

## Need for adaptive solutions to food vulnerability induced by fish scarcity and unaffordability in Senegal

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With a level of consumption among the highest in Africa (23.9 kg/person/year in 2013), Senegal is highly dependent on fish in terms of food security. There are many socio-economic factors that influence the importance of fish in the dietary habits of the population. However, because of the major changes that have gradually occurred in the fishing sector during the last two decades in terms of fishing overcapacity and overexploitation, the availability of fish has become an increasing challenge. In this article, we document the particular case of Senegal as a good example of how food vulnerability can result from the scarcity and increasing price of fish products. Using average monthly prices of four major fish products and a consumer price index time series from 1998 to 2014, in combination with information collected from the literature and the field, we demonstrate evidence of fish scarcity and analyze the temporal structure of fish product affordability. Before exploring the potential solutions, we outline the major drivers of shortage of fish in the country and the resulting responses of the most vulnerable groups of the population. Considering the global and national context, the main constraints and challenges for efficient adaptive strategies are also identified.

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