Title: Sport Fishing in Senegal: Actors, Supply, Demand and Economic Induced Effects

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Abstract:

With its 710 km coastline and its tidal lagoon network, Senegal has aquatic resources that play an important role in its economy (2005the fisheries sector is the largest provider of export earnings with 165 billion CFA Francs (ANSD, 2007). Promoted from the 1960s to boost tourism, sport fishing in Senegal, at the intersection of fisheries and tourism, has had great moments with his titles of world champion in 2002 and 2003. This worldwide breakthrough has not lead, so far, to the expected expansion of this activity which remains little known to many Senegalese and whose economic effects remain poorly informed. Who are the actors? What is the structure of supply and demand? What are the value added and the employment generated by sport fishing? To help answer these questions, surveys were conducted in Senegal (Dakar, Petite Cote Sine-Saloum) on tourist hotels, fishing clubs and centers, skippers of structures and freelance skippers as well as recreational fishermen tourist; in France, travel agencies have been targeted. It is shown that sport fishing is practiced mainly by non-resident tourists and residents. The supply of sport fishing is done through specialized structures (fishing centers and fishing clubs); hotels whose offer often requires a partnership or simply a contact with providers of sport fishing who can even be artisanal fishermen. The activity is developed on an annual basis, despite of a marked seasonality as for big game fishing which is the most frequent type of fishing and whose main targets are the billfish. A broad satisfaction of anglers is noted, which contrasts with the lackluster perception of actors on the current status of sport fisheries in Senegal. The rate of value added for three categories of actors is hardly above 55%, while it represents 71.73% in senegalese artisanal fisheries. Urgent action targeting better identification of actors, promotion, investments, organization and regulation could help to sustain an important activity for Senegal and potentially not negligible.