



Youth Engagement in Senegalese Agribusiness and Food Systems: Insights from 2004 to 2004

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Abstract

Youth engagement in Senegalese agribusiness and food systems has been a topic of interest for several years, with efforts to understand how youth participation can enhance agricultural productivity and food security. Qualitative data collection methods were employed through semi-structured interviews with youth entrepreneurs and focus group discussions in three regions: Dakar, Ziguinchor, and Sédhiou. Data was analysed using thematic analysis to identify recurring themes and challenges. Young agribusiness owners reported facing significant barriers such as lack of technical knowledge (\bar{X}_t) and access to credit (90% confidence interval for proportion). They identified key success factors including market linkages and mentorship programmes, with a notable theme of innovation in traditional farming practices observed. Despite challenges, youth entrepreneurs demonstrated resilience and creativity in adapting their businesses. Support programmes that emphasise knowledge transfer and financial inclusion are recommended to foster further growth. Develop tailored training modules for young agribusiness owners focusing on market access, financing options, and innovative farming techniques. Implement an evaluation framework to monitor the impact of support initiatives.

Keywords: *African, agroecology, entrepreneurship, food security, youth empowerment, participatory research, rural development*

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