

Illegal migration and climate change in Senegal

Franck Aurelien Tchokouagueu, Joseph Arsène Feutoho Defeu

Senegal is one of West Africa regions doubly affected by environmental changes and illegal immigration. Environmental changes relate to both human actions such as deforestation and natural actions such as floods and coastal erosion. About clandestine emigration in Senegal, it is summed up phenomenon "Barca or Barsakh" (to see Barcelona or to die). Several studies have shown that international migration, particularly illegal in Senegal have for main factor the socioeconomic conditions of households. But environmental changes due to climate change occurred in recent years in the country have significantly affected the living conditions of the Senegalese people. Habitat loss due to flooding; the loss of arable land due to coastal erosion; the decline of fishing activities caused by the depletion of fish products, are few direct consequences of climate change in Senegal. Therefore, it appears a link between illegal migration and climate change in Senegal. This study aims to identify the interaction between climate change and illegal migration in Senegal. Specifically, it's about: to identify the consequences of illegal migration and climate change in Senegal; analyze the links between global warming and illegal immigration; and identify actions to be taken by the Senegalese policies. It appears mainly in this study that climate change increases the risks of illegal migration in Senegal, especially for young farmers and fishermen. The main climate change planning actions that could mitigate the clandestine departures in Senegal would be: subsidizing field studies of population struggling to cope with climate change, and the forecast studies on its effects; support farmers and fishermen cope with the effects of global warming.

Franck Aurelien Tchokouagueu (tchokouagueu@yahoo.fr) is a junior researcher in demography. He obtained a Mater II at Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographique. His research area is migration in Africa. He is author of several publications including: "Impact des mutations socioéconomiques et démographiques actuelles et futures en Afrique sur les échanges migratoires entre l'Afrique et le reste du monde "published in Journal of African Transformation. He has already participated in a half-dozen international conferences, and is looking for a PhD scholarship to continue his studies.

Joseph Arsène Feutoho Defeu is outgoing student demographics at Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographique.

