

## What are the ecosystem goods and services in Colombian and Senegalese species-poor mangrove forests?

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This study will investigate the use and the utilization of different mangrove goods and services in Senegal and Colombia. Both countries are located in the Atlantic-East Pacific biogeographical region of mangroves and are characterized by a low number of mangrove species (Ellison *et al.*, 1999). The use and utilization of these species will be assessed and compared with each other. In addition, the change in mangrove forests will be evaluated based on perceptions of local communities. The data were obtained through a social-ecological semi-structured questionnaire with open-ended and closed-ended questions administered face-to-face at approximately the same time period. The current COVID-19 crisis has a considerable impact on the discipline of ethnobiology (Vandebroek *et al.*, 2020). International travels under current measures and distrust of local communities towards researchers hinders fieldwork abroad. This forces us to work with previously obtained data, which has never been compared before (Georis, 2015; Surlemont, 2014). Mangroves in Colombia and Senegal have both suffered degradation in the past, mostly from anthropogenic activities (Friess *et al.*, 2019). The Sine-Saloum delta in Senegal and Cispatá Lagoon System in Colombia provide numerous ecosystem services and a range of mangrove goods to local communities. This unique ecosystem provides the essential support for local livelihoods, consequently urging its conservation and adequate management. (Walters *et al.*, 2008) The two respective areas are dominated by the mangrove species *Rhizophora mangle* (red mangrove) and *Avicennia germinans* (black mangrove) (Gallup *et al.*, 2020; Agudelo *et al.*, 2015). During this study, the importance and different uses of these species will be assessed in the two areas. The comparison made in this on-going study is expected to show the versatility and similarities of the goods and services mangroves provide on two different continents. The study also incites further research: the replication of these social-ecological questionnaires worldwide contributes to a global analysis giving an idea on how universal the use and utilization of mangrove goods and services are. Finally, the study enables us to understand how mangrove forests have changed through the experience of local inhabitants.

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