

Workshop on Managing Challenges of Biosphere Reserves in Africa
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**TOWARDS TOGO'S FIRST
BIOSPHERE RESERVE : OTI-KERAN /
OTI-MANDOURI (OKM)**

By
ATUTONU Amah
Specialist in integrated management of
tropical forest and territories
Fauna and Wildlife Department / Ministry
of Environment and Forest Resources (Togo)

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INTRODUCTION

- Natural environment and its resources are subjected to the various threat which bring out their degradation and the several world changes, in particular climate change.
- The BRs, sites for sustainable development learning and demonstrating on local and regional level, are one of the way to solve this situation while taking account into the human populations needs satisfaction.
- So, for conciliate its protected area's resources conservation and socioeconomic development, Togo wanted to implement the nature conservation principle of MAB programme.
- It proposed Oti-Kéran / Oti-Mandouri Complex (OKM) to write down as BR.

OKM's PROTECTED AREAS DESCRIPTION

- Located in the north of Togo in Savannah and Kara regions and covers an area of 179 000 ha.
- It enjoys a climate of soudanean type with one rainy season (june to september) and one dry season (november to may).
- It is the combinaison of two contiguous protected areas : Oti-Kéran National Park and Oti-Mandouri Fauna Reserve.
- The main objective is to integrate them to WAP (W, Arly and Pendjari National Parks) Complex for make up WAPOK Complex in the context of the ecosystems transboundry management.

Location of OKM in the North of Togo

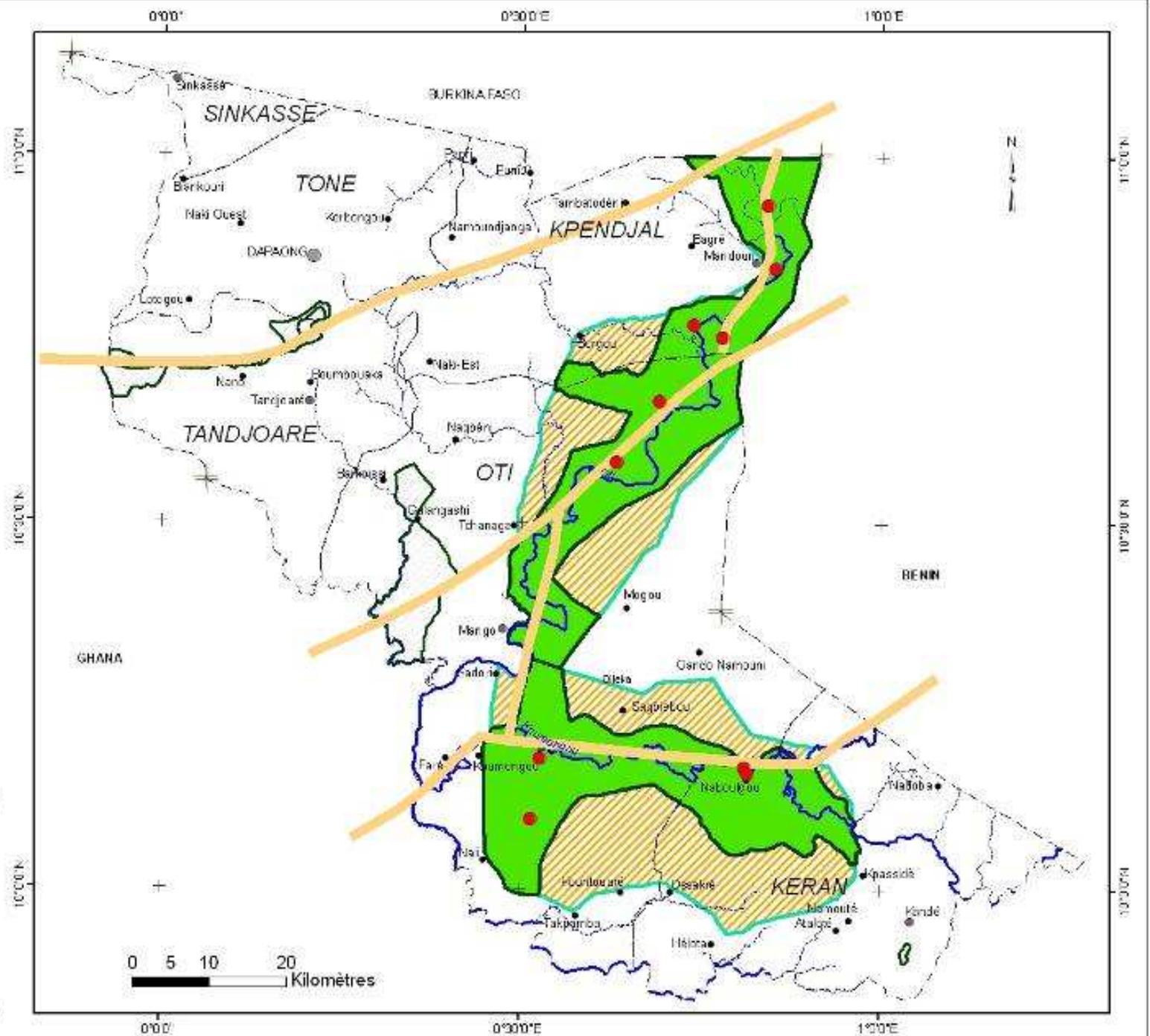
Legende

Principales localités

- Chef-lieu de région
- Chef-lieu de préfecture
- Autres localités importantes
- Eléphant (*Loxodonta africana*)

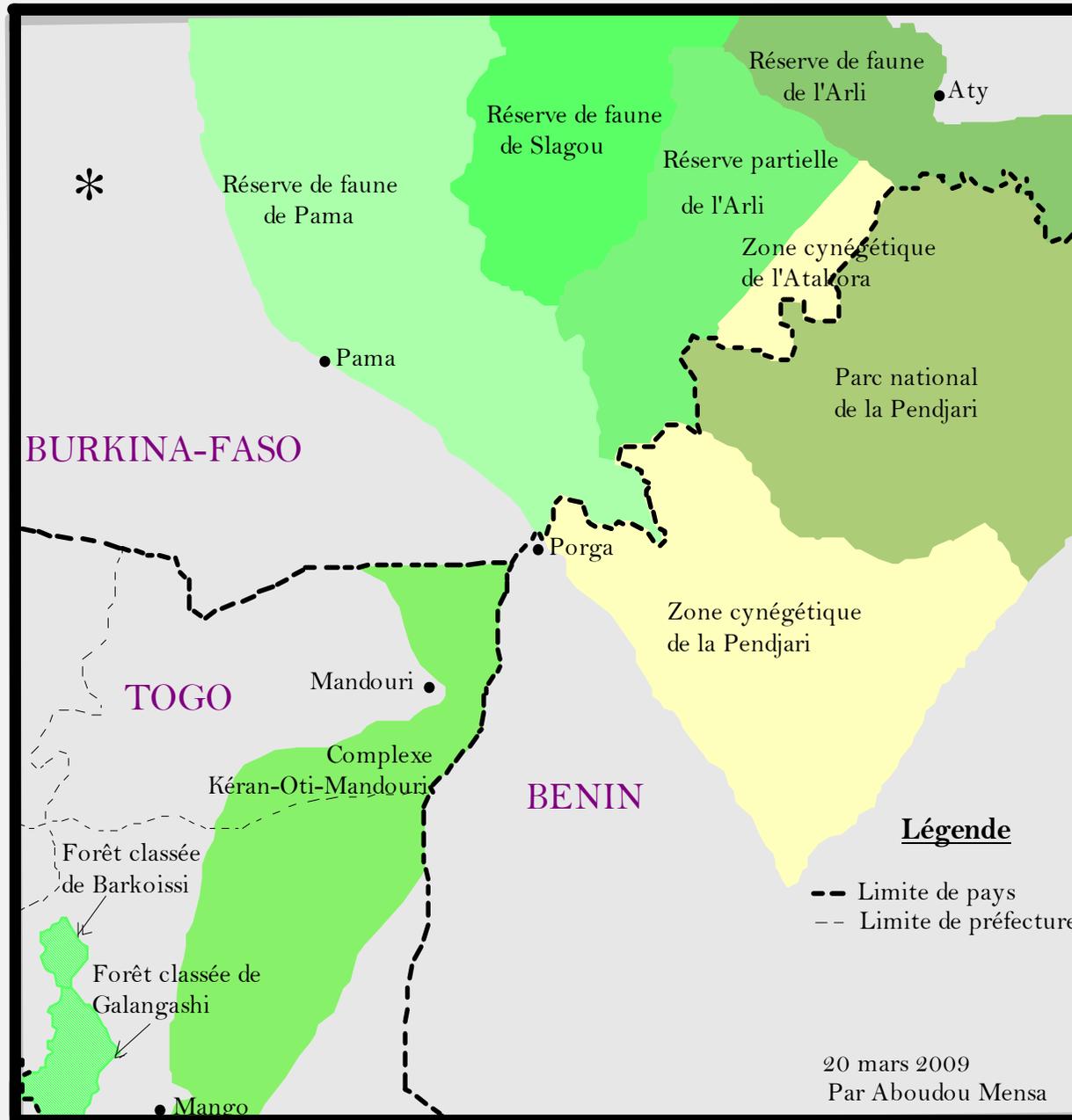
Complexe Oti-Kéran-Mandouri

- Limites actuelles OKM
- ▨ Zones retrocédées



MAPLA K. 16EWFDSUL 2010
 Sources : Carte Togo IGN, France
 & Données DFC
 & Google et al 2004 (Disponibilité aérien AF PDK)

CONNECTIVITY WITH WAP PROTECTED AREAS (WAPOK)



ECOSYSTEMS AND BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (1)

Ecosystems

- ❑ OKM's BR has diversified ecosystems (savannah, dry forest, and gallery forest).
- ❑ This diversity fosters a great variety of the flora and fauna.
- ❑ Oti-Keran National Park is designated Ramsar site in 1995 and Oti-Mandouri in 2007 .



ECOSYSTEMS AND BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (2)

Flora

- OKM's flora count 536 species divided into 312 genders and 79 families.
- The most representative families are Fabaceae (39 species), Poaceae (35 species), Rubiaceae (23 species), Combretaceae (16 species), Euphorbiaceae (15 species) and Mimosaceae (13 species).
- The most representative genders are : Combretum (8 species), acacia (7 species) and Desmodium (7 species).



ECOSYSTEMS AND BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES (3)

Fauna

- The fauna is very rich.
- It constituted of mammals, birds, crustacean, insects, reptile, fish, amphibians.
- The most representative species are the great mammals like *Loxodonta africana*, *Sincerus caffer*, *Hippopotamus amphibius*, etc.



OKM's PROPOSAL ELABORATION PROCESS (1)

- Togo's BR registration process begun in 2004 with financial support of UNESCO.
- The national MAB committee elaborated and submitted the first proposal to UNESCO.
- Some remarks and recommendations have been done to improve it.
- In 2009, the national MAB committee collected the complementary data according to the UNESCO's remarks and recommendations for produce a new proposal.

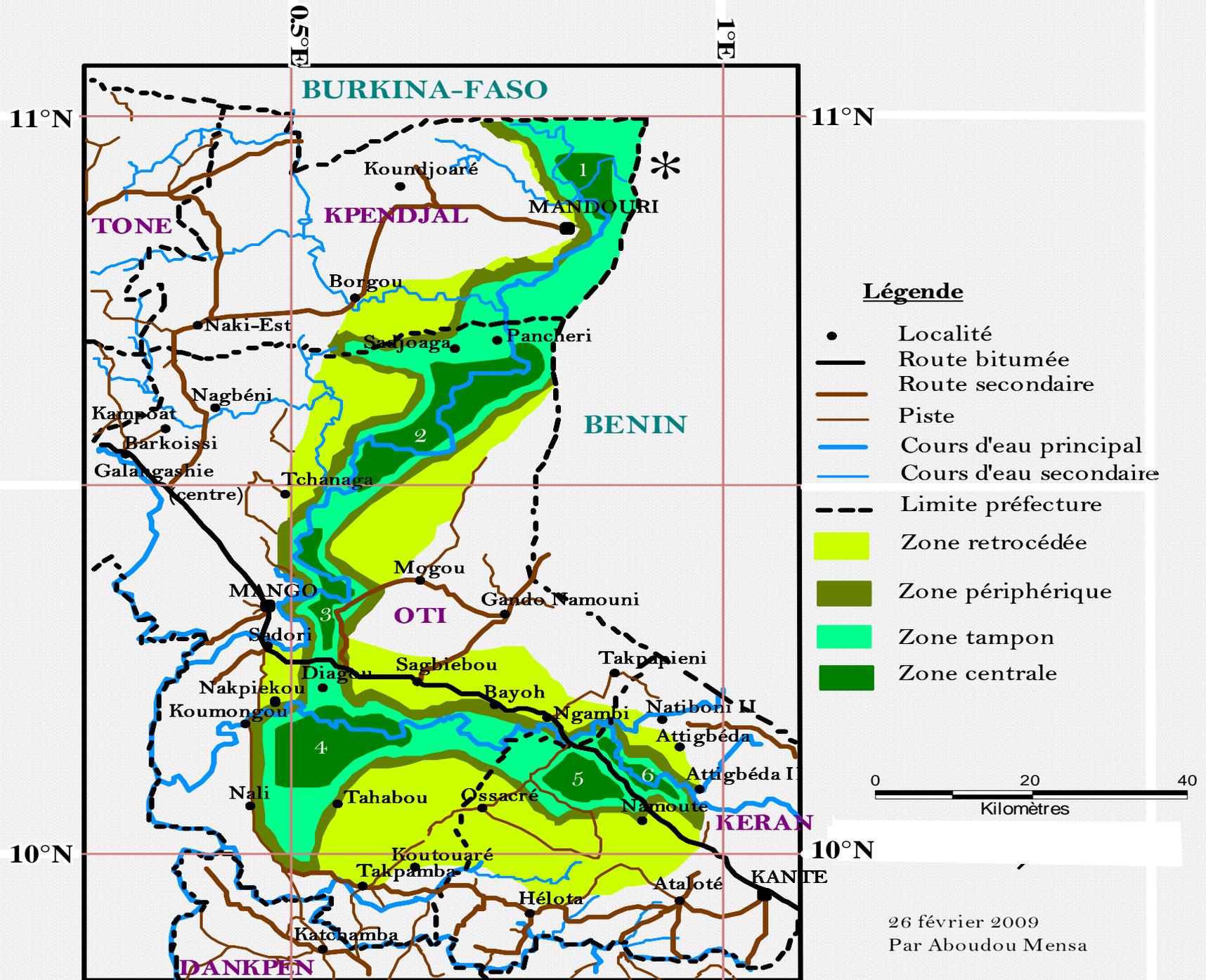
OKM's PROPOSAL ELABORATION PROCESS (2)

- Sevaral activities have been carried out, namely :
 - Consutation of stakeholders (local populations, protected areas management associations (AVGAP), local authorities, NGO's, etc.).
 - Zoning proposition with the stakeholders ;
 - Organization of a national workshop for the proposal validation by the concerned actors
- The second proposal has been submitted in december 2009. It has been studied during the International advisors committee meeting for BRs, held at Paris in february 2011 and approuved by ICC session at Dresden.

ACTORS CONSULTATION MEETING



OKM's ZONING PROPOSITION



PERSPECTIVES (1)

- To give a new boost to the national MAB committee for MAB programme's strategies and action plans efficient implementation at local level ;
- To inform and make the actors aware of the BRs ;
- To organize training courses of protected areas managers on BR concept ;
- To encourage the BR taking account into the national strategies and legal texts related to the protected areas management ;

PERSPECTIVES (2)

- To promote biodiversity sustainable and scientific research at OKM protected areas.
- To encourage socioeconomic development actions for poverty reduction around OKM ;
- To promote the participative approach for the OKM efficient management

CONCLUSION

- OKM Complex has an important biological resources which could foster local socioeconomic development. It is one of the potential sites of biodiversity conservation of Togo.
- Its linkage with WAP Complex can make easier the elaboration and implementation of the transboundary projects related to the sustainable demonstration at regional level.
- OKM Complex registration as BR will permit its zoning according to the MAB programme principle for conciliate natural resources and local socioeconomic development.

*THANKS FOR YOUR
ATTENTION*