

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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Ecofeminism to analyze gender in geographical indications for non-timber forest products: the case of Madd of Casamance

T2.32 Traditional knowledge, geographical indications and non-timber forest products towards a bioeconomy in community-based agroforestry systems

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Abstract: Recognizing a product as a geographical indication (GI) generates positive effects on territorial development. Yet, GIs' labels implemented in many contexts and scales lack gendered conditions, representations and abilities to face environmental and social challenges. Rare studies suggest that GIs generate negative gender effects such as invisibilizing women and their know-how. This communication explores potential effects of the GIs' process on gender, by analyzing a non-timber forest product (NTFP): Madd of Casamance (MOC) in Senegal. We mobilize an ecofeminist framework, which focuses on the relationship between the subordination of women and the degradation of nature stemming from the ethics of care. Our methodology is based on a literature review, documents analyses and interviews with key stakeholders of the MOC value chain. We collect data in all Casamance's subregions. The gender system within the GI of MOC is analyzed and compared to the traditional gender system of Casamance's rural communities. Our results describe the role of women and men within the value chain, while highlighting the work of women and their know-how in the transformation of the Madd. While looking at exploitation levels regarding an emerging market, we, furthermore, analyze, according to gender, the changes affecting the control of Madd resources. We confirm that in this case, the GI registration seems to highlight the work of women and their know-how in the transformation of the Madd. Regarding the control of a market and its resources, our adoption of an ecofeminist framework to describe gender systems in the GIs' labeling process for NTFP gives evidence on the inclusion—or exclusion—of women and their know-how. Our findings can be used to analyze gender systems in other GIs with NTFP.