



TREE AID Darwin Project: 24-022

Strengthening Malian forest management to
protect biodiversity and
alleviate poverty



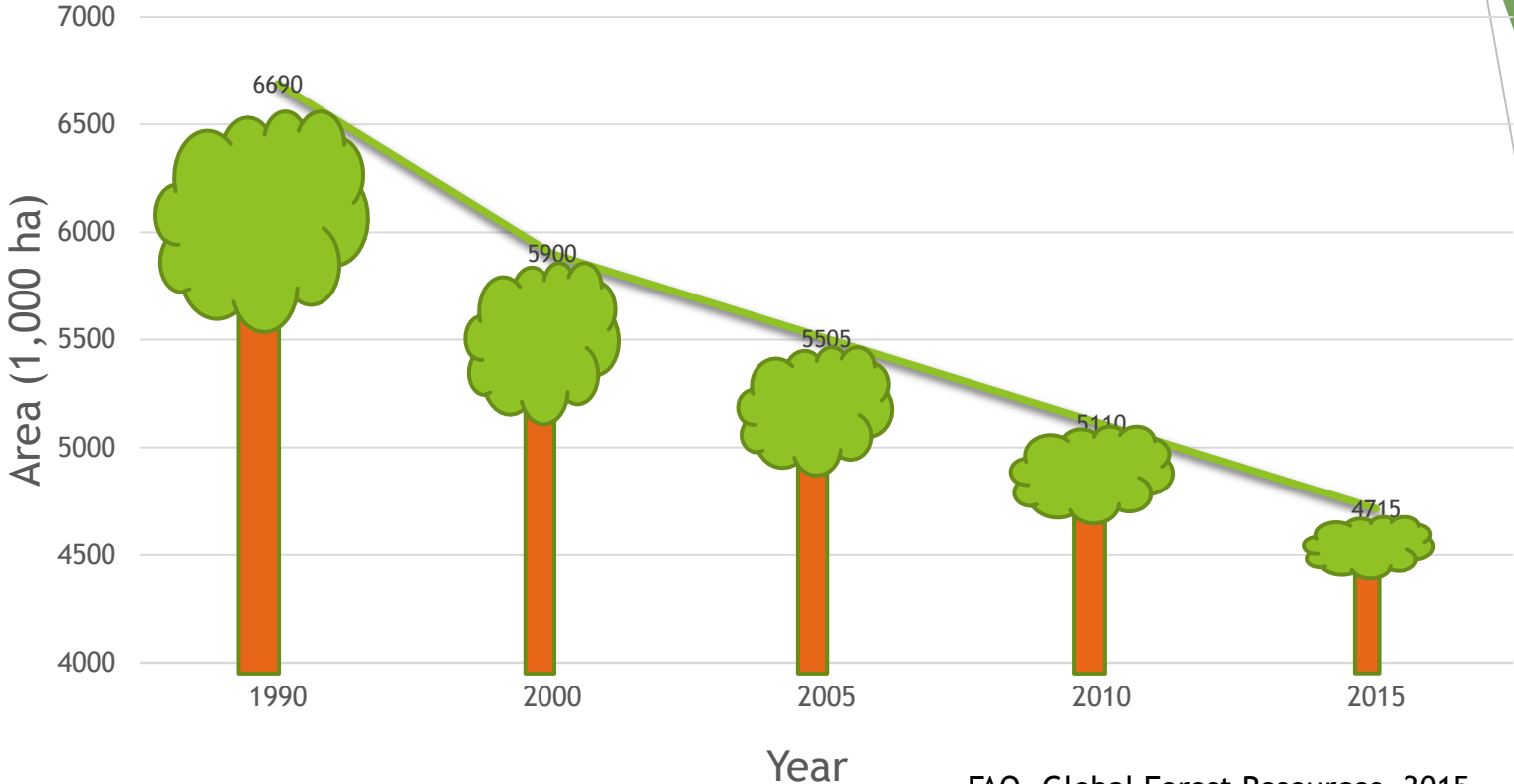
MISSION: Thriving, sustainable communities across the drylands of Africa

VISION: To enable people living in the drylands of Africa to unlock the potential of trees to reduce poverty and protect the environment



Context

Mali: Area of forests and wooded land 1990-2015 (1,000 ha)



FAO, Global Forest Resources, 2015

Quartile	Total value of activities (\$/person/day)	Average cash income (\$/person/day)
Lower	0.12	0.01
Lower middle	0.40	0.09
Upper middle	0.72	0.18
Upper	2.57	0.67

TREE AID survey November, 2017

Legend

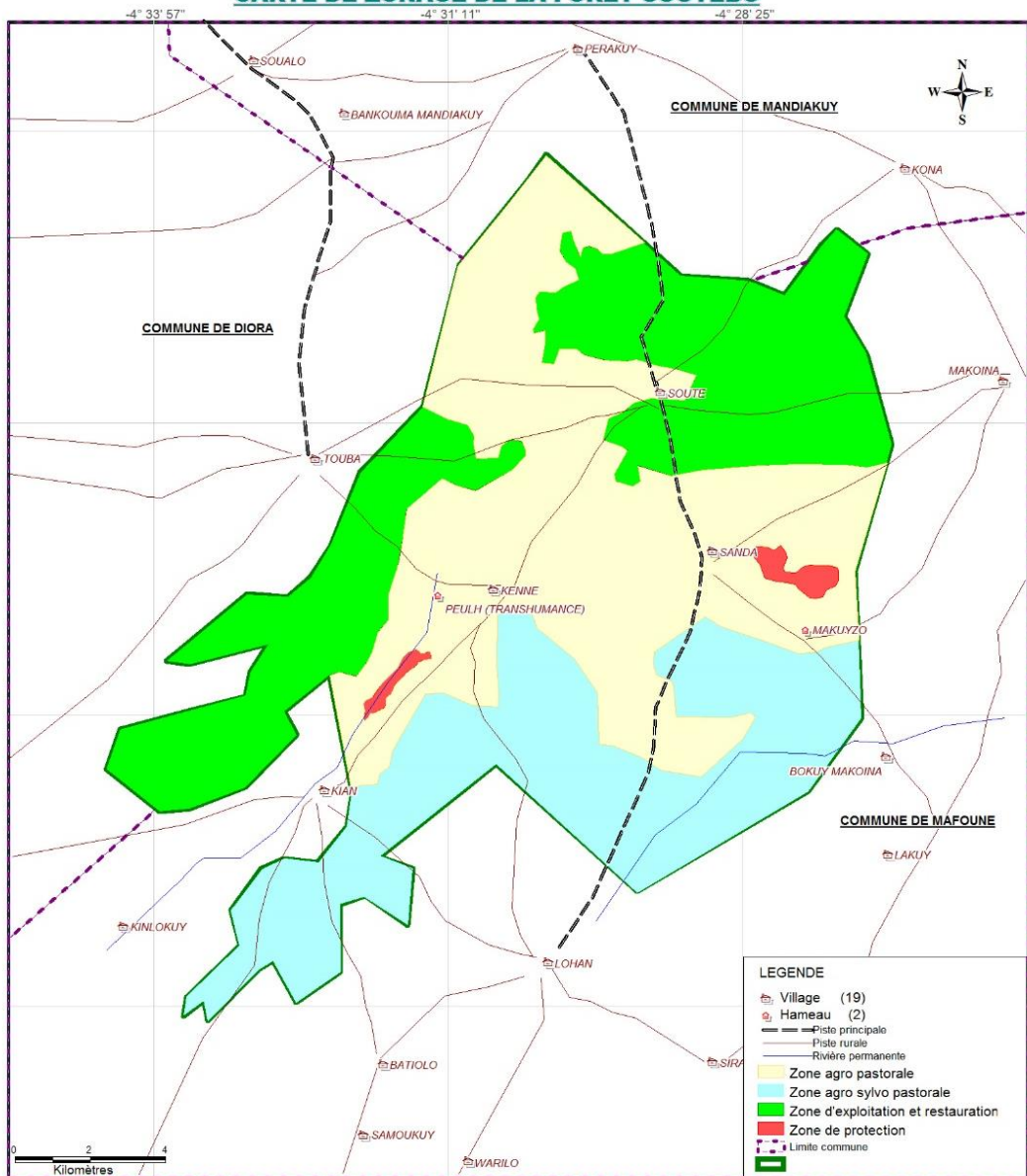
- Sites de plantation
- Ligne d'aménagement Duwa
- Ligne d'aménagement Soutebwo
- Parcelle Sutebwo
- L'Imite des parcelle Duwa
- MB2 project sites
- Mali



The plains of Ségo are part of Mali's arid Soudano-Sahelian Zone. Precipitation - 700-800 mm rain. 18k ha. Classified as shared community forests. Customary user rights. State-managed. Hardy indigenous trees - both beneficial to the environment and economically valuable - 3 species specifically that need their populations regenerating.

24-022: ‘Strengthening Malian forest management to protect biodiversity and alleviate poverty’

- ▶ **Outcome:** Forest restoration and increased threatened, indigenous tree species diversity within 11,619 hectares of Malian forest, and increased targeted household incomes by 25%, through strengthening natural resource management and enterprise development.
 - ▶ **Output 1:** Communities are undertaking best-practice NRM activities by 2020.
2672 hhs
 - ▶ **Output 2:** Strengthened capacities of stakeholders (municipal authorities, technical services, village communities) to manage the Duwa and Sutèbwo forests.
 - ▶ **Output 3:** Enhanced capacity of shea and honey enterprises (67% beneficiaries women)
600 hhs



Source: Interpretation d'image land Sat 2016

Forest Management Plans agreed in 2016 on previous project. These identify land use in zones of forest. We will build on and implement these using existing structures.

LEGENDE

- Village (19)
- Hameau (2)
- Piste principale
- Piste rurale
- Rivière permanente
- Zone agro pastorale
- Zone agro sylvo pastorale
- Zone d'exploitation et restauration
- Zone de protection
- Limite commune



Protection areas (fenced) in the background. Agroforestry planting in sylvo-agricultural zone: cashew 10x10m and cowpea (leguminous) (black-eyed bean). Cereals will be planted in between.



How we work...

- ▶ Partner: Sahel Eco
- ▶ Government
 - ▶ National Ministry for Water and Forests (focal point of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Mali)
 - ▶ Group for the Improvement and Management of the Environment
 - ▶ Community groups (Cooperatives, village extension officers)
- ▶ Utilising work by other agencies/programmes e.g. Great Green Wall



Challenges

- ▶ Staffing (TREE AID, Sahel Eco)
- ▶ Security
 - ▶ Project stoppage
 - ▶ Restriction on local government access
 - ▶ Restriction on moto travel
- ▶ Procurement of processing equipment locally

Key Achievements - what shows that the money is invested well?

▶ Monitoring and Evaluation:

- ▶ Completing Rural Household Multi Indicator Survey - RHoMIS (evidence-base)
- ▶ 41 village extension officers (3 per village) recruited (support ongoing monitoring)

▶ Sustainability:

- ▶ Forest Management Plans adopted at commune level
- ▶ 2x forest dialogue groups set up

▶ Hitting targets:

- ▶ 13,000 trees planted despite no nurseries in y1 and 172km of 182km planned firebreaks completed (Soutebwo only)
- ▶ Nurseries established for y2 (+ scale up of training by community)

▶ Building business:

- ▶ Promoting Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) at National Environmental Forum

Lessons learned

- ▶ Importance of staff with local knowledge
- ▶ Importance of working with local authorities
- ▶ Being flexible and adaptable where possible - focus on what you can do
- ▶ Importance of maintaining open dialogue with Darwin (issues, changes)
- ▶ Necessary support from wider team (UK, region)
- ▶ Start procurement processes early
- ▶ Invoicing important for a small org to ensure cash flow
- ▶ Communications (if Project Lead is only person receiving info, ask Darwin to include a UK person too).
- ▶ For next time: backup plan for how can activities be done remotely e.g. radio should project/gov staff not be able to get to the field



Amadou Tangara,
TREE AID Country
Manager, Mali

End of year 1...

- ▶ We received a score of 2 as feedback from our annual report, which is testament to the work that we did at the beginning, being flexible and communicative.

BEST OF LUCK TO ALL THE NEW PROJECTS FOR 2018....

