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“Development on the margin”

Sociopolitical Dynamics of Transhumant Herders Adaptation to the Climate Change at the Northeast Benin

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Abstract

The breeding is recognised as an international preoccupation in a mutant environment. Indeed, during these last decades, climatic factors added to human factors led to greater deterioration of pastoral mileage. The protected areas and the adjoining ecosystems that represent spaces coveted by the breeders and a lot of other fashions of support are ruled by the public regulations and present themselves like the places of bloody inter-professional conflicts. In this situation, it's appearing important to know if breeding still plays efficiently food and security functions. The survey achieved in the “fulfulde” camps of two districts (Kandi and Karimama) of the Northeast Benin department “Alibori” was permitted us to analyse the socio-political mechanisms of maintenance in vogue in these breeders' communities. The breeders, although expositions to the same degree, feel variously the climate risks according to theirs adjustment resources. We notice then the big, the middle and the small breeders who get by avidly in a competitive context of agro-pastoral resources accessibility. The communal mechanisms of risk management in full flight enhance the individual strategy based on the social networks. The big breeders develop more diversity of pastoralism (opportunistic, social, patroness, contractual and by tutor). The middle breeders are hired in the security agro-pastoralism while the most vulnerable breeders are extremely committed in a dynamic of reconversion to agriculture and even to other extra-pastoral activities. It appears of this study that the hope is even possible for a developing breeding which resists to the shocks fitting to the new realities while securing breeders.

Keywords: Benin , breeding, climate risk, socio-political dynamic