



# ***Comparative dynamics of the camel milk value chain: Between Mauritanian anchor and Senegalese emergence***



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- **2024: International Year of Camelids (FAO)**

- Growing global interest in camel systems (FAO, 2024; Faye, 2013).
- Camel milk gaining economic and nutritional value (Faye, B.)
- Major transformations in West African pastoral systems (Konuspayeva, Faye & Loiseau (2009)

**Two contrasted dynamics:**

- Mauritania → 2 million camels (RGE, 2025)
- Senegal → emerging sector



**How is camel milk shifting from a subsistence product to a high-value commodity?**



# Objectives

1

Analyze the camel milk value chain

2

Identify key actors and value chain segments

3

Provide policy and development recommendations





# METHODOLOGY

## Mixed-method approach

### Socio-economic surveys

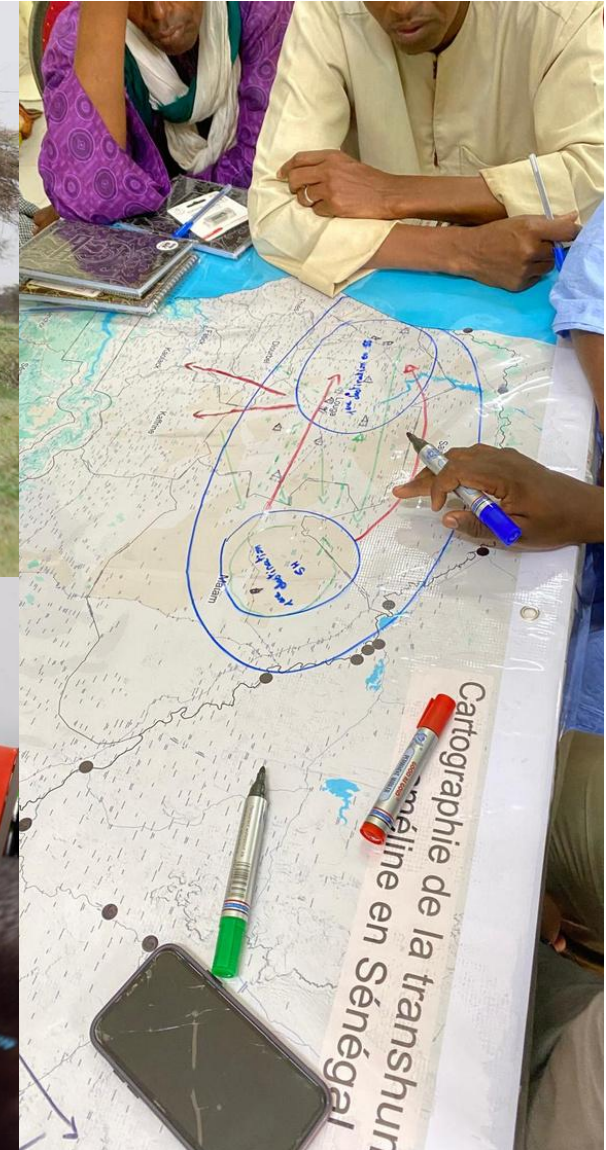
- Producers
- Traders
- Processors
- Consumers

### Participatory workshops

- Dahra
- Nouakchott

### Innovative participatory emotion mapping

- Mobility routes
- Fear zones
- Conflict perceptions
- Cross-border tensions

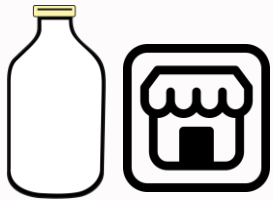


# Power Dynamics Among Actors in Mauritania



**Mauritania**

**A Structured but Unequal System**



## Key characteristics

- More mature and structured sector
- Strong socio-cultural integration
- Diverse actors

**BUT**

- ⚠ Unequal value distribution
- ⚠ Reduced producer margins in industrial circuits

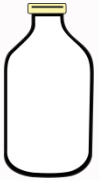
# Power Dynamics Among Actors in Senegal



## Senegal : An Emerging Sector

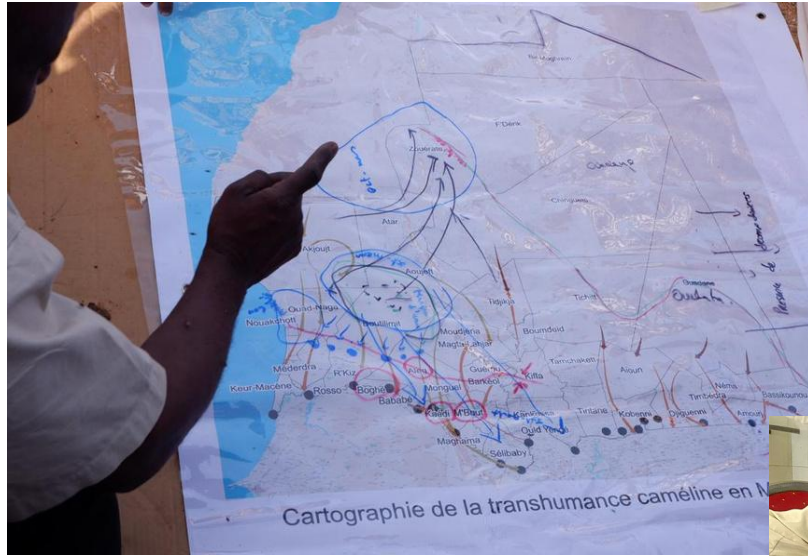
### Major transformation

- Emerging sector
- High potential but limited organization
- Weak institutional support





# Emotion Mapping Results



Monthly Revenue Growth:

**MOBILITY SHAPES THE VALUE CHAIN**



Shared “zones of fear”

- **LIVESTOCK THEFT**
- **BORDER INSECURITY**
- **RESOURCE CONFLICTS**

## Opportunities

- Local processing (dairy units, value-added products)
- Valorization of traditional knowledge
- Example: traditional camel milk powder
- Improved traceability and digital tools
- Increasing consumer awareness and demand

## Major constraints

- Lack of organization among actors
- Absence of price regulation
- Weak market structuring
- Animal health issues (e.g., brucellosis)
- Limited data availability
- Insufficient infrastructure (storage, processing)

## Actors and inclusion

- Increasing role of women in processing and marketing





# Recommendations

| SENEGAL                                                                                                                        | MAURITANIA                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Institutional recognition                                                                                                   | 1. Rebalance power relations    |
| 2. Support infrastructures                                                                                                     | 2. Improve value distribution   |
| 3. Strengthen producer organizations                                                                                           | 3. Protect pastoral livelihoods |
| 4. Establish data monitoring systems                                                                                           |                                 |
| <p>Enhance Senegal–Mauritania cooperation</p> <p>Improve animal health systems</p> <p>Develop processing and market access</p> |                                 |

# Conclusions

Two complementary dynamics:

- Mauritania → more established system
- Senegal → emerging but promising

Strong economic, social, and health potential

Requires better structuring, governance, and institutional support



Thank you for  
your attention

