

## **STREET CATERING: SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECTS AND HEALTH RISKS IN THE CITY OF DJOUGOU (NORTH-WEST BENIN)**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*The risk of serious food poisoning associated with street foods remains a threat in many countries around the world. In spite of these risks, people are looking for cheaper food. The objective of this research is to understand the socio-economic importance of street food and the related health risks in the town of Djougou.*

*The methodological approach adopted is based on documentary research and investigations in the real environment. Within the framework of this research, 250 people (consumers, vendors, health workers, local authorities and resource persons) were surveyed. The results were analyzed using the SWOT model.*

*This research shows that the town of Djougou has several street food outlets. Ninety-seven percent of this activity is run by women between the ages of 20 and 50. The price of the dishes varies between 300 and 1000 fcfa. This activity remains a potential source of income for these actors. Thus, the average income of the women restaurant owners varies between 2500 and 4500 Fcfa. The income from this activity is used for various purposes by the restaurant owners. In addition, the lack of hygiene, poor cooking conditions and lack of food protection lead to health risks for consumers. Faced with this situation, it is urgent that appropriate measures be considered in order to reduce the health risks related to the consumption of street foods and to guarantee the health of consumers.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Town of Djougou, Street Food, Socioeconomic Impact, Health Risks, Measures*

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### **Article History**

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