

BID PROJECTS IN BENIN: MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS AND LESSONS LEARNT

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

The objectives of the BID projects in Benin were to overcome the challenges of shortage in data mobilization, capacity building, and data use to inform decisions.

More specifically, the objectives were to:

- ❑ Establish and strengthen national biodiversity information facilities / Establish and strengthen international collaborations to mobilize biodiversity data
- ❑ Increase available biodiversity data, within and beyond the grant period both at national and regional levels
- ❑ Apply biodiversity data in response to conservation priorities both at national and regional levels

DATA MOBILIZATION

In the BID national project:

- ❑ 17 occurrence datasets making a total of 61,524 georeferenced data were published against an initial objective of publishing 50,000 occurrence data.
- ❑ We could publish 3 checklists derived from the datasets published

In the BID regional project:

- ❑ 13 occurrence datasets making a total of 50,244 georeferenced occurrence data were published against an initial objective of publishing 45,000 occurrence data.
- ❑ We could also publish 3 checklists derived from the datasets published

APPLICATIONS OF THE MOBILIZED DATA

In the BID national project:

By using data on the priority species identified, we could achieve the distribution maps and ecological niche models of 11 species of which 05 medicinal species and 6 agroforestry species.

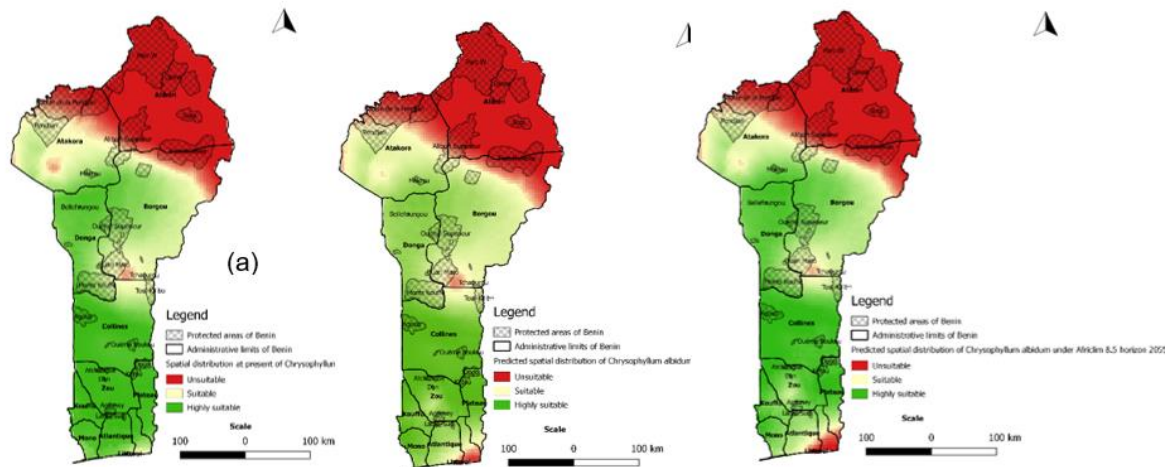


Figure 2: Spatial distribution of *Chrysophyllum albidum* in Benin: a) at present; b) under Africlim RCP4.5, horizon 2055; c) under Africlim RCP8.5, horizon 2055

APPLICATIONS OF THE MOBILIZED DATA

In the BID Regional project:

By using data on the priority species identified, we could achieve the distribution maps and ecological niche models of 11 species of which 04 invasive alien species and 07 endangered species.

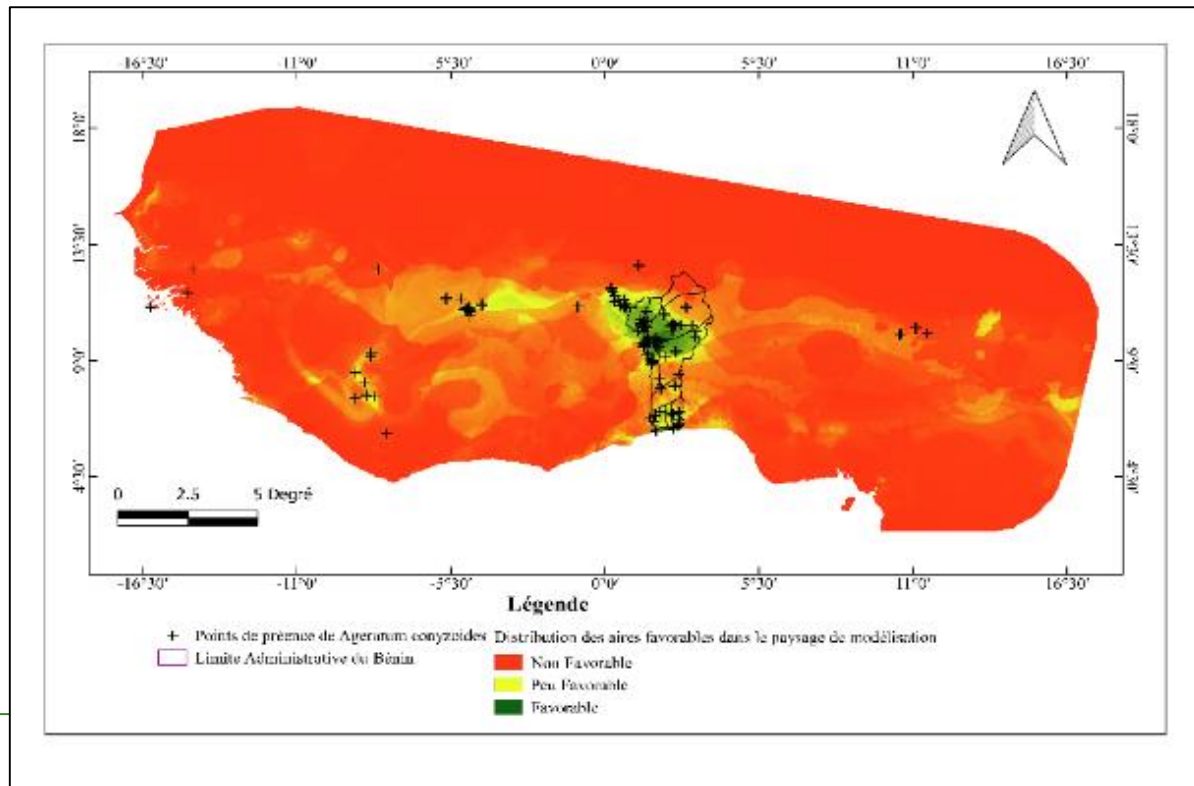


Figure: Potential distribution of *Ageratum conyzoides* (Invasive species) under current climate

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

In the BID national project:

We organized 5 workshops against the 4 initially planned to capacitate the national GBIF partners to enable data mobilization and data uses all along the project. The last two workshops mostly involved decision and policy makers.

In the BID Regional project:

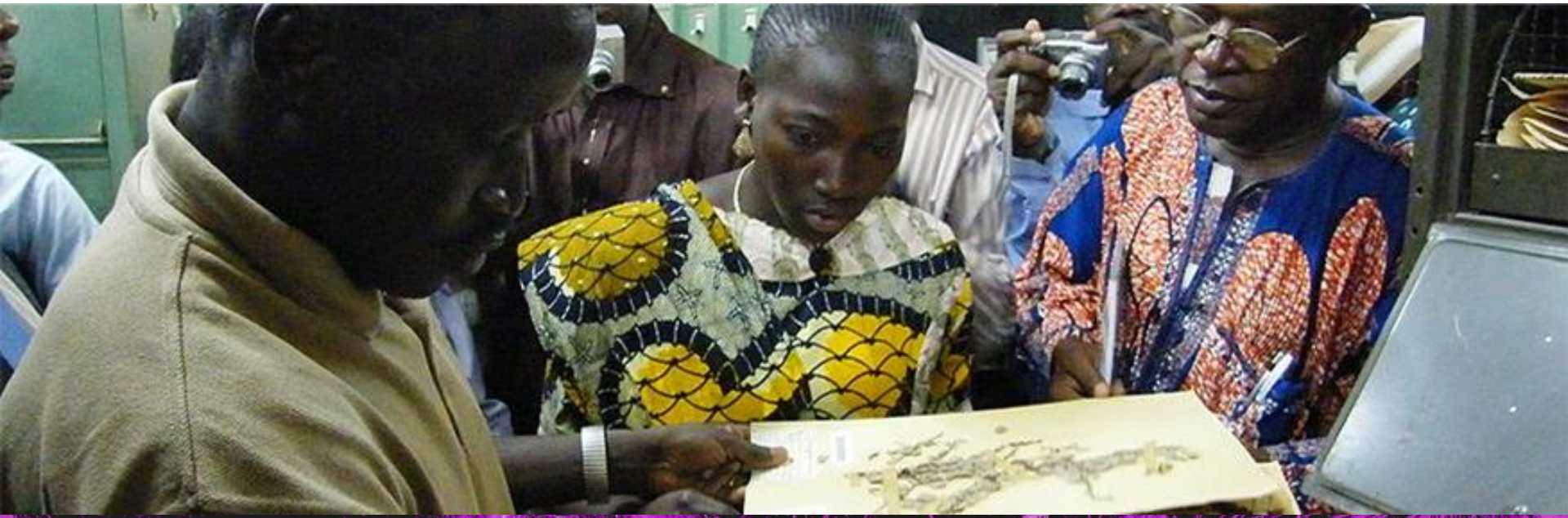
We organized 6 workshops (of which 2 regional) against the 4 initially planned to capacitate the project partners so as to enable data mobilization and data uses all along the project. The regional meetings were achieved under the umbrella of the University of Kansas (USA), our Non-ACP partner

Sustainability Through the Regional Master program

In that program, we are continuously achieving in-depth capacity building, data mobilization, and data uses to inform decisions on biodiversity conservation

LESSONS LEARNED

- ❑ Capacity building enabled successful data mobilization and data uses
- ❑ Infrastructure availability (enabling environment of trainers, mentors of GBIF-Benin, IT materials etc.) contributed to the success
- ❑ Availability of funds is essential to support the initiatives of capacity building and infrastructure as main prerequisite for successful data mobilization and data use to inform decisions



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