

LAND AND WATER ACCESS FOR WOMEN OF THE LOCALITY OF VELINGARA – SENEGAL

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ABSTRACT

Objective: To assess women's access to land and water in Kounkané and Diobé - Kabendou municipalities in Vélingara city / Senegal.

Methods: After a literature review of policies and guidelines for women's access to land and water, quantitative and qualitative research from questionnaire, interview and focus group was made. Depending on the type of research, software Epi- info and SPSS were used to capture, control, validation, and data analysis.

Results: 448 women within and outside the women's promotion group or not, leaders or not, with an age ranging from 18 to 92 years.

- First ethnic: Pular with 69%;

- 85.5% of married women;

- 40.60% uneducated;

- 48, 80% holders of farmland;

- Running water was available at 98.40%. 62.3 % of wells are at home and not covered. Public taps accounted for 0.9 %.

Conclusion: Access to economic rights for women's Diaobé - Kabendou and Kounkané remains a major challenge. The development of operational action plans could ensure sustainable access is an imperative for the basic needs of the most vulnerable group. This effort would be undertaken for humanitarian reasons, and because it directly affects the fundamentals fight against poverty: health, equity and economic growth.

KEYWORDS:water access; land access; woman; poverty; economic growth

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Assert that women play a crucial role in agriculture and food in the world is a truism [9]. And despite their strong contribution to global food security, the specific constraints of women are frequently overlooked in development policies, including agriculture, food security, and land policy or climate change adaptation. Women have reduced access to resources (land, water, technology, information, loan, market and financial resources) and representative structures (farmer's organization, cooperatives, trade unions).

They are in fact victims of social inequalities underlying that constitute an obstacle to the effectiveness of all agricultural policies [5, 14]. Sub-Saharan Africa is one of the most worrying areas. Indeed, between 1990 and 2004, the number of people without access to safe drinking water increased by 23%, those without sanitation by more than 30%. To find a definitive solution to access to safe drinking water and sanitation in the region, it is essential that all relevant actors enhance their efforts in a concerted manner [1, 2].

In Senegal, women represent 38% of the total workforce. Approximately 80% of the population work in agriculture and the rate of female economic activity in the agricultural sector is 47% [18]. This is proof that their need in terms of cultivable land is a central issue [8]. The lack of drinking water and sanitation affect the entire country. To deal with his problem, Senegal established the Millennium Drinking Water and Sanitation Program (MDWSP) with the objective: achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. While almost all urban residents have access to drinking water, one third of Senegalese does not yet have access to sanitation. In rural areas, many women continue to fetch water in wells, to the strength of their arms.

1.1.0 METHODS

1.1.1 The objectives of the research

1.1.2 The general objective of the research:

Studying the problem of women's access to land and water in the communes of Kounkané and Diaobé-Kabendou located in the Kolda region.

Specific aim:

-Measure the percentage of women with access to land and water;

-Assess the number of women receiving tap water,

-Evaluate the proportion of women satisfied acquired with farmland.

1.2.0 Methodology

The general approach is based on a collecting data that took place in the second half of June 2013. It was preceded through the training of investigators, testing tools, the sensitization of the authorities, and communities on the interest of research.

From a sampling inspired by the survey methodology of the WHO, the study appealed data collection tools such as the technique of documentary, a survey, maintenance guides and a VCR for focus groups. A total of 450 women were interviewed and 02 incomplete questionnaires were eliminated. No refusal has been reported. The analysis focused on 448 questionnaires.

The study involved three components:

-A literature review to take stock of policies and guidelines for land and water access for women. An exhaustive census was conducted to determine the status of guidelines and standards he policies for access to land and water;

-A quantitative study, from discussion and questionnaire to estimate the level of the following indicators among women from the two communes:

- % of women with access to land and water;

- % of source of tap water supplies.

-A Qualitative research in the form of focus groups in some areas covered by the quantitative study. This facilitated the understanding and the combination of two types of data. This approach allowed us to analyze the perception and popular representations regarding women's access to land and water.

These studies have focused: first, on the entire adult women of the two communes with criteria for inclusion and exclusion of well defined; then on women and men in certain areas belonging to GPF, the non GPF women and men (opinion leaders or not)

1.2.1 The study population

For the quantitative study, the choice of the people s' was based on criteria of inclusion and non-inclusion :

Inclusion criteria:

- Women aged 18 years or older residing in one of the targeted communes ;
- Secondarily married man living in one of the common;
- Being present the survey period .

Non-inclusion criteria:

- Refusal to participate in the survey;

- Being unable to respond freely to questions.
Qualitative research had targeted women and men in certain neighborhoods. It was:

- Women belonging to Groups Policies Female;
- Groupings of non Policies Female women;
- Men opinion leaders.

1.2.2 Sampling

We were inspired by the sampling method used by WHO as part of the assessment of immunization coverage. It was initially to determine the number of clusters, and then divide between the two strata (Kounkané and Diaobé - Kabendou) for the two cities; a number N of women will be questioned.

1.2.2.1 - Sample Size

The following equation was used to calculate the sample size.

$$N = \frac{Z * P * (1 - P)}{i^2}$$

- Z is the confidence level;
- p is the initial level... (50 %);
- i is the margin of error.

$$N = [1.96^2 \times 0.50 (1 - 0.50) / 0.05^2] = 384$$

This corresponds to 384 women , rounded to 400; 40 clusters of 10.

So a minimum of 400 must be seen with women leaders and spouses, a sample of 450 people were surveyed.

1.2.2.2 - Selection method of statistical units

A draw at two levels has been achieved. First, a stratified sampling to determine the number of clusters assigned to each county. Then at each stratum, the cumulative effective method allowed the distribution of clusters among neighborhoods. The concession will be the sampling unit. In each area, depending on number of clusters, one or more sociological centers have been identified for the draw and the first choice of concession to visit. Then, the step by step progression was used to select other concessions to visit. In each concession, all households were visited and a woman in each household selected at random will be questioned. In each cluster at least 10 women were surveyed. For married women, their spouses were also.

For the focus group, eight groups were formed; 4 women and 4 men. In each focus group there were 10 participants. Each group of participants came from a village in the resort, chosen at random.

1.2.3 - Data Analysis

450 women were interviewed and 02 incomplete questionnaires were eliminated. The analysis focused on 448 questionnaires.

For the quantitative survey, Epi- info software was used for data entry. After validation and control of the database, analysis was performed with SPSS software. Chi-square test

will be used to compare proportions with a risk of error of 5 %.

Finally, triangulation was performed for further analysis combining the different results.

Collection tools: the technical literature, a survey questionnaire; maintenance guides and VCR for focus groups

1.2.4 Ethical Aspects

Protocol was submitted to the National Ethics Committee by Senegal Word vision that allowed him to have the authorization of the Ministry of Health informing the administrative authorities and local communities in the study.

Free and informed consent of the participants was a prerequisite to starting the data collection.

In case of health problems, the participant was oriented to the structure of the nearest health facility for care.

2.0 RESULTS

2.1.0 Sociodemographic characteristics of the sample

The poorest region of Senegal, Kolda, is located south-east of the country. Following the administrative division of 2008 and Kounkané Diaobé-Kabendou of Vélingara were erected in public. They respectively comprise approximately 17,000 and 30,000 inhabitants. In our work sample, the dominant religion was Islam; almost seven out of 10 women surveyed were pullars. The women interviewed were mostly married (eight out of 10 women).

Age could not be determined accurately for 338 respondents. It ranged between 18 and 92 years with an average of 31.4. The median was 30 years, 23 years in the first quartile and the 3rd in 38 years. Women of childbearing age accounted for 93.8% of respondents (Table I).

2.1.1 Women's access to land and water

In terms of economic power, 48.80 % of women were farmland. However, only 35.5% of them were satisfied with the size of their land.

They were said to have acquired farmland mainly from their husbands (45.40%) and inheritance (23.6 %). Occupations of women were generally small trade (44.4 %) and household activities (29.5 %). Running water was available to the majority of the population (98.40%) with 62.3% of wells home open. Public taps accounted for only 0.9 % (Table II).

3.0 DISCUSSIONS

3.1.0 Analysis of field data

3.1.1 Socials characteristics of the sample

Nearly 7 in 10 women surveyed are pullars. Women

interviewed are often married (8 in 10 women). Education is still a problem in this area: 4 in 10 women have no education, 2 out of 10 said that they had no formal instruction. About 3 in 10 women are enrolled in school while only 10 reached the secondary level. Literacy concerned only few women around only 1 in 20 women. Women are exceptionally householder, 3 out of 10 are housewives.

Women's occupations are generally small trade (44.4%) and domestic activities (29.5%). Some women reported having agriculture as their main occupation.

3.1.2 - Women's access to land and water

Access to land is a strong economic indicator in rural areas. Women said acquire farmland mainly from their husbands (45.40%), by inheritance (23.6%) and rarely by renting. But only one third of these is satisfied with their area (Table II).

The system of land management is based on tradition and customs. In almost all ethnic groups, small plots in concessions are reserved for women for vegetable crops. Before marriage, the girl grows with his mother, on her mother's plot. She has no cultivation right contrary to young men. In cities, the situation is different; woman can buy, lease land, buy or build a house if she has the means.

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The earth is not traditionally part of shared property upon death of a family head. The family land area is divided at the time of emancipation of a household who composed [11].

Almost all interviewed (98%) have access to piped water. The supply is mainly at wells. Opened wells at home (62%) are followed by closed wells at home (18.1%) and public opened wells (10.7%). Other sources such as taps at home (3.1%) and public taps (0.9%) are less numerous. The water is thus free to almost the entire population (90%). Taps hardly exist in homes, except in a few houses of immigrants. Thus water from wells, which drinkability is doubtful, is used as drinking water, since there are no other alternatives. However, some participants said put a few drops of bleach to make it drinkable.

The urgency of a drilling access to drinking water for the entire community was emphasized.

Note that the majority of participants raised issues:

- The weakness of the extension of the water network;
- Most of the traditional wells were infested or sagged;
- The lack of hydrants with a bad taste of the water;

- Non-functionality of most fountains;
- Related to the high cost of connecting and m³ of water.

3.1.3- Priorities for future action

3.1.3.1-At the constitutional level

Strictly enforce the laws contained in the Constitution, adopted by referendum on January 7, 2001[17]. Indeed:

-the preamble of the constitution reminds the respect for individual freedom and human rights; respect for cultural specificities, respect for fundamental freedoms, access of all citizens, without discrimination, in the exercise of power at all levels, rejection and elimination, in all forms of injustice, inequality and discrimination;

- Article 8 guarantees to all citizens the fundamental individual freedoms, economic and social as well as collective rights, including the right to property;

- Article 15 states that "The man and woman also have the right to access the possession and ownership of the land under the conditions determined by law", implying that the customary restrictions on women's access to land is prohibited. The woman sees and devoted his right to land [8];

- Article 17 commits the State to ensure that families in general and especially those living in rural areas, including women, the right to relief their living conditions and access to health and welfare [13];

- Article 19 states that "Every woman has the right to have her own heritage as the husband. She has the right to personal management of his property.

3.1.3.2 - Institutional standpoint

-Enforce the rights of women on the heritage and land use contained in the Civil Code[12], the Labor Code [6] and the Family Code [10];

-Enforce the Land Law [11], especially:

- Law n ° 64-46 of the land of 17 June 1964 on the National Estate; Decree of application No. 64-573 of 30 July 1964;

- According to the above provisions, rural communities manage the land of the community, including the natural resources that are not part of the protected areas. The powers of local authorities regarding land are not within the control. They are performed under the supervision of decentralized authorities of the State [7];

- The law on the national domain is neutral in terms of equality between men / women with regard to land [16];

- In the Land Law, the land is divided into three units, each with its own system: private property, public property and rural land [11].

The transversality women's issues require the establishment, namely:

- An office Charge of Women conditions, independent halls;

-The capacity building of the Ministry of Women and Family, to enable it to ensure coordination, monitoring and evaluation of national equity and equality strategy in these two localities;

-A transversal structure "Woman" in all ministries for better coordination and monitoring and evaluation of actions in favor of women;

- An observatory for gender equality especially in the region of Kolda or in the department of Vélingara.

3.1.3.3-Legal standpoint

Fight against customary norms, religious beliefs and social practices affecting land rights differentiated by gender. In town, the family code that determines the land rights of women. In rural areas, it is the custom that is decisive. The woman is under the authority of his father as a young girl and then under that of her husband. Widows are expected to marry the brother of the deceased husband or remain under the authority of the son. According to tradition, the earth and the children belong the family of the husband and wife does not inherit.

The law on national land estate makes no explicit discrimination between man and woman but single women do not have direct access to cultivated land.

Despite legislative, communal and Muslim forecasts, rural women do not inherit: it is the custom.

3.1.3.4 At the economic level

It is proposed to:

-Strengthen organizational, financial and administrative management capacities of women;

-Facilitate women's access to loan;

-train women in the fields of agricultural and / or pastoral techniques;

-Implement a literacy program for women;

-facilitate the obtaining of legal recognition to women.

3.1.3.5-At the political level

Encourage measures promoting the application of the rights of women to access land through the following actions:

- Strengthen the Ministry of Women, Family and Social Development, in charge of gender issues;

- Validate the National Strategy for Equality and Gender Equity (SNEEG) for the period 2005-2015[16];
- Establish a National Advisory Committee on Women;
- Involve Rural and Agricultural Women's Organizations in the Land Commission;
- Make visible and legitimate federations and women's organizations;
- Fight against the lack of legal information;
- Promote the empowerment of women in the legal process to become landowner;
- Fight against the saturation of agricultural land;
- Fight against land degradation.

3.1.3-6 - In the media

It comes to:

- Increase programs promoting the role of women in society;
- Develop community radio;
- Involve women in all programs, regardless of the domain and subject.

3.1.3-7 - As regards research

It's necessary to:

- Promote research, encourage field surveys on women's issues, particularly on issues that are considered taboo by society, such as the inheritance rights of women, sharing responsibilities with men in water and land.
- Carry out technical studies for the configuration of the drinking water supply system.
- Conduct technical studies to establish baseline in land matters.

3.1.3-8-At the level of civil society

Support the civil society and indigenous peoples working for equal rights to land in particular:

- National Network of Rural Women in Senegal (RNFRS): structure of civil society established in May 1992;
- National Union for Valuing Women's Activities Network (CVNVAF);
- National Committee of Women in Breeding (DINFEL);

- Association of Women Jurists in Senegal (AJS).

IV- Recommendations/Perspectives for future action

It will require strengthen the prerogatives of national and local institutions that apply the regulations relating to land: the State and its decentralized structures: rural councils, rural communities, traditional authorities [11].

At rural councils, the majority of land allocation requests usually men. This is often due to the traditional system in place, the lack of information on the procedures and / or an ignorance of rights by women.

In local making bodies (regional councils, municipal councils, rural councils, chiefdoms village, and neighborhood chiefs) women's representation will have to be reinvigorate.

Implement legal information and strengthen the capacities of women's land rights and access to water through:

- The organization of tours by the civil society;
- Advocacy actions by the Ministry of Women, Family and Social Development in the direction of mayors and presidents of rural communities for the real application of provisions of the Constitution relating to women's access to land and water;
- The organization of reflective and advocacy workshops on "land, water and Gender" question.

The Government of Senegal and international agencies must recognize the important role of women in the locality Diaobé-Kabendou-Kounkané on issues related to food security and nutrition. Thus, they must consider gender in the definition of food agricultural policies and the fight against poverty, by implementing the recommendations of the Beijing Platform for Action adopted in 1995 [3].

They must respect and ensure respect of the rules of the CEDAW, adopted in 1975, regarding non-discrimination against women in access to resources, especially to land and water by removing institutional constraints.

Finally, they should promote the participation of women in decision making at all levels of programs and policies concerning land and water, The following actions should be taken:

- Regularize the title deeds of the locality Diaobé-Kabendou-Kounkané;
- Accountability of neighborhood councils regarding land;
- Strengthen the capacity of the local Management Committee of boreholes;

- Extend the hydraulic network to other districts (boreholes, social connections and standpipes);
- Protect and equip wells of Diaobé-Kabendou-Koukané;
- Digging other hydraulic wells in distant districts;
- Conduct IEC campaigns on the quality of wells water of Diaobé-Kabendou-Koukané;
- Perform a sinking a new borehole;
- Promoting house connections;
- Reduce the cost of the m3 of water;
- Ensuring the quality of drinking water.

4.0 CONCLUSIONS

Access to land and water for women of Diaobé-Kabendou-Koukané remains a major challenge. Only a citizen and responsible attitude resulted in a definition of achievable objectives, the development of operational action plans, forecasting of financial and human resources, will guarantee the population a sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, while considering the basic needs of the most vulnerable and poorest. This effort should be made not only for humanitarian reasons, but mainly because it directly affects the three factors of the fight against poverty: health, equity and economic growth.

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Table I: Kounkané and Diaobé women's Socials characteristics.

	Variable	Fréquence	Pourcentage
Sex	Femelle	448	100%
Ethnic	Pular	309	69,00%
	Mandingue	63	14,10%
	Soninké	13	2,90%
	Ouolof	11	2,50%
	Serere	6	1,30%
	Diola	6	1,30%
	Autres	40	8,90%
Marital status	Married	383	85,50%
	Single	35	7,80%
	Widowed	23	5,10%
	Divorced	7	1,60%
Education	not Taught	182	40,60%
	non-Formal	97	21,70%
	Elementary	94	21,00%
	Middle and Secondary	48	10,80%
	literate	25	5,60%
	preschool	2	0,40%
Position in the household	spouse	327	73,00%
	girl	54	12,10%
	Head of Household	17	3,80%
	niece	11	2,50%
	Sister or cousin	5	1,10%
	other	34	7,60%

Pular (69%) is the largest ethnic group in the area. Most women (85.5%) respondents are married. 73% reported having a co-wife. Almost nearly half (40.60%) of the women surveyed are not educated.

Table II :Kounkané and Diaobé women's Economic power and access to water

Variable	Fréquence	Pourcentage
Possession cultivable land		
Yes	217	48,80%
Satisfaction land cultivable area		
Yes	76	35,50%
Cultivable land acquisition mode		
By husband	98	45,20%
by inheritance	51	23,50%
by lending	41	18,80%
per purchase	14	6,50%
Other ways	13	6,00%
Principal occupation		
small business	199	44,40%
Housewife	132	29,50%
peasant	73	16,30%
other	44	9,80%
Current water access		
Yes	441	98,40%
Source supply running water		
Well open home	279	62,3%
Well closed home	81	18,1%
Open public wells	48	10,7%
Tap home	14	3,1%
Enclosed public wells	8	1,8%
Publics tap	4	0,9%
Other	14	3,1%
Cost supply running water		
Free	424	96,10%