WOMEN'S BEHAVIOR IN THE FIELD OF FOOD INSECURITY IN THE CENTRAL SOUTH REGION: BAZEGA PROVINCE OF BURKINA FASO

Quantitative Methods for Integrated Food and Nutrition Security Measurements - Lessons to be learned’ in Brussels, 15th - 17th November 2017

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PLAN

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Introduction

Burkina Faso is:

**area:** 274,200 km²

**Population:** 18.65 million (2016)

Burkina Faso is a predominantly agricultural country with over 80% of population working in agriculture and livestock.

Thus the livelihoods of rural people are directly dependent on natural resources which unfortunately are subject to severe degradation due to human pressure and climatic factors.
Introduction

• Food security is a major concern for a Sahelian country such as Burkina Faso, which depends on climatic conditions and has precarious resources in the face of strong demographic pressure.

• The updated poverty line based on inflation values in Burkina Faso was 98,798€ / year in 2008.

• Malnutrition is a public health problem because of its size and severity: acute malnutrition is 7.6% in 2016 and chronic is 27.3% in 2016 (OMS, 2016)
Introduction

- The province of Bazega located in the south center of the country, with an area of 3947km².

- It has seven (07) departments, six of which are rural communes and 214 administrative villages.

- Its population in 2006 is 238,425 habitants of which 60.4% are under 20 years, a poverty rate is 66.1% and have 31,101 households.
The objective

- The objective of the study is:
  - to show the strategies adopted by women to deal with the problems of food insecurity in their communities
  - to show the spatial and temporal evolution of this strategy on their environment 15 years after
Methods

- longitudinal study (January 2006 to December 2010)

- based on qualitative methods: - mainly observations, group and individual interviews (head of households and women),

- and quantitative methods (including 24-hour recalls, dietary diversity surveys).
Methods

- For this study the household is the unit of observation and we made a random draw for the villages and individuals.

- In total the study grouped 100 households and 50 women from the 06 communes in the best and worst seasons for food.

- We use the chi-square test for results analysis.
Results 1/4

From this table, it can be noted that maize, millet, dry fish, baobab leaves and Shea butter are foods widely consumed in the villages. This consumption could be explained on the one hand by the eating habits of the population, accessibility and availability on the other hand.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Average quantity in kg/day</th>
<th>Purchase price (USD)</th>
<th>Frequency of consumption / week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corn flour</td>
<td>1,05</td>
<td>0,9</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>baobab leaf</td>
<td>0,32</td>
<td>2,02</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dried fish</td>
<td>0,35</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>1,33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shea Butter</td>
<td>0,12</td>
<td>1,7</td>
<td>6,25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There are significant statistical differences between the sexes regarding the adequacy of proteins for over five years of age and always to the advantage of men.
The results show also that:

- Purchasing food, preparing meals, feeding children ... many domestic work, are the responsibility of women.

- They have to go to the bush for cooking, which requires two and a half hours, to get water from the well, 30 minutes.

- Some pregnant women sometimes can not access to the health center and give birth in the bush.
Results 2/4

- significant statistical differences seems to increase in times of food shortage (such as "join" periods).

- this is explained by the fact that when the woman cooks (01 meals / days), she first hare of the head of the family (her husband) and the rest of the food is for her is her children
spatial and temporal evolution of this strategy on their environment 15 years ago
Because In order to have some income, women develop agro-pastoral activities in line with their domestic activities.

They sell some of their produce, some of the wood they cut for cooking, or dolo (local beer obtained by sorghum fermentation).

During the rainy season, from June to November, agricultural work takes place and mobilizes the family.
Conclusion

- Surveys permit us to identify nutrients, foods (corn, millet,..) or consumption patterns more or less beneficial or harmful for health.
- Our results allowed us to orient populations towards recommendations guide.
- Ex: cultivate vegetable gardens, Drying, and smoking, brine and other techniques using solar dryers.
- This study illustrates the importance that should be given to gender issues in the fight against food insecurity,
- and alert also on measures to take to fight against deforestation for food security in Burkina faso.
Thanks
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