

Poster N° 1

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Living with crocodiles for sustainable use and management of agro-pastoral dams in Northern Benin: a hope or a scope?

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Objectives

- Stakeholders' framing on crocodiles
- Characterisation of dams water quality (physico-chemical, microbiological composition)
- Distribution of crocodiles holes, nests, and village visited by crocodiles

Materials and methods

- Case study in three villages (Nikki, Sakabansi and Fombawi)
- Waters sampled and analyzed for the physico-chemical and microbiological parameters
- Crocodile nests and holes and spaces visited were geo-referenced and mapped



Background

Crocodiles make themselves at home in agro-pastoral dams in Benin and share the dam ecosystem services with local people



Conclusion

Researchers from biological and social sciences should develop collaborative efforts with local communities and use direct observations, measurements and communication tools to assess humans and crocodiles living together

Results

- Crocodile framed as a problem
- Agro-pastoral dam water polluted: Means of physico-chemical variables > standard values for human and livestock
- Pollution by harmful bacteria: Coliforms, faecal streptococque, *Echerichia coli*, spore of *Clostridium*, *Salmonella tiphy*, *Salmonella tiphyrium*, *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Campylobacter jejuni*)
- Space visited by crocodiles consist of: riparian forest, farms, garbage heaps, homes, schools, and churches depending on seasons and caused some damages (Figure 1)

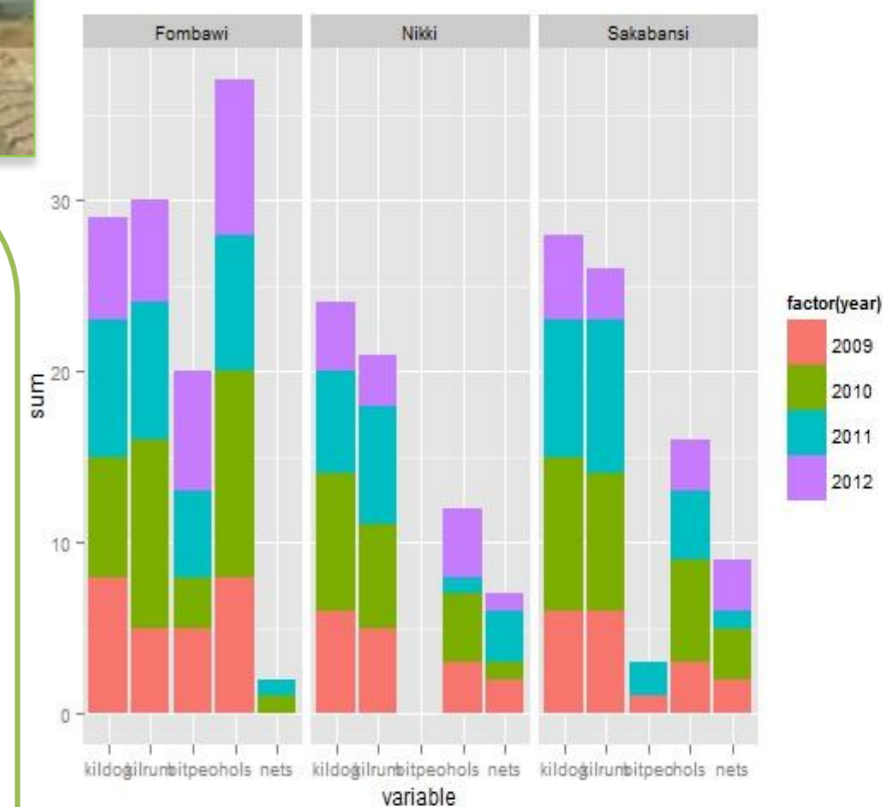


Figure1. Crocodile damages in Nikki, Sakabansi and Fombawi dams from 2009 to 2012

Damages consist of killing dogs, sheep and goats; biting people, destroying fishing nets and the dam infrastructure

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