



Innovative Architectural Designs for Accessibility in Rural Senegal: User Experience Evaluation and Policy Recommendations

Mamadou Keita¹, Coumba Ndiaye^{2,3}, Diallo Diallo⁴, Iba Ndione^{4,5}

¹ Department of Advanced Studies, Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA)

² Department of Research, Cheikh Anta Diop University (UCAD), Dakar

³ Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), Dakar

⁴ Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA)

⁵ Université Alioune Diop de Bambey (UADB)

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Correspondence: mkeita@aol.com

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Author notes

Mamadou Keita is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA) and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Coumba Ndiaye is affiliated with Department of Research, Cheikh Anta Diop University (UCAD), Dakar and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Diallo Diallo is affiliated with Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA) and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Iba Ndione is affiliated with Institut Sénégalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA) and focuses on Arts & Humanities research in Africa.

Abstract

In rural Senegal, traditional architectural designs often lack accessibility features for individuals with disabilities, contributing to social and economic disparities. The research employs qualitative interviews with users, focus group discussions, and observations at selected sites, focusing on the integration of ramps, elevators, and accessible toilets. Users reported significant improvements in mobility and comfort when navigating public spaces and homes. A majority (75%) indicated that improved accessibility reduced their travel time by more than 20%. The study underscores the positive impact of inclusive design on community well-being, particularly for individuals with disabilities. Policy recommendations include mandatory inclusion of accessible features in rural construction codes and regular maintenance audits to ensure ongoing usability.

Keywords: Rural, Accessibility, Anthropology, Qualitative, Design, Disability Studies, Contextual Analysis

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