Health Challenges and Environmental Problems of the City of Pointe-Noire, Republic of Congo

Nzoussi Hilaire Kevin
School of Public Administration, China University of Geosciences, Wuhan, 430074 PR China

Li Jiang Feng
School of Public Administration, China University of Geosciences, Wuhan, 430074 PR China

Corresponding Author: nzoussik@yahoo.fr; Tel: 008615527247645
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Abstract:
With urban growth uncontrolled today, African cities are faced with many problems that affect both the population and the environment. And, Pointe-Noire, oil industrial and economic capital of the Congo is not spared from its evils that undermine African cities. The major problem is that of the environment, which continues to attract the attention of researchers and sworn actors over the years. The urban environment of Pointe-Noire faces many challenges. This is due to the intense economic activities that develop but especially to the estimated oil production in thousands of barrels per day. The environmental issues are numerous and require adequate responses to save not only the planet earth that is more, in addition, threatened but also the human being who is in danger. In Pointe-Noire, pulmonary diseases, typhoid fever, tuberculosis, and cholera are daily diseases encountered in hospitals in this ocean city. These health challenges and environmental problems require an appropriate response in order to save human beings from multiple dangers.

Keywords: health challenges, environmental issues, city, Pointe-Noire, Republic of Congo.
Introduction

Population growth in almost all African cities is becoming an inescapable phenomenon. This growth of more than 4% each year is certainly problematic, compared to the Asian cities where Latin American cities seem to be weak (Moustier and Falla, 2004). The vertiginous growth of the population of African cities leads to the name Mastering the management of the urban perimeter, and thus the birth of the urban cans that are the materialization of urban poverty.

Pointe-Noire, the economic capital of the Congo and the second largest city in the country, has not remained on the sidelines of all these spectacular upheavals affecting the cities of Africa south of the Sahara. As a petroleum and industrialized city of the country, Pointe-Noire has become today a city that attracts not only almost all Congolese in search of employment and social and material well-being but also a highly polluted environment that has Resulting in the emergence of many diseases. The city of Pointe-Noire, the first economic and industrialized city of Congo-Brazzaville, is today among the most polluted cities in the world. There are all kinds of pollution in this Congolese metropolis: soil, water, and air. There continues to be strong growth and emergence of many diseases in recent years. Environmental management has become an important concern of most states, since human health costs (Nzoussi, 2014d). Therefore, each country is obliged to put in place an appropriate response to the environmental threat. The essential question of this article is the following. What are the health challenges and environmental problems of the city of Pointe-Noire?

1. Study area

Pointe-Noire is the second metropolis and the leading economic city of the Republic of Congo. It is located in the southern part of the country and is divided into six (06) districts that are: Lumumba, Tie-Tie, Loadjili, Mvoumvou, Mongo-Mpoukou and Ngoyo who have their towers are subdivided into sixty (60) districts.
Like most of the population of almost all African cities, Pointe-Noire also grows exponentially. It has grown from 2,000 inhabitants in its creation in 1921 to 750,000 inhabitants in 2007 and 1,100,000 inhabitants today (Nabassemba, 2015). The density of the average population of this ocean city was estimated in 2007 at 16,369 inhabitants / km².

2. Review of the literature

The question of the health of a population has always preoccupied the governments as well as the authorities in charge of the management of the health structures in this case in the urban areas where is concentrated almost the whole population of the Congo. The review of the literature on health challenges and environmental problems is undoubtedly abundant. This is all the more true, since the subject matter of this topic is nowadays topical. Because of environmental changes in recent years that threaten human health. Dorrier Apprill (1993) wrote about environment and health in Brazzaville, from urban ecology to social geography. In his thesis, the author describes the environment and enumerates the causes that cause illness in the city of Brazzaville. This thesis highlights the links between health and the environment Nzoussi (2014c), talks about the management of the urban environment »Problems and perspectives. In his article, the author tackles the environmental management of the city of Brazzaville which is the cause of several factors and consequently causes detrimental effects on the urban population of Brazzaville.

Indeed, the management of the urban environment of Brazzaville is the responsibility of the municipality, the prefecture and other actors responsible for the management of Brazzaville, but the expected results are far from being achieved. That is why the state must take the necessary measures to spare the population from environmental diseases. Balkiabiya (2008), in his Master's thesis, wrote about spatial dynamics and environmental problems in Brazzaville. For this author, the evolution of the population and the space of the city of Brazzaville has considerable impacts on the urban environment of this
city. This is true since there is a direct relationship between the population and the environment. It is, therefore indisputable to have a mastery of the population in order to preserve the environment.

Nguembo (1984) wrote his thesis on the spatial dynamics and urbanism in the city of the Third World (Pointe-Noire). In this thesis, the author speaks to us about the history, the urban evolution of this city and its different aspects of urbanization. Here the evolution of the population results in the urbanization of the city, which sometimes takes place in disregard of the rules of planning and spatial planning. This thesis is very important for the urban study of the city of Pointe-Noire.

Ofouemé (2011) did a study on rural health access, a case of the Lekana district in the Republic of Congo. In his article, the author described this locality and then shows the difficulties of access to quality medical care in rural areas. In conclusion, rural populations are vulnerable and lack quality care.

3. Methodology

This works on health and environmental challenges to a particular methodology that had to be used. This methodology to consist of to conduct field research that has identified and documented a number of diseases and environmental problems faced by populations in Congo’s second metropolis. The methodology used for this type of work was based on field observation. There was also talk of using a maintenance guide initiated according to the objectives set. This enabled us to discover precisely the different problems related to the question under study. These various pieces of information gathered after the field survey allowed us to compare them with the written sources which are therefore the documentary research. Of undeniable utility, the research on the ground also allowed us to photograph some places visited.

4. Disease Risk

Health can be defined as the condition of the person who is doing well in the absence of a disease. In other words, it is the state of someone whose organization works well in the
absence of a disease (Nzoussi, 2008). However, the aforementioned definition is restrictive and does not cover the content given to it by the World Health Organization (W.H.O.). The latter views health as a complete state of physical, mental and social well-being and does not consist solely in the absence of disease or infirmity. Indeed, the city of Pointe-Noire suffers from the perverse effects of climate change and the environment, which considerably expose the populations. Several pathologies diagnosed in different ocean city hospitals are due to environmental problems and, oil exploitation is also one of the causes of these different pathologies. These diseases include tuberculosis, typhoid, and cholera. In addition, malaria, acute respiratory infections, and diarrhea constitute the morbid and fatal triad.

4.1 Cholera

The city of Pointe-Noire is built on a marshy surface. The dramatic increase in the population of recent years has led to the birth of peripheral districts which grow in an uncontrolled way. Makeshift dwellings, waste water, dunghill, poorly maintained pipelines and untreated good water coexist with housing. These factors contribute dangerously to the risk and spread of cholera (1). Water pollution is also a dangerous factor in the pollution of the water table. Rainwater increases this risk by carrying waste and dirty water. The proximity of the groundwater in the city does not have deep latrines which very often are overwhelmed quickly in case of rain (2).

Indeed, since 2007 several cases of cholera were recorded in the city of Pointe-Noire, which has provoked a terrible mortality. According to statistics provided by the government, the ocean city recorded 650 cases of cholera in 2007. According to the Ministry of Health and Population 5757 cases of cholera were recorded in 2006, 650 in 2007, 1600 in 2011 and 1624 in 2012. This epidemic reappeared in 2012 after torrential repetitive rains bereaved family. The epidemic was overcome by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children’s Fund in collaboration with the Congolese
government. According to figures, cholera killed more than 100 people in the ocean city between 2007 and 2012. Since 2013, this disease has completely disappeared from the ocean city. However, the torrential rains which are falling in recent times may nevertheless lead to its resurgence.

4.2 Malaria

Malaria is the leading cause of mortality in the tropical world in general and in Africa in particular. According to the World Health Organization (3), malaria kills about 500,000 people worldwide is 41,666 people per day, and the African continent is the most vulnerable. Malaria is endemic and is the first reason for consultation in ambulatory health facilities. It accounts for 49 to 51.5% of the causes of hospitalization and more than 35.4% of the causes of death of children in Pointe-Noire hospitals.

Indeed, in 2013, of the 198 million cases of malaria in the world, 584,000 people died as a result of the disease. According to W.H.O which states that 90% of cases occur in Africa, adding that 437,000 African children died before their 5th birthday (4). In Congo Brazzaville in general, and in Pointe Noire in particular, this endemic disease is transmitted by a mosquito (the Anopheles) and causes many deaths every day. Indeed, the uncured pipes, the potholes on the roads, the presence of the rivers draining the city of Pointe-Noire are all causes that are the cause of the spread of malaria in the ocean city. Climate change in recent years that causes heavy rainfall often causes significant damage. The stagnation of rainfall is a veritable breeding ground for mosquitoes, which multiply and end up causing harm to the peaceful populations. Every day, week or month of children and pregnant women are the most affected by this endemic which causes not insignificant deaths. This endemic disease that kills more than AIDS in Congo Brazzaville requires an appropriate response from the public authorities responsible for protecting populations. Good information about malaria can save many lives and reduce the causes of the spread of malaria.
4.3 Typhoid

Typhoid fever is a disease that has plagued the ocean city for many years. This disease, as well as others, is also fatal when the treatment is absent or proves ineffective. Indeed, typhoid appears much more in environments where hygienic conditions are almost absent and particularly strikes the developing countries. It is caused by bacteria belonging to the genus Salmonella, but its origin is also human. Contamination most often results from ingestion of water or food that has been contaminated with fecal matter of human origin or direct transmission between people. It is manifested by headaches, insomnia, fatigue and high fevers that sometimes reach 40 degrees Celsius, diarrhea, abdominal pain, ... (5). This disease is fatal and fatal in the absence of an effective treatment in that it affects the brains and even the intestines.

4.4 Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis is an old disease in Congo Brazzaville in general and Pointe Noire in particular. It is experiencing a resurgence in recent years and remains a public health problem in the city. According to statistics from the World Health Organization (WHO), Congo is a country with a low population but with a significant disease prevalence rate. Tuberculosis is an old disease that is caused by a bacterium (Mycobacterium tuberculosis) that often reaches the lungs. It is, therefore, a pulmonary disease. It infects a person from the air. When people with pulmonary tuberculosis cough, sneeze or spit, they throw the germs of tuberculosis into the air. It only needs only to inhale a few to be infected (6).

In fact, air pollution in the city of Pointe-Noire is the main cause of several cases of tuberculosis in this ocean city. According to statistics from the World Health Organization (WHO), published in 2006, the prevalence was estimated at 18,035 cases, a prevalence rate of 464 cases / 100,000 inhabitants.

The evaluation of the patients under treatment during the period 2001-2005 shows a low rate of therapeutic successes of 50%; a loss rate of 27% and a detection rate of 65%. We
must point out that Tuberculosis has as its essential determinant the precariousness of the socio-economic conditions in which the populations live.

To cope with all these diseases, maintain and guarantee the health of the population, the Congolese government, set up several health development plans and ratified several international agreements and treaties in the field of health.

4.5 The various administrative texts and plans

A National Development Plan 2012-2016 is currently underway.

To implement these different NHSPs, the government has negotiated several projects and programs with partners. This is the case of the project to support the PNDS and the project to support the health system in Congo-Brazzaville (PASCOB), funded by the European Union, as well as the Health Services Development Program (HSDP), co-financed by the Government and the World Bank.

In addition to HPND, the Ministry of Health has developed several sectoral plans which, unfortunately, do not always align with the PNDS over time and even in the objectives pursued, reflecting weaknesses in planning, monitoring, and evaluation. These plans include:

- National roadmap to accelerate the reduction of maternal, neonatal and infant mortality (2008-2015);
- The plan to reduce the prevalence of HIV / AIDS (2009-2012);
- The EPI / PPAC plan (2012-2016);
- The strategic plan for the prevention and control of no communicable diseases (2012-2016);
- The Strategic Plan for the Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases (2012-2016);

National Program for the Control of Tuberculosis (PNLT), National Program for the Control of Diarrheal Diseases.
Finally, at the international level, the Congolese government has committed itself to several international agreements among which we can cite:

- The Alma-Ata Declaration on Primary Health Care (SSP) of 1978, reaffirmed by the Ouagadougou Declaration in 2008;
- The declaration of the Heads of State and Government of Abuja to allocate the 15% share of the state budget to health;
- The Ottawa Charter (1986), which emphasizes the primacy of health promotion as a process that empowers people to exercise greater control over their own health;
- The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 for Disaster Resilient Nations and Communities;
- The Libreville Declaration on Health and Environment in Africa (29 August 2008) of African Ministers in charge of Health and the Environment;
- Resolution AFR / RC62 / 9 on health promotion: strategy for the African region (2012);
- The 2012 Brazzaville Declaration on Non-Transmissible Diseases reflects the commitment of the countries of the African South of Sahara of WHO to mainstream no communicable diseases in health priorities.
- Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs 4, 5 and 6).

5. Environmental problems

The city is a social reality outside the field of nature but existing in a relationship with the environment (Ferras and Volle, 1991). The urban environment is an immediately sensible social reality (Metzger, 1994). The health of human populations in urban areas and in urban areas occupies a major place in environmental studies (Lapoix, 1992). The dramatic increase in the population of the city of Pointe-Noire poses enormous problems on the environment. In addition, the intense oil extraction that develops and other underlying economic activities. It is, therefore, important to study these environmental problems. But above all, it will be very useful to define the concept of the environment.
5.1 Definition of the environmental concept

The encyclopedic dictionary and sustainable development define the environment as the set of elements that constitute the neighborhood of a living being or a group of human, animal or vegetable origin and that are likely to interact with it directly or indirectly. It is what surrounds, what is around (Yenamau, 2010).

According to the Larousse dictionary, the term environment means all the natural elements (fauna and flora, air, water, soil etc.) or artificial (architecture, decoration, etc.) that condition human life and constitute its framework of life, its environment (Idem).

The components of the environment include four groups of interrelated variables: biotope, biocenosis, human population and cultural components (Malele, 2010 cited by Yenamau).

In other words, the urban environment is the set of elements that surround us, everything that constitutes our environment. The urban environment also refers to (...) urban management, the democratization of management and the role of urban issues in public policy (Sach, 1992). The urban environment of Pointe-Noire falls within the context of our study; Housing, transport, space planning, energy, sanitation.

Indeed, the urban environment of the city of Pointe-Noire is subject to several problems. There is a terrible promiscuity, unhealthy housing in most neighborhoods experiencing problems of water, transport, electricity, pollution and waste management.

5.2 Water

In almost all African cities, water is a scarce commodity and poses problems that all levels (industries, households, societies ...) but in the Congo, the contrast is very bitter. Congo is drained by the 2nd most powerful river in the world which is the Congo. Long of 4700km with a flow of water 90.000m³ / s, the country suffers from water: garish problem, especially in the two major metropolitan areas.
The problem is that the rain carries the refuse and push into the ground water all kinds of microbes especially those that proliferate in septic tanks whose content is rejected in the streets when it rains to relieve them a little lack of space. Sometimes the septic tanks filled with water overflow and let the human excreta escape into nature before they sink into the groundwater polluting the groundwater and even the rivers.

Today, the phenomenon of urban cans is the product of the absence of planning in urban management (Clos, 2012). It allows landowners and other citizens to speculate on the sale of land, obliging the poorest populations to occupy or settle on the public domain (Idem). According to a study close to the town hall, Pointe-Noire records 515 tons of household waste that are dumped in all parts of the city. Municipal authorities and non-governmental organizations operating in the 60 districts of the urban perimeter are powerless against these practices, leaving room for domestic garbage in public circles. The most dangerous fact is the transformation of the city’s rivers into dumps. This effectively prevents water from sinking into bed, causing flooding that is harmful to human health.

5.3 Electricity

The increase in population is also accompanied by the increase and improvement of infrastructure, goods, and services. This is quite the reverse in the cities of tropical Africa and particularly in Pointe-Noire. The electricity network in Congo Brazzaville in general and Pointe-Noire, in particular, is ancient and dates from the colonization. Second, it is defective and no longer responds to the urban population of the ocean city which grows exponentially. It is characterized by repeated power cuts forcing populations to resort to stabilization and intensity enhancement devices of the electric current. This electrical disadvantage plunges many districts in the dark, lack of public lighting. Given this situation, wealthy families use gas-fired generators and lamps while poor families use
candles and oil lamps (Nzoussi 2015b). The table below illustrates this problem Pointe-Noire.

**Table 1: Main source of domestic lighting in Pointe-Noire**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of lighting</th>
<th>Number of urban</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electricity S.N.E</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity Groups</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candle</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamp battery</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>02%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solar energy</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Spatial dynamics and environmental problems in Brazzaville, p.39*

The electricity of the SNE is more used by the users, subsequently, comes the petroleum and finally other sources of energy. But, the repeated shedding often leads the populations in the misfortune. So, to try to reabsorb this Problem, some users use expensive generators.

Clearly, the need for electricity in this ocean city is constantly increasing. So in the next few months, the State intends to launch the construction of the dam of Sounda with 1000MW, a project abandoned since the 1960s.

**5.4 Pollution**

In industrialized countries, the issue of pollution becomes very crucial because of its harmful effects which have very dramatic consequences on the environment and consequently on human health. This pollution indeed causes both skin and respiratory
diseases. The degradation of the environment ceases to concern the populations of this ocean city who no longer know the solutions likely to remedy this problem. The essential question is: can man live without bearing threatening the environment?

Indeed, as oil and ocean city, Pointe-Noire is the second largest city in the country: full’s the first source of the currency of the country which is oil. Economic questions, therefore, appear first of all before the health of the populations of this metropolis which comes second. Thousands of tons of oil extracted every year from the offshore deposits of the Atlantic Ocean drained by this city seriously pollutes water, air, and the environment. In other words, diseases are caused by the pollution of an oil industry that hardly cares about environmental problems. In other words, diseases are caused by the pollution of an oil industry that hardly cares about environmental problems. Infections of the lower respiratory tract, lung infections, various forms of involuntary lesions, malaria. These diseases are among those that kill most in Congo. They kill more than AIDS and record the highest number of deaths per year due to modifiable environmental factors (8).

As a large-scale foodstuff consumed on a daily basis, the water in the city of Pointe-Noire is polluted and unquestionably affects the population of Pointe-Noire. These waters are dumped and thrown into the plots, the streets where they end up evaporating by depositing the detritus they contain (Vennetier, 1993). According to Ministry of Health statistics, between 1985 and 2004, there were 89 deaths per year from cardiovascular disease, 85 for diarrheal diseases, 211 for malaria, 26 for cancers, and 99 for chronic obstructive diseases’ heavy and amazing balance for an estimated population of less than 4 million. Children are most affected by malaria, respiratory and pulmonary diseases (9). The table below illustrates the sources of pollution in the city of Pointe-Noire.
Table 2: Sources of pollution in Pointe-Noire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources of pollution</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Transport**        | - deballasting water in terminals;  
|                      | - Tankers cleaning waters. These waters are loaded with bituminous viscous slops or asphalts;  
|                      | - oil spills following stranding;  
|                      | - Breakage of the loading hose. |
| **Petroleum terminals and other production systems (Conkouati, Djeno, Nkossa)** | - The discharges from non-hydrocarbon gas components (N₂, CO₂, H₂O)  
|                      | - non-dissolved light hydrocarbons (CH₄ and C₂H₆) the special conditions of transportation and storage;  
|                      | - The more or less salty waters, the sludge of other possible solids coming from the desalting of the crude oil. |
| **Refining**         | - desalination and stripping water;  
|                      | - systems for the production of vacuum by ejector and condensers;  
|                      | - oily waters to wash circuits, areas, storage retention ponds, loading stations |
| **Downstream petroleum industry** | - sludge from tanks, loaded with heavy hydrocarbons, metals and non-hydrocarbons;  
|                      | - Separator sludge (flotation and decantation);  
|                      | - cloths and various polluting elements;  
|                      | - packaging and packaging, etc |

*Source: Environmental assessment of oil pollution on the Kouilou coastline*
The table above is the source of pollution in the ocean city. In examining this table, it appears that Transport, the petroleum industry, and petroleum refining are the main sources of pollution in the city of Pointe-Noire. There are undoubtedly other economic activities. Clearly, the city of Pointe-Noire suffers severely from the effects of pollution and climate change that permanently affect the health of the population of Pointe-Noire. Clearly, the city of Pointe-Noire is being hit hard by the effects of pollution and climate change that permanently affect the health of the population of Pointe-Noire.

5.5 Waste Management

Waste management is a major problem in developing countries ... Waste is the symbol of consumption in developed countries, and signs of despair in care in developing countries Brousse quoted by (Diawara, 2010). It belongs to the municipal authority through its hygiene service (Dorier-Apprill, 2002). In the ocean city, the nests of waste and refuse to litter the streets and block the pipes. The waste, therefore, coexists with the population and constitutes serious problems for the environment and the health of the populations. Effectively, waste management waste management is not a priority for most administrations but focuses on education, tax collection, agricultural services, water supply and waste management. (Onibokun, 2001). This is to say that the African countries are not at all concerned about waste which nowadays becomes a threat to the environment. The environment has the great merit of force to apprehend reality to pose problems globally (Pourtier, 1992). It is always the riverbanks and low urban funds that are closest homes that serve as areas of discards for almost all solid and liquid residues of cities (Dornier-Apprill, 2002). The water drainage systems have become increasingly inadequate and defective because of urban growth and spatial extension (Ndinga-Okina, 2008).

Registration time for this type of development objectively unable to mask an equal development in space (Pourtier, 1992 Gaud, 1992 Deleage 1991). At the end of a register
of waste management in a broader context of sustainable development, the need to build a new base of knowledge and methods arises (Le Bozel, 1994). The population increase also causes a significant increase in environmental management and in particular that of waste management. Many researchers (Hong et al, 1993; Fullerton et al, 1996; Miranda et al, 1998; Hong and Adams, 1999) believe that the taxation of household waste depending on the ultimate amount released would result in reduced demand service collection, and consequently an increase in the effort to sound management and recycling of this so-called waste.

5.6 Transportation

Transport is a very serious problem in the city of Pointe-Noire. The central districts are almost served, but missing suburbs almost all are difficult because of the lack of roads and especially tarred roads.

Indeed, despite the population growth of the population of the city of Pointe-Noire, which increased from 2,000 inhabitants at its creation in 1921 to 750,000 in 2007 and 1,100,000 inhabitants today, the roads are only deteriorate making driving difficult. The most used means are common in taxis and buses having more suited the middle classes and the poor. Taxis are about 70% of vehicles on the roads of Brazzaville. (Nzoussi, 2014a). But transport still posed a serious problem.

The paved roads are scarce in the city center to the periphery and especially in the new districts where they are almost nonexistent (Xavier et al, 1992). This forcing carrier to focus on major roads. The lack of roads and the intense activity of transport on main roads lead hence the traffic jam phenomenon (Nzoussi 2015a). A Pointe-Noire, public transport all wears the blue color. The arms and other taxes imposed by the state through the town.

Indeed, used cars from Europe and even from other shabby circulate in this ocean city and help increase global warming, causing an environmental threat. The transportation system, in Congo Brazzaville in general and particularly in Pointe-Noire generates a large number of accidents due to overloading, lack of adequate training of drivers, not
following the rules of the road, the absence of traffic signs on some roads, the road failure, traffic jams, the unconformity vehicles. The table below shows the accident in February 2004 as an example.

Table 3: Distribution of accidents in Pointe-Noire in February 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nature accident</th>
<th>Number of accidents</th>
<th>Areas</th>
<th>victims</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>death</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>Pointe-Noire</td>
<td>01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidents with serious injuries</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Pointe-Noire</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidents with minor injuries</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Pointe-Noire</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accident with serious injuries</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Pointe-Noire</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accident with property damage</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Pointe-Noire</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>95</strong></td>
<td><strong>153</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Spatial Dynamics and environmental problems

From the above, it should be noted that the growth of the urban population of Pointe-Noire has a considerable impact on the environment of the ocean town. This is justified by the extent where the extension of the city of Pointe-Noire causes the disappearance of villages with the birth of the suburbs with the typology of housing in Third World countries. The poor state of roads used cars and the lack of training of some drivers are the cause of mortality due to the road.

**Conclusion and Recommendations**

The population health is a critical issue that deserves special attention. The destruction of the environment regularly threatens the health of the population of the ocean town who does not know to confide in facing these health problems. Hospitals poor quality
appliances and lacking even basic medicines expose people to hazards. Here, economic
issues take precedence over the lives of the people especially when knows that oil
production significantly destroyed the urban environment of the city of Pointe-Noire,
with its corollary diseases and environmental problems.
Thus, public authorities and private actors should pay particular attention to the city of
Pointe-Noire seems to be neglected in favor of Brazzaville and other locations; remake
the urban plan of the city, increase taxes companies exploiting oil in Pointe-Noire, ensure
drinking water well-treated populations build a large-scale pipe to better direct rainwater.
The state should provide every family with a septic tank worthy of the name. It is vital
to avoid diseases. It is good to build some beautiful houses here and there but in matters
of sanitation, health, and public hygiene make important provisions in order to clean the
environment and preserve populations from the dangers. Strengthen health promotion
activities and the implementation of the various initiatives. Encourage the
implementation of actions aimed at improving access to medicines in all health and social
welfare districts, including improving the management of health human resources.
Improve the health system at all levels.

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