenes against unlicensed artisanal boats end 2014/early 2015

Locations and actors (St. Louis)



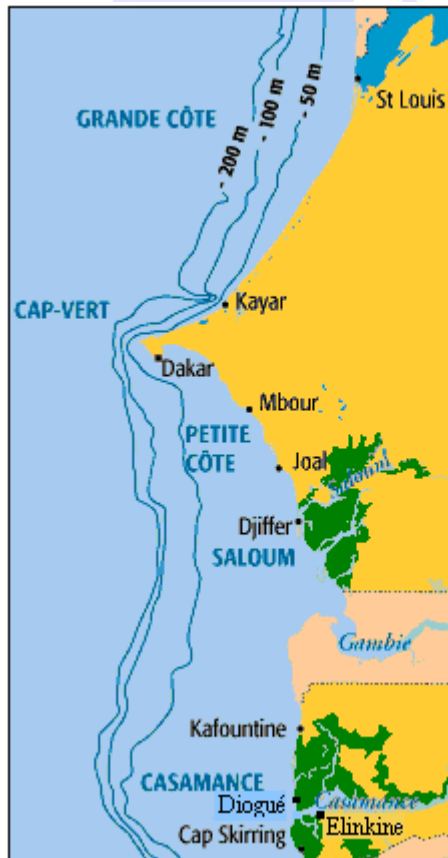
LE LITTORAL SENEGALAIS

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

SOURCE : MATHIEU, 1991



Locations and actors (Kayar)



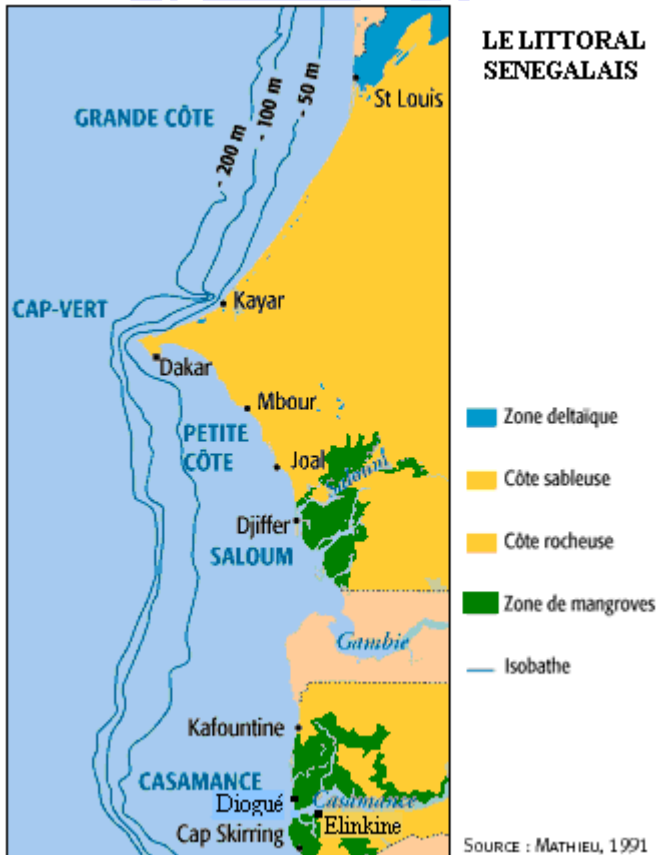
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Locations and actors (Hann)



Locations and actors (Yoff)



Field Work to understand blockage

- 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
- Strong trend of 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 Local 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 (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 (2)

(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.g. MPAs with involvement of fishers and support by NGOs and public admin work ok

Food for thought on change (3)

(e) the transborder, international resource and trade issues, particularly huge IUU fishing, argue for stronger MCS and cooperative approaches within and between countries.

- US\$ 300 mio in IUU catches justify > MCS
- Artisanal catches alone would be within safe biological limits, ensure food security and generate employment, but fail fiscally
- Industrial catches shrink the resource and lead to greater economic loss than benefits.

Governance – get real



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



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