



REGIONAL MASTER PROGRAM IN BIODIVERSITY INFORMATICS: SOME RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS

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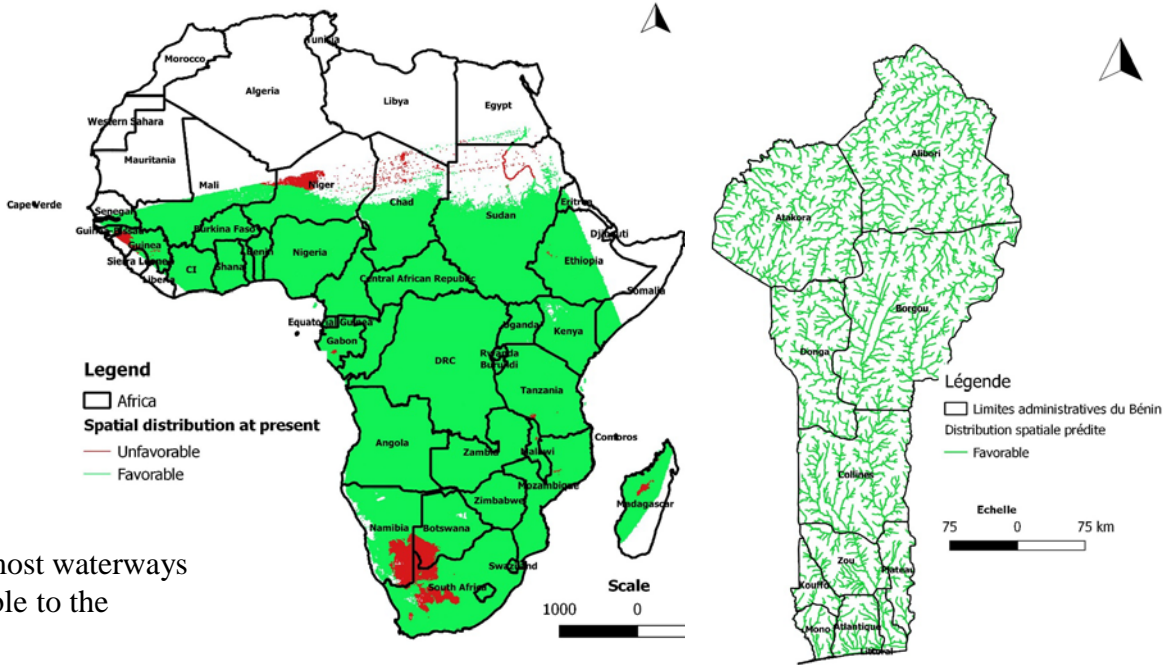
INTRODUCTION

- *Eichhornia crassipes* is a free floating perennial aquatic plants, native to sub-tropical and tropical South America.
- It is now present, either by accidental introduction or not on the five continents
- The species is listed among the top 100 most dangerous pests of the world.
- It colonizes and rapidly covers waterways causing important damages.
- It blocks direct sunlight and therefore impedes the survival of native aquatic species.
- It is known to dissolve water oxygen then killing fishes and creating habitats for mosquitoes etc.
- In Benin and elsewhere in Africa, and across the world, water hyacinth is causing dramatic revenues lost to poor riparian populations.
- Due to its perniciousness, we decided to know more about its spatial distribution and ecological niche at present and in the future in order to set in place strategies to prevent its invasion and reinforce its eradication



Aphrodite OGOUVIDE during her research phase on lake Nokoué

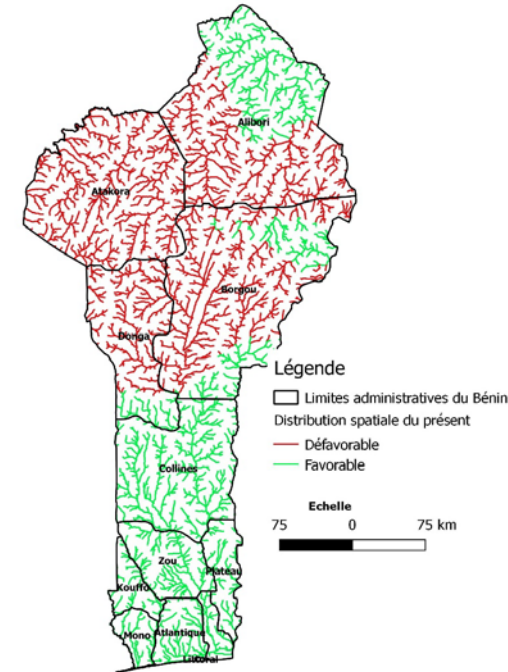
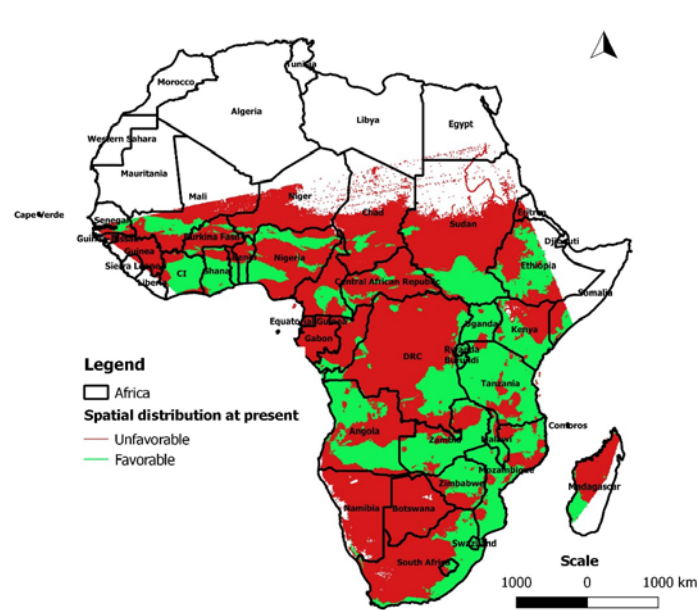
SOME ACHIEVEMENTS



From our main results, we noted that at present, most waterways in sub Saharan Africa including Benin are favorable to the invasion of the water hyacinth

Spatiale distribution of *Eichhornia crassipes* at present
(MTP)

SOME ACHIEVEMENTS



Spatiale distribution of *Eichhornia crassipes* at present
(MTSS)



STRATEGIES OF ACTIONS TO CONTROL THE SPREAD OF THE SPECIES AND ITS ERADICATION

- Among the strategies for its eradication and prevention of its invasion, it is urgent to undertake the monitoring of non-infested streams and proceed to systematic removal of all traces of the species as soon as its presence is reported;
- in infested streams, we recommend as much as possible its systematic removal;
- biological control can also be considered;
- research must continue in order to enable more the valorization of the species as biogas, biofuel, fertilizer, green coal.
- Outreach and communication workshop is planned for December 2019 to inform decision makers on our findings



MANY THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION