RICE SELF-SUFFICIENCY in SENEGAL, a clearly stated political will

Agricultural programs in Senegal, policy guidance?

To be self-sufficient in rice, we need to commercialize our milled rice

Produce 1.6 million tonnes of paddy, 60% in irrigated

Eat local rice, yes, but at what price?
Self-sufficiency in rice for Senegal, what is it?

Senegal’s population is estimated by the General Census of Population and Housing, Agriculture and Livestock (RGPHAE) in 2013 to 13,508,715 people. The urbanization rate is 45.2% and increased by 4.5 points between 2002 and 2013.

Rice is the most consumed cereal in Senegal and have a political, economic and social character. Anxious to reduce the deficit in its trade balance and preserve food security affected by the “hunger riots” of the 2008 crisis, Senegal plans to be self-sufficient in rice by 2017. Concretely this means that local production must be able to fully cover Senegalese rice needs. Ultimately, this will allow a significant reduction of rice imports especially as regards the broken rice which is very much appreciated.

Note that areas like Dakar, Thies, Diourbel and Louga participate only marginally in the national rice production. These regions contain 54% of the population and must be regularly supplied with local rice. These regions with a very high rate of urbanization (Dakar (96.4%), St. Louis (45.7%) and Thies (49%)) can serve as a barometer to penetration of local rice because that is where the real issue of self-sufficiency is.

No longer have to import rice, will save nearly 190 billion CFA francs (in CIF value) equivalent to the Senegalese rice imports for 2013 (source: ANSD). For comparison, the draft 2015 budget of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Equipment was arrested at the sum of 165 billion CFA francs.

Talking about rice self-sufficiency in Senegal, it is to refer to the production, processing, marketing, consumption chain. The components of this chain have the same importance. The concept could even be argued as “cycle of rice self-sufficiency” and the main driver would be the credit. Quality is something that must be transversal to the whole chain. But what gives value to this system is the link consumption and the challenge is daunting because changing the eating habits and preferences of Senegalese consumers will not be easy.

The Senegal wants to produce 1.6 million tonnes of paddy, irrigated rice 60% (640,000 t) and upland rice 40% (960,000 t). At the Senegal River Valley, we are well on track since the SAED announces a production of 430,000 tons of paddy rice produced in an area of 60,573 ha planted for the 2014 campaign.

Keep in mind that the Senegalese population would be around 15 million people in 2017 with an annual population growth rate (1990-2012) estimated at 2.7% and according to the FAO, Senegal is one of the most large rice consumers in West Africa with a per capita rice consumption of 90 Kg.

The political will to achieve rice self-sufficiency is clearly displayed. The State of Senegal and its development partners are hard at work: the human, technical and financial resources are mobilized to meet the objectives.

The participation and involvement of the private sector will be critical especially in the strategic link which is rice processing. The farmers’ professional organizations and especially the rice’s interprofession (CIRIZ) are are at the forefront and must play their role.

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Agricultural programs in Senegal, policy guidance?

Since the adoption of the Orientation Law Agro-Silvo-Pasto-rale in 2004, the strategic guidelines in favor of senegalese agriculture follow each other and sometimes overlap, even so these development strategies come together around a common goal of eradicating poverty in Senegal. The idea is to impact on sustainable economic growth by renewed competitiveness in key sectors driving growth such as agriculture.


For agriculture, it must be stimulating the growth of Agricultural Gross Domestic Product by wealth creation for rural producers by improving the productivity and competitiveness of subsistence and commercial agricultural sectors.

Unfortunately we had more right to political orientations of our agriculture and often the materialization of the “political vision” comes up against the economic reality. The finding is ultimately as agricultural projects and programs converge in terms of objectives but aren’t complementary in terms of actions.

It is true that our agriculture has benefited from ambitious programs but the results were mixed and did not meet expectations. Indeed, it is unfortunate to note that the results and effects seemed very ephemeral considering the high costs of these programs.

Some analysts are even agree that they have had little impact on the most vulnerable people.

It’s been a while since our agriculture can not emerge despite the efforts of political and technicians. Is this a problem of approach? Value chain approach, and now cluster approach: We still need to make an appropriate choice, not suggested and adapted to our economic environment. What about the management of these programs? Indeed, between departments, agencies and programs management units, it is difficult to see clearly.

Now back on these ambitious programs, which may have initiated the emergence of our agriculture.
The Return to the Agriculture to the Great Offensive for Abundance

The REVA plan or “Return to Agriculture”

It is in a context of high illegal immigration and rural exodus that the REVA plan was launched in 2006. This program was even called agricultural revolution for Senegal, however its protagonists were quickly disappointed. This plan was based on the creation of “Agricultural emergence poles” and the promotion of private initiative.

In its pilot phase from August 2006 to December 2008, the REVA plan included the installation of 550 “Agricultural emergence poles”. These poles were intended to create almost 300 000 direct and indirect jobs. In its extension phase to go from 2008 to 2015, it was expected to achieve nearly 5700 “Agricultural emergence poles” turned to the production of vegetables, grain, livestock and aquaculture products.

Facing difficulties in his implementation phase, the National Agency REVA (ANREVA) was established in 2008. Subsequently the ANREVA became the National Agency for Insertion and Agricultural Development (ANIDA) and its main objective remains the creation of farms to facilitate the insertion of young people through job creation.

In 2014, the ANIDA reported 76 newly created farms and 4 modern “Community Agricultural Domains” (DAC), formerly known as “Agricultural Domains Shared” (DAP) under ANREVA.

Currently this logic of development of farms continues in the Agricultural Community Domains Program (PRODAC_2014-2018). Likewise, a component of the Project to Support the Promotion of Employment of young people and Women (PAPEJF_2014-2018) includes the construction of 156 farms by ANIDA and the National Aquaculture Agency (ANA).

We would agree to say that for the “poles of emergences”, “Agricultural Domains Shared or Community” and “Natangue farms”, the guiding principle remains the same: the integration of young people by job creation.

The Great Offensive for Food and Abundance (GOANA)

This time, the context of the launch of this program was the 2008 crisis marked by soaring prices of agricultural commodities and especially by high volatility in rice prices. In Dakar, there was the “food riots” which revived the issue of food insecurity. Our government has responded by launching 18 April 2008 the Great Offensive for Food and Abundance (GOANA).

This vast program with an estimated cost of 345 billion CFA francs had objectives deemed too ambitious. The GOANA program tried to reach a production of 2 million tonnes of maize, 3 million tonnes of cassava, 500,000 tons of paddy rice and 2 million tonnes for other food crops. In this program, about 193 billion CFA francs were spent on the purchase of fertilizers, 52 billion for seed and 13 billion for the purchase of pesticides. The rest of the investment has concerned the farm equipment, irrigation schemes and monitoring for a total cost of 87 billion CFA francs.

For the crop year 2008-2009, looking the data published by the ANSD, the results were significant. During this year 1,756,705 tons of grain were produced (411 499 tons of maize and 678 170 tons of millet) for 772,239 tons for the year 2007-2008 (158 266 tonnes of maize and 318 622 tonnes of millet). Unfortunately, this level of production could not be sustained.
The Rice Self-Sufficiency National Program (PNAR)

A the same time as GOANA program and specifically for the rice sector, the Rice Self-Sufficiency National Program was developed in the framework of the National Development Strategy of Rice (SNDR). Let’s say that the rice self-sufficiency targets were mentioned for the first time in a presidential council in 2005.

The budget of the PNAR was estimated at 174 billion CFA francs and cover three years (2009 to 2011). The objective of the PNAR was to achieve by 2012, 1,000,000 tons of white rice (equivalent to 1.5 million tonnes of paddy). For that, it was necessary to wear the rice acreages to 130,720 ha including 115,720 ha in the Senegal River Valley and 15,000 ha in the Anambé basin.

The expected share of irrigated rice to achieve this goal was 800,000 tons (80%) and upland rice 200,000 tons (20%). However, the results were not those expected. For the crop year 2011-2012, the data of the ANSD have given a level of rice emblavure of 109,176 ha for a total production of 405,823 tons (Yield of 3.7 T / ha).

The National Agricultural Investment Program (PNIA)

The PNIA is the translation at the national level of the common agricultural policy of ECOWAS (ECOWAP) and the Comprehensive Program for the Development of African Agriculture (CAADP). Its formulation process (2008-2010) took place with all stakeholders (government, private sector, civil society, producer organizations, etc.) and resulted in its operationalization in a National Investment Plan (PI_2011-2015).

The expected impacts of the PI were among others:
- To increase the part of agriculture in total GDP to 20.29% in 2015 and 21.53% in 2020;
- To obtain agricultural GDP growth rate of 7.43% in 2015 and 6.62% in 2020;
- To reach a cereal needs coverage rate of 125.83% in 2015 and 186.37% in 2020;
- And reduce the incidence of national poverty to 25.89% in 2015 and 18.06% in 2020.

The PI had a budget estimated at 1.346 trillion CFA francs of which 69% were devoted to the agriculture sub-sector, 10.9% to livestock and 10.7% to the environment. It should be noted that about 70% of the resources devoted to the agriculture sub-sector were for the supply of agricultural inputs.

PNIA is officially operational since 2013 with the start of the PNIA Senegal Support Program (PAPS-EN) and the Cadence Acceleration Program of the Senegalese Agriculture (PRACAS) in 2014.
The emergence of our agricultural sector will be effective through efficient agricultural programs

What saying about the real impacts of these ambitious agricultural programs that were implemented since 2005? Otherwise that they have not even been able to stimulate sustained growth of our agricultural sector.

A study made by the ANSD reveals that the average growth rate of our agriculture was 2.5% between 2000 and 2011 and the part of agriculture in the national GDP is estimated at 7.86 % on average (2007-2011). The same study show that between 1997 and 2011 the agricultural sector volatility is 17.5% for food agriculture and 32% for the industrial agriculture.

Currently the growth is driven by the service sector, the agricultural sector’s contribution to growth barely reached 0.1% despite the ambitious agricultural programs. In addition to constraints related to climate aspects, many challenges remain and threaten our food security.

The accession in 2013 of Senegal to New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition (NASAN) shows the determination of our governments to reverse the trend by seeking contributions from national and foreign private investors to support sustainable agricultural development.

Our government has also taken his responsibilities and wish revive cereal and peanut production, promote commercial agriculture and especially modernize family farming. As part of its Triennial Public Investment Program (PTIP 2015-2017), the programmed budget for the agricultural sector totals 497.4 billion FCFA (14.88% of the overall budget and 71.49% of investments planned for the primary sector).

The flagship projects of the Senegal Emergent Plan (PSE) program planned in the PTIP are:

-The Project of setting up cereal corridors which consist in developing and intensifying basins agricultural irrigation for the production of cereals (millet / rice / corn). The overall cost is estimated at 308 billion CFA francs.

-The Creation project of 100 to 150 farms in the sectors of horticulture (fruits and vegetables) and livestock (milk, poultry, etc.) at a cost of 89 billion CFA francs.

-And the Cadence Acceleration Program of Agriculture in Senegal (PRACAS) whose total cost is estimated at 581 billion CFA francs with 424.7 billion CFA francs (73%) for the Rice sector, 92 billion CFA francs (16%) for the Peanut sector, 20.9 billion CFA francs (4%) for the onion sector and 43.50 billion CFA francs (7%) for fruits and vegetables.

Ultimately, all of these programs help to improve the productivity and competitiveness of our agricultural products, to develop agribusiness and modernize our family farming. Nevertheless, we have necessarily to resolve issues related to the mobilization of financial resources, the efficient management of programs and especially those linked to the presence of intermediaries.
Produce 1.6 million tonnes of paddy, 60% in irrigated

The final results of the 2013 crop year published by the ANSD reveal that 108,547 hectares were sown with rice for a production of 436,153 tons of paddy with an average yield of 4 tons / Ha.

With a production of 430,000 tonnes announced by the SAED for the 2014 campaign, the VFS’s rice producers equaled the total quantity of rice produced on the entire Senegalese territory during the previous crop year. In the last 5 crop years, the average of the area planted to rice is 127,786 ha for 477,968 tons of paddy.

In the VFS, to achieve rice self-sufficiency in term of production, the producers must produce 912,000 tons of paddy on 140,308 hectares (in double culture) with an average yield of 6.5 t / ha. For irrigated agriculture in the Anambé basin, it is also planned to sow rice on 8,000 hectares for an expected production 48,000 tons.

With a yield of 8 T / Ha, rice areas would average 114,000 Ha whereas with 9 T / ha, they would be 100,000 hectares. The fact is that in order to achieve our objectives we need to increase rice areas or to improve productivity.

Currently 119,640 hectares are available for irrigated agriculture in the VFS and more than 20,000 hectares of new extensions are planned not counting those who will be rehabilitated.

The objective for 2017 is to sow 70,154 Ha for each rice season. This assumes that the double-crop will be real on at least 40% of rice surfaces if we consider that 80% of areas available for irrigated agriculture will be planted with rice. However, we have possibility to bet on the hot rice season which records often the maximum rice areas planted and the best yields in comparison with winter season. The only constraint is the high climate risk at harvest and their impact on the quality of the paddy transformed (possible reduction of the transformation coefficient due to the fact that paddy has not reached its ideal level of humidity).
About upland rice, the global objectives are to produce 640,050 tons for 183,000 ha of sown areas. The regions of Ziguinchor, Kolda and Sédhiou are prominent:

- Ziguinchor, which has cultivated an average of 7396 hectares of millet and 21,636 ha in upland rice during the 3 last campaigns, should provide 182,000 T of paddy for 52,000 ha of planted area.

- The Kolda region, which has cultivated an average of 20,123 ha of millet, 19,501 ha in sorghum and 19,429 hectares of maize during the 3 last campaigns, must produce 168,000 t of paddy for 48,000 ha of planted area.

- And finally the Sédhiou region which has cultivated an average of 32,295 hectares of millet and 21,450 hectares of rice, must produce 161,000 t of paddy for 46,000 ha of planted area.

The Kedougou region should in turn produce 35,000 T, that of Tambacounda 31,500 T and 17,500 T for Kaffrine and Kaolack.

However, it would lead to think that this is too optimistic projections in view of irregular rainfalls caused by climate changes very marked in the southern zone.

For these regions engaged exclusively in upland rice, consumption potential in milled rice is estimated at 380,000 tons in 2017, if we take as a basis: the 1.08 million tons of milled rice to produce, a consumption of 72 Kg of milled rice per year and per person and if we plan a population of 15 million inhabitants in 2017. The production potential of these regions which average 26% of urban people, is 464,737 tons of milled rice (48 000 tons of irrigated rice envisaged for Kolda were included).

Note that rice self-sufficiency may have an impact on the onion production objectives because 44% of national production in 2013 have been harvested in VFS. In 2013, 102,233 tons of onions were produced in the VFS for 3790 Ha of planted areas. Note that for the last 5 years (2009-2013), onion crops areas were averaged 4,000 Ha for a production of 108,000 tons.

Crop year management by producers will also be a major challenge for the achievement of objectives in terms of planted areas. Indeed the effectiveness of the advices given to producers will be real if the agricultural campaign credits are well managed and if the producers guarantee a certain professionalism in the management of public equipments in irrigated areas.

It is of course obvious that a strengthening of the organizational dynamics within professional producers is desirable to help achieve the required level of production.
The global cost expected to achieve rice self-sufficiency by 2017 is estimated to 424.7 billion CFA francs. Special attention is given to improving the supply of agricultural inputs and thus increasing crop yields. Indeed, 55% of this amount is reserved for replenishment of seed stocks and supply of fertilizer.

Almost 9% of the global cost of the development of the rice sector will be dedicated to equipment. In the VFS, the functional agricultural equipment used and estimated by SAED in 2010 consisted of 165 tractors, 114 cover crops, 67 ridgers, 28 combines harvesters, 170 harvesters and 4 balers.

The PRACAS plans for 2017, to increase the agricultural machinery park:

- 275 tractors (93 in irrigated rice and 182 in upland rice)
- 931 cultivators (23 in irrigated rice and 908 in upland rice)
- 1,626 harvesters (278 in irrigated rice and 1348 in upland rice)
- And 123 combine harvesters for the VFS.

Nearly 20,000 direct jobs will be created in rural areas. However, the producers have to take care of these equipments otherwise we might witness a rapid degradation of these agricultural equipments.

Evolution of the area and rice production in the regions of Senegal
The processing sector, the cornerstone of rice self-sufficiency

The actual involvement of the private sector in the rice self-sufficiency policy will be evaluated at the level of the processing sector. Indeed, in addition to having to transform 1.6 million tonnes of paddy, this sector will have to provide good quality milled rice which possess the same marketing attributes that imported rice.

Currently the rice milling capacity in the VFS is less than 180,000 tons, which means that much of the paddy is transformed in artisanal way. Despite the fact that these artisanal machines were falsely accused to provide poor quality husked rice, it is clear that they will have their part to play in rice self-sufficiency. We needs as well to group them into transformer associations and modernize their facilities by equipping them modules in husking, sorting and packaging.

The agricultural equipment financing needs are estimated at 38,139 million (15,172 million for irrigated areas and 22,967 million for rainfed areas). The Cadence Acceleration Program of Agriculture in Senegal (PRACAS) provides for the acquisition of 2,474 craft shellers (451 in irrigated areas and 2,023 in rainfed areas) and 227 small rice mills (92 in irrigated areas and 135 in rainfed areas). Particular attention should be given to the geographical distribution of processing units to reduce the costs for processing. In the VFS, we can noted that most of the processing units are concentrated in the department of Dagana.

Have a good storage capacity is also very important to have profitable investments. In the VFS, our government provided to build storage warehouses for a target of 300,000 tons by 2017.

In the processing sector, nearly 25 000 direct jobs could be created if we stick to the planned investments.

For facilitating access to finance for millers, our government established a guarantee fund of 3 billion CFA francs in the CNCAS. Similarly, 5 billion will be made available to facilitate the rice commercialization. This fund is the equivalent of 40,000 tons of paddy purchased at 125 CFA francs per kilogram.

The processing sector is undoubtedly one of the weak links in the rice self-sufficiency policy. Indeed, most of actors in rice value chains are unspecialized. Therefore, most of the transformers (millers, etc.) commercialize local rice under their own label in addition to playing the role of storer of paddy, this situation contributes to introduce moral hazard at the contracting process.

The history of rice processing in the VFS has greatly contributed to the bad press that the actors in this sector have. Currently their efforts and those of development partners (PAPRIZ, USAID, etc.) have led to a marked improvement in the quality of local rice which is commercialized. To hold a good quality of local rice, we need a specialization of the actors in the rice value chains.
Finance the rice value chains

Funding for production and commercialization to achieve rice self-sufficiency target by 2017, will not be easy. Just for the production, our government will mobilize no less than 70 billion CFA francs.

In the VFS for the agricultural year 2014, 48% of rice growing areas have benefited funding provided by CNCAS against 30% the previous year. The funding amounts are about 8 billion CFA francs (average 300,000 CFA francs/ha) against 4 billion in 2013. Note that CNCAS is the largest funder of rice campaigns in Senegal. Some microfinance institutions also participate in financing campaigns rice.

However, for that funding to be effective, it should concern all of the identified value chains, adapted to the expressed needs and be available in time.

Some producers at odds with their financial institutions, have increasingly resorting to unauthorized structures for funding if they not have the ability to self-financing.

The recovery level and respect of campaign credit timelines are crucial to improve the quantity and quality of funding. In Rainfed area the credit risk is much higher than in irrigated area. For producers of the VFS, the campaign loan repayment level determines if double cropping is feasible or not, more than availability of agricultural equipment (tractor, combine harvesters, etc.). Indeed, in the public irrigated areas, seasonal credit recovery rate is mostly different for farmers’ organizations grouped within the same hydraulic union. This situation can lead to late implementation of credit and increases the uncertainty in planning of the crop calendar of the current year and the following one.

Several factors can affect the repayment capacity of producers. These include among others, difficulties in managing cash and seasonal credit covering only agricultural inputs. However, one of the most important factors remains rice marketing which still a major problem for the value chains of local rice.

It is obvious that financing the commercialization of rice will greatly improve the seasonal loans recovery rate.

Finally, let us remind that to solve the problem of financing campaigns of rice, we need our governments work to involving more microfinance institutions and other banking institutes. CNCAS alone can not support the full funding requirement. Also in the absence of collateral, the financiers have interest in working with technical support structures (structures of management and training), to ensure them a minimum visibility on the management of the credit.
To be self-sufficient in rice, we need to commercialize our milled rice

Senegal must import rice to feed its population constantly growing because coverage rate of rice needs fails to reach 30%. We import rice mainly from India, Thailand, Vietnam, Brazil and Argentina. According to data of the ANSD in 2014, Senegal has imported about 959,329 tons of rice for a CIF value of 179 billion CFA francs. The average monthly imports is 79,944 tons in 2014, 76,574 tons in 2012 and 67,077 tons in 2011.

With the likely increase in local rice production induced by the rice self-sufficiency policy, Our government plans to limit rice imports to 500,000 tons by indexing the quantities of rice imported to local rice quotas bought. Our President decide also to imposed the State services to eat local rice (army, police, hospitals, etc.). Unfortunately, these measures will not be enough to push the Senegalese to consume local rice.

We will have to gradually change our eating habits which are historically entrenched. For this, the nutritional information about the attributes of local rice and the processus of its culinary preparation must be transmitted through advertising.

An important element but not least will be the configuration of the price of local rice because of the low purchasing power of Senegalese households which is already weighing on purchasing decisions.

For providing sustainable solutions to the problems of local rice, we need to identify and fund local rice value chains which are more efficient (those where actors are specialized). This priority targeting will have the advantage to reduce bias in the process of contracting and allow regular sourcing of the market.

This approach will also allow greater involvement of importers and traders in these value chains, so cost efficiency level in the chain will lead to the formation of a remunerative price for chain actors and accessible price for consumers. Competition between the specialized value chains and non-specialized ones can increase the local rice competitiveness on the quality/price ratio.
Global rice prices are down

According to FAO, world production decreased slightly and amounted to 741.3 million tons of paddy in 2014 against 745 million tons in 2013. Exports also rose, passing from 37.3 million tons in 2013 to 42 million tons in 2014.

“In sub-Saharan Africa, production in 2014 would have increased only by 1.5% (14Mt in milled rice against 13.7Mt in 2013). Demand for imported rice should remain important, particularly in Senegal where imports in 2015 may again exceed 1Mt to satisfy annual consumption of about 1.5Mt. “(Osiriz, January 2015-No 131)

In 2014, the trend of world rice prices is downwards, but these prices are relatively higher than those that prevailed before the crisis of 2008. The Thai 100B was traded in exports to US $ 399 / tons in April 2015 against US $ 427/tons for the year 2014. For the A1Super, it was traded in exports to US $ 325/tons in April 2015 against US $ 321/tons for 2014.

According to ARM, the ordinary Indian broken rice which has a strong presence in urban markets in Senegal, was traded on average in 268 CFA francs/kg in 2014. This rice, which cost on average 282 CFA francs/kg in 2013 and 299 CFA francs/kg in 2012, is in direct competition with the Senegalese local rice. For the Indian ordinary broken rice the average price for the last 5 years is approximately 280 CFA francs/kg while for the local broken rice, it is 277.2 CFA francs/kg.
The data from the CSA indicate that monthly retail price of perfumed rice imported decreased by 10 CFA francs/kg and is averaged 439 CFA francs/kg in 2014 against 449 CFA francs/kg in 2013. For ordinary broken rice imported, it cost on average 274 CFA francs/kg in 2014 against 282 CFA francs/kg in 2013, a decrease of 8 CFA francs/kg. For husked local rice, in 2014 it cost on average 254 CFA francs/kg against 267 CFA francs/kg in 2013.

In the region of Saint-Louis, the monthly producer price of local husked rice is estimated to 248 CFA francs/kg in 2014 against 268 CFA francs/kg in 2013. The ordinary broken rice imported were sold in average 281 CFA francs/kg in 2014 against 283 CFA francs/kg in 2013. And finally, broken fragrant rice imported has traded at 447 CFA francs/kg in 2014 against 454 CFA francs/kg in 2013.

In Dakar, the monthly producer price of local husked rice increased slightly, it was sold 293 CFA francs/kg in 2014 against 284 CFA francs/kg in 2013. For the ordinary imported broken rice, it cost 274 CFA francs/kg in 2014 against 277 CFA francs/kg in 2013. The fragrant broken imported rice sold at 414 CFA francs/kg in 2014 against 454 CFA francs/kg in 2013.

A Thies, the monthly price of local husked rice remained at 266 CFA francs/kg between 2013 and 2014. For the ordinary imported broken rice, the price decreased from 275 CFA francs/kg to 262 CFA francs/kg. The fragrant broken rice was sold at 340 CFA francs/kg in 2014 against 450 CFA francs/kg in 2013.
We need a stable selling price of paddy and milled rice

It appears that the prices of rice at national level have decreased slightly in 2014, which is a good sign for consumers. For local broken rice, the price is stayed below 300 CFA Francs/Kg but still remains in strong competition with the Indian rice.

For now, with a cost of rice production estimated at 80 CFA francs/kg (SAED), the producer margin is 45 CFA francs/kg paddy for an estimated selling price of 125 CFA francs/kg and 6.7 T/ Ha of yield. The margin for rice is then about 55%, far from 200% possible for horticultural irrigated crops.

However, in the absence of some opportunities for white rice paddy or milled, distributors, processors and commerçants are struggling to make their activities profitable.

Protectionist measures such as the local rice purchase quotas will improve conditions of marketing. However it is preferable that such purchases are aimed primarily paddy from stocks reimbursement of campaign loans granted by financial institutions (CNCAS and other MFIs) to secure the productive base and to increase the volume of paddy rice sold.

The interprofession for rice (CI-RIZ) will have a major role to play in relation to the organization of the actors. With this new situation, one wonders what will be the role and status of importers in the CI-RIZ? With the increase of paddy production, the CIRIZ will be concerned on fixing the sale price of paddy. Notice that rice production costs are dependent on the types of irrigation schemes.

We must necessarily tend towards a stabilization of prices for paddy and milled rice in order that rice self-sufficiency records significant effects on food security of Senegalese households. Improve the contracting process between actors of local rice value chains is more necessary than ever.
The bet of rice self-sufficiency will be won sooner or later

The challenge of rice self-sufficiency are huge for the Senegalese economy. Food insecurity and poverty in Senegal can be greatly reduced.

This political will clearly displayed for self-sufficiency has the merit of creating a certain emulation for the agricultural sector. Senegalese agriculture is already victorious. The expectations are huge and are proportional to the objectives set. The challenge of rice self-sufficiency will be reached sooner or later.

The human, financial and technical resources are fully mobilized. We must pay attention not to renew the same mistakes of the past and go beyond the announcement effect.

The “eat local” must necessarily return to the mode to reduce the deficit in our balance of trade and boost the growth of our agricultural GDP. Job creation will be real for the young and for women.

However this dynamic of sustainable development for the emergence of our agriculture must be accompanied by positive developments on issues plaguing our agriculture (the land grabbing, agriculture financing, etc.).

Some Institutional revolutions are necessary especially the implementation of the Framework Law Agro-Silvo-Pastorale (LOASP) is one of them.
Our goals
Contribute to the promotion of democracy and good governance in the Valley producer organizations of the Senegal River

CGERV
Economic information for actors and decision makers of rural development

Today, CGER contribute to the policy of agro-forestry-pastoral development in the development of agricultural information. They bring to the public authorities and development actors complementary tools of decision support for policies, strategies and incentives.