

# AGROFUEL AND FOOD SECURITY IN SENEGAL

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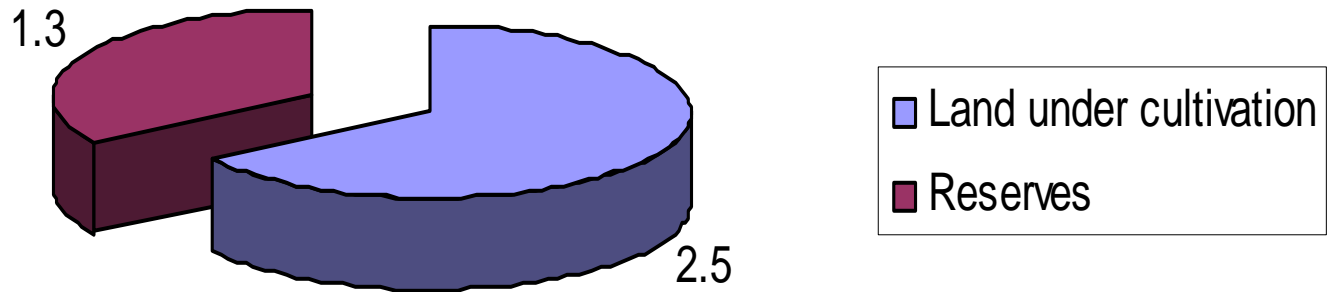
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# Senegal presentation

- **Population: 12 millions inhabitants**
- **Surface: 196000 km<sup>2</sup>**
- **Total arable land: 3.8 million hectares**
- **70% of population in agriculture sector**
- **Agriculture: 10% GDP**

## Arable land situation in million hectares



# Context

- Politic debates around agrofuels started in 2006 after President Wade's visit to Brazil
- Creation of Pan-African Non-Petroleum Producers Association in 2006
- This debate gained space in the last two years since the food and fuel prices raise
- International targets on biofuel

# Food security situation in Senegal

- In Senegal, smallholder family farms largely prevail in agriculture. The food problem is a matter of concern in the rural world :51.2 % of households face severe food insecurity, and 41.3% face moderate food insecurity (profil alimentaire du Senegal, 2008)
- Senegal like most African countries imports more than 60% of its food, and 70-80 % of income is spent on food, many rural families are net buyers of food;

# Agro fuel production impact on arable land

How will the move to biofuel production affect land use?

What impacts that might have on land degradation?

concern is the effect industrial production will have on small-scale farmers.

In some areas, for example Bignona district, forests are cleared to plant jatropha. Could entail a 68 % reduction in income source for rural population, especially for women.

In Senegal, where land tenure is very insecure, this demand for biofuel production can very easily result in expropriation of land from small landholders and threaten food production.

# Consultation on the ground

- ActionAid visited 22 communities
- Consultations with farmers, farmers organisations, local authorities and technical services about biofuel issues

*“We can eat rice but we can’t eat Jatropha.”*



# Land allocated for agrofuel production without any regulation

- In 2007, Senegal Government started the Jatropha National Production Program, with a goal of increasing the land used for jatropha production for biodiesel to 321,000 hectares by 2012.
- 1000 ha per rural community
- The government's drive to increase production is leading to increases in foreign investment. In the Anambe Valley (in the south east of the country), for example, production is shifting from rice and vegetable production to jatropha.
- From 500 to 10000 ha of land have been allocated to private investment for agro fuel production

# Agrofuel production for which consumption?

- The Senegalese sugar company CSS has invested more than €6 million in a new distillery that produce an annual 10 to 12 million liters of ethanol from bagasse, the residue from sugarcane. Until now, the production has not been used in Senegal.
- Beyond land and water constraints, concerns exist regarding increases in the production of bio fuels. Developing countries will likely become the primary producers of biofuel feedstock with developed countries as the primary consumers.
- According to the European Commission, some 20 percent of the 2020 target would be imported as agro fuel feedstock.

# Recommendations

- Need a moratorium on large scale agrofuel production until the Government puts in place a strong set of policies and a regulatory framework
- Regulation of international targets
- Comprehensive participatory assessments of social, cultural and environmental impacts should be undertaken for agrofuel production.
- Need to increase investment in food production to ensure sustainable response for hunger in Africa.

# Civil society alliance to regulate agricultural production for food and fuel

- Civil society organizations should raise awareness on the effects of foreign interest driven biofuel production, especially on women and small-scale farmers in the rural communities.
- Thirty Civil Society Organizations in Senegal decided to present a joint effort on the effects of biofuel development on African countries' food security and sovereignty and environmental impacts.

# Conclusion

OUR PRIORITY IN SENEGAL IS ACCESS TO FOOD  
WHICH IS THE MAIN PRIORITY:

ENERGY FOR HUMANS  
OR ENERGY FOR VEHICLES?

AGROFUEL FROM AFRICA  
IS IT FOR AFRICA OR FOR  
INTERNATIONAL DEMAND?

Thanks for your kind attention!

