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## Contribution to the typology of artisanal fishing in the Mbissi River (Setté-Cama Ramsar site, Southwest Gabon).

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### ABSTRACT

*Objectives:* In order to describe the organization of the fishing community, activities and constraints related to fishing practiced in the Mbissi River, Setté-Cama Ramsar site (Ogooué-Maritime province), a socio-economic study was conducted on the fisheries of this aquatic ecosystem to propose sustainable management measures.

*Methodology and Results:* The data collection was done from November 2017 to May 2018. It consisted of administering semi-structured individual and group interviews to fishermen of the Mbissi River. A total of 32 randomly selected fishermen was interviewed. The results of this study showed that artisanal fishing is more common among young people between the ages of 21 and 30 (72%) and with primary education (71.9%). The average income per fisherman varies according to the climatic season, with an increase in the dry season (150,000 FCFA/fishing trip).

*Conclusions and application of findings:* This study made it possible to characterize the organization of the fishing actors in the Mbissi River. Fishing in the Mbissi River is essentially practiced by young people under 31 years of age who are almost all single and have a primary school education. The income from this fishery is only adequate for 3 months a year. The fishermen are subject to various socio-economic constraints, including the high cost of transporting the fish, and generally use gillnets. This knowledge is essential for the implementation of sustainable and concerted management measures in the Mbissi River and to contribute to the elaboration of the management plan of the Setté Cama Ramsar site.