

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT & FOOD SECURITY

VAM GENDER AND MARKETS BRIEFING #6

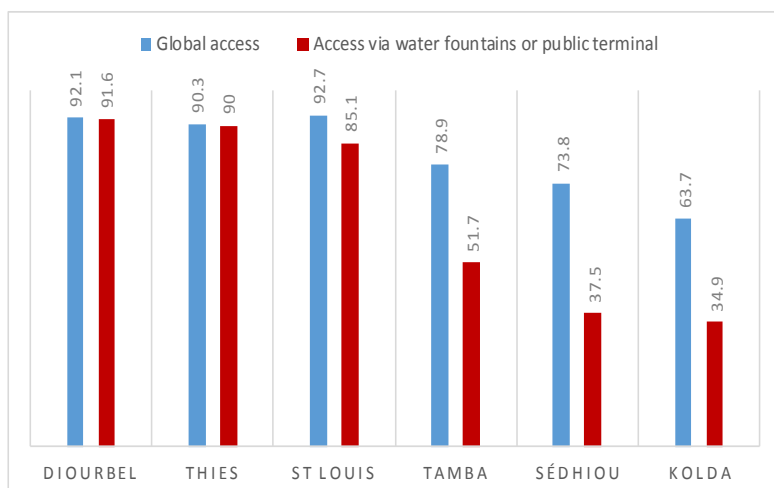


GENDER AND MARKETS IN SENEGAL

KEYS MESSAGES :

- WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION CONTRIBUTE IN A SIGNIFICANT WAY TO WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT, THEY ARE INITIATIVES THAT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED. THE MEMBERSHIP WITHIN A « GROUPING OF ECONOMIC INTEREST » (GIE) GIVES DECISION MAKING POWER TO WOMEN GOING BEYOND THEIR USUAL STATUS OF HOUSEWIFES.
- THE ABSCENCE OF DATA DISAGGREGATED BY SEX REMAINS A CONCERN, WFP IS EXPECTED TO DEVELOP FOLLOW-UP INDICATORS ON WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT.
- IN SOME MUNICIPALITIES, THE STUDY REVEALED THAT WOMEN ARE PAYING THE SAME AMOUNT OF TAX PAYMENTS THAN MEN, DESPITE THEIR LARGELY INFERIOR INCOMES.

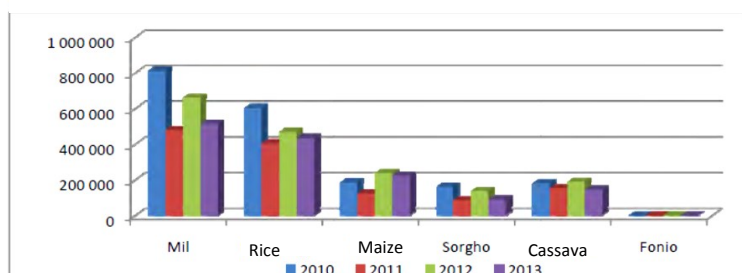
GRAPH 1 : PERCENTAGES OF WATER ACCESS RATES BY REGION IN SENEGAL



CHRONIC CHALLENGES TO WOMEN'S AUTONOMIZATION IN MARKETS, GROUPS OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS AS GOOD PRACTICES

CHALLENGES faced by women are linked to the transition from semi-domestic to industrial-type of production. There is an energetic challenge to meet the growing demand as well as a problem of access to water in specific localities where market gardening activity is expanding (Graph.1). Women are also facing problems related to quality standards, financing and equipment especially when it comes to commercialization. Access to general training such as management or women's leadership trainings is also a major challenge. Additionally, access to land, production factors and basic infrastructure remains a considerable challenge for women. Overall, their shares in market remain limited due to the narrowness of their agricultural perimeter and the low yields. Surpluses do not allow them to position themselves on the market in a sustainable way.

GRAPH 2 : MAIN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN SENEGAL (TONS)



WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS and GIE empower women in the rural world to become actresses at the heart of the community development. At the same time, they acquire decision-making power that goes beyond their traditional social function as housewives. These women's organizations are a critical factor for women's empowerment, allowing to pool resources and buy large supply quantities. They may also share transformation machinery and storage, and support each other through knowledge sharing and social/psychological support. The absence of women's organizations in some communities reduced women's economic empowerment, which is why WFP should encourage women's associations to focus and work on pertinent activities such as school feeding.

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DATA ON GENDER AND MARKETS IN SENEGAL *

- € **BETWEEN 10 AND 65 YEARS OLD. WOMEN GENERATE A DOMESTIC SURPLUS UP TO 5% OF THE GDP (2011)**
- ♀ **ONLY 9.8% OF THE LAND TITLES ARE HOLD BY WOMEN COMPARED TO 90.2% OF MEN**
- 📖 **WOMEN SPEND ABOUT 6 TIMES MORE INTO DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES THAN MEN**

TAKING ACTION

OBJECTIVE 1 : ADAPT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE to the needs of different social strata: men, women, girls, boys according to their needs and abilities

OBJECTIVE 2 : EQUAL PARTICIPATION of men and women in the implementation process of food and nutrition security programs both in the assessment and monitoring of men and women

OBJECTIVE 3 : DECISION FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS : Involvement of women and girls in decision-making in communities, households in relation to food and nutrition security programs

OBJECTIVE 4 : GENDER AND PROTECTION: Food assistance should not impede the safety, dignity and integrity of women, men, girls and boys who are beneficiaries and must be in their absolute right.

[WFP GENDER POLICY CAN BE FOUND HERE.](#)

THE PROGRAMMATIC SOLUTIONS of the study specify the need to develop a methodological grid of the gender and market analysis. There are key points for WFP to improve. Monitoring indicators, whether quantitative or qualitative, should be developed. Also, articulating the practical needs of women and strategic interests is crucial. Women's needs to access resources should be addressed. Therefore, supporting women in accessing resources and inputs, in particular through partnerships is necessary. Finally, in the long term, women must be able to control continuously their resources. It implies having access to different markets, production factors and tenders of WFP. The promotion of new initiatives (virtual market: Jiggéen ci Ték) is also to be encouraged.

IN TERMS OF RECOMMANDATIONS, and for the success of programs, it is necessary to integrate the gender dimension in tool planning. It is also necessary to popularize the gender dimension and its applications with the partners. Field teams need to be sensitized in the same way as the people who develop the programs. In addition, all assessment and monitoring tools must be gender-sensitive. The expertise of the GIEs of women processors is not negligible and must be taken into account, entrepreneurial initiatives are constantly emerging and are a source of learning for WFP. Finally, strengthening partnerships with the private sector and women farmers' organizations is important to facilitate trade and create a favorable environment.

TO GO FURTHER :

Gender and Market Initiative: Empowering West African Women through Market-based Food Assistance : <https://resources.vam.wfp.org/node/106>

FOR THE LATEST INFO ON :SENEGAL

<http://www1.wfp.org/countries/senegal>

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