

Title: **Societal cost for best fishing practices and efficient public policies for the Senegalese coastal demersal fishery**

Author(s): Moustapha DEME, Haoran Pan

Abstract: Up to now cost measurements in the Senegalese demersal fisheries have been limited to the assessment of the financial viability of fleets or the comparison between revenues of the fleet and costs of the management. But all of these works are only concerned with the financial cost of fishing activity. The ecological, economical and social costs are not taken into account. The research to be conducted will fill this gap by showing the real cost of human activities on Senegalese demersal fisheries. It will also make a link between society choices and ecosystem health by showing how public policies affect production of demersal fish and marketing practices. A new approach, based on the concept of societal cost is being developed in the ECOST project. The societal costs are all costs linked to fishing activities which may be ecological (alteration of the capacity of a system), economic (all costs linked to production, management, subsidies, and external factors) and social (the costs of poverty, social injustice, gender discrimination, food security and food safety). Using this tool, the research aims to conciliate the economical, social and bio-ecological aspects of the exploitation of the demersal fisheries suffering from a huge overexploitation. Doing so will help to achieve a sustainable management of the targeted fisheries making it possible to conserve the biodiversity while at the same time developing the production sector and the well-being of populations.