



COVID-19: Latest news of the world by IFGR

Management of coronavirus or Covid-19: confined African population and food needs - 2020.04.27

Doctor Papa Abdoulaye Seck, Member of the French Academy of Agriculture and Ambassador of Senegal Republic in Rome, Italy

Sub-Saharan Africa is expected to go into a severe recession this year, its first recession in 25 years, got worried the World Bank in its latest Africa's Pulse report¹, dated April 08th. Unlike other areas in the world, covid-19 first manifested itself in Africa in a major economic crisis, even before the arrival of the surge in health systems.

The global covid-19 crisis notably disrupted food supply chains and triggered a food security crisis in the African continent. As such, we asked our IFGR member, Dr. Papa Abdoulaye Seck to bring us his view and suggestions on the agricultural question in Africa.

Dr. Papa Abdoulaye Seck is the former Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Senegal, and current Ambassador of Senegal republic in Italy. He kindly agreed to share the paper submitted to the French Academy of Agriculture², of which Dr. Seck is a also member. A second platform will follow next week.



We must remember the negation of the formula according to which "Man is the measure of all things" because he is still struggling to turn uncertainty into risk. Uncertainty is experienced and risk is managed, the latter being the probability of an adverse event occurring.

"Climate change, with its priceless array of unfortunate consequences, questions our very existence."

From our belvedere and with our telescopes, we can see that:

- Climate change, with its priceless array of unfortunate consequences, questions our very

existence. It is even the source of a certain fatalism, despite scientific progress;

- Food crises have not yet disappeared from our radars, in spite of the capital of knowledge and technology generated on a daily basis by humans;

- The construction of productive, sustainable and equitable food systems is becoming more complex because of the erosion of biodiversity and the disappearance of ecosystems due to environmentally-destructive agricultural practices and human irresponsibility.

This digression refers to an indomitable obviousness: the world is rich with his hard-to-grasp choreographies.

¹ Available on : <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/33541>

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² Available on : <https://www.academie-agriculture.fr/academiasresentation/en/anglais-presentation>