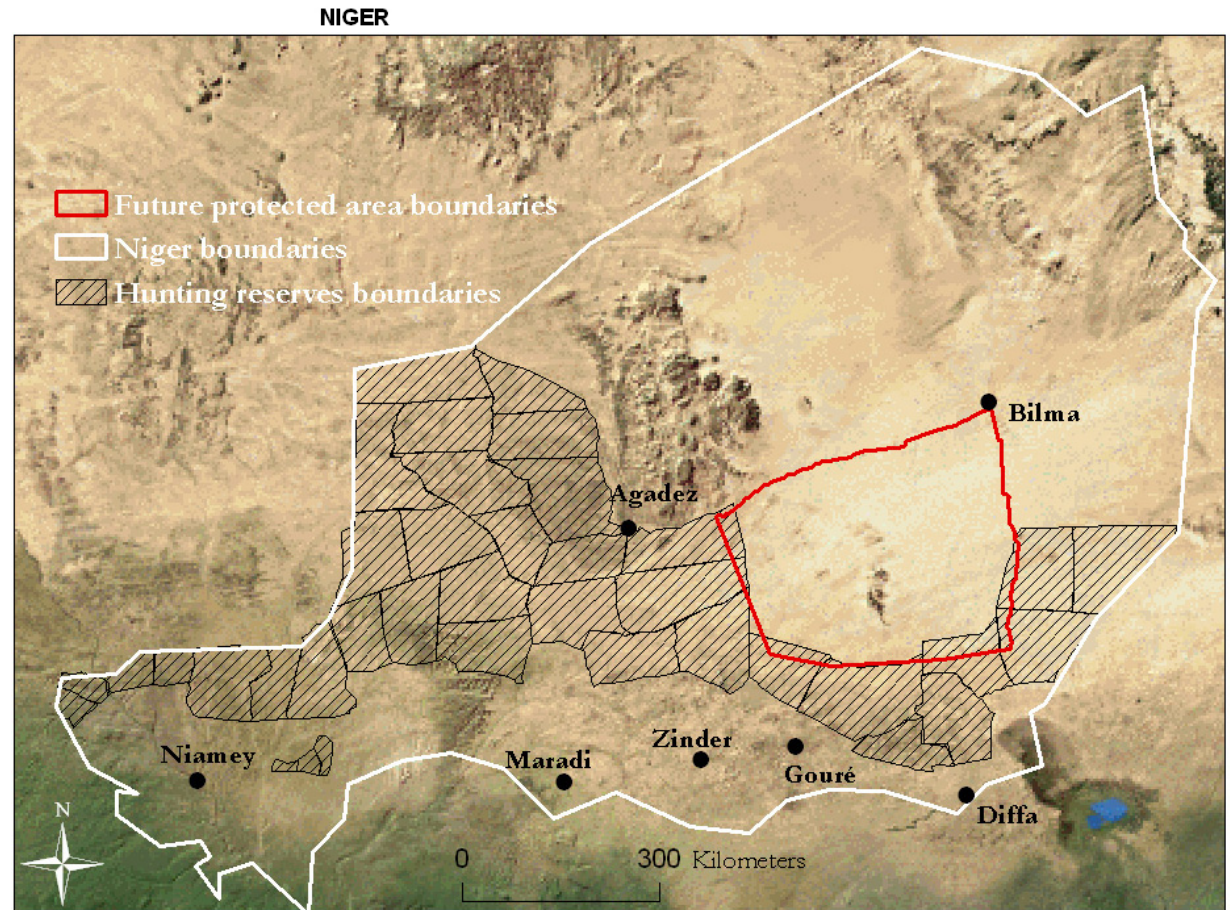




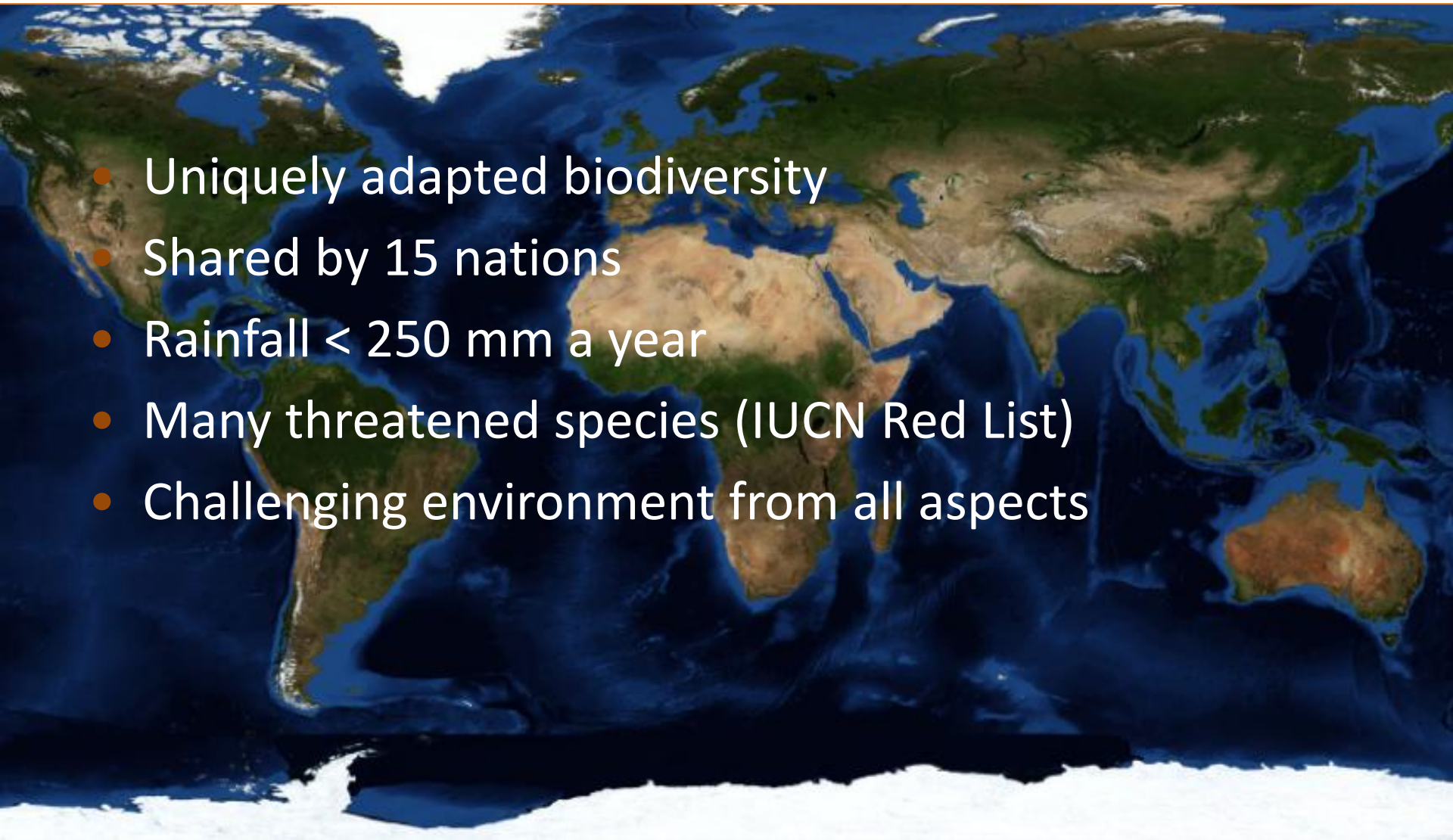
Termit - TinToumma
Nature Reserve : a Noah's ark
in the Sahara




Termit –TinToumma, *Saharan biodiversity hotspot*



The Sahara: the biggest desert on earth

- 
- A satellite map of the world, centered on the Atlantic Ocean. The Sahara Desert is clearly visible as a large, arid, tan-colored region in North Africa. The surrounding landmasses and oceans are shown in various shades of green, brown, and blue.
- Uniquely adapted biodiversity
 - Shared by 15 nations
 - Rainfall < 250 mm a year
 - Many threatened species (IUCN Red List)
 - Challenging environment from all aspects



Beautiful, yes, but...

Austere
Lifeless
Barren
Wasteland
Infertile
Sterile









IUCN Red List



Scimitar-horned Oryx	Extinct in the Wild	-
Addax	Critically Endangered	↓
Dama Gazelle	Critically Endangered	↓
Cuvier's Gazelle	Endangered	↓
Slender-horned Gazelle	Endangered	↓
Dorcas Gazelle	Vulnerable	↓



Causes of extinction / main threats

- Overhunting, firearms, vehicles...
- Competition with livestock
- Habitat loss, agriculture
- Desertification, drought
- Civil unrest, insecurity
- New developments... oil
- Inadequate funding
- Poor international visibility

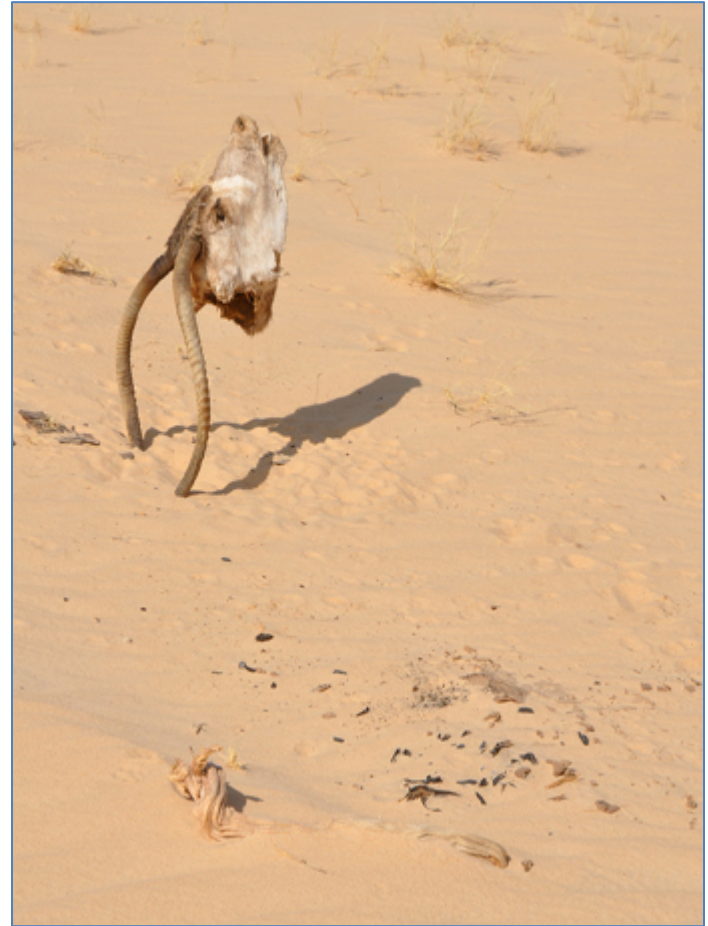




Oil



Military Hunting



Partners

- Working with local communities is not an option but an obligation
- It is their support and active participation that will ultimately make or break a project's success
- Strong Project–Community relations are the best guarantee of continuity and insurance against turbulence and change in these uncertain times





Nomadic Way of Life



Traditional land-users



Pastoralism

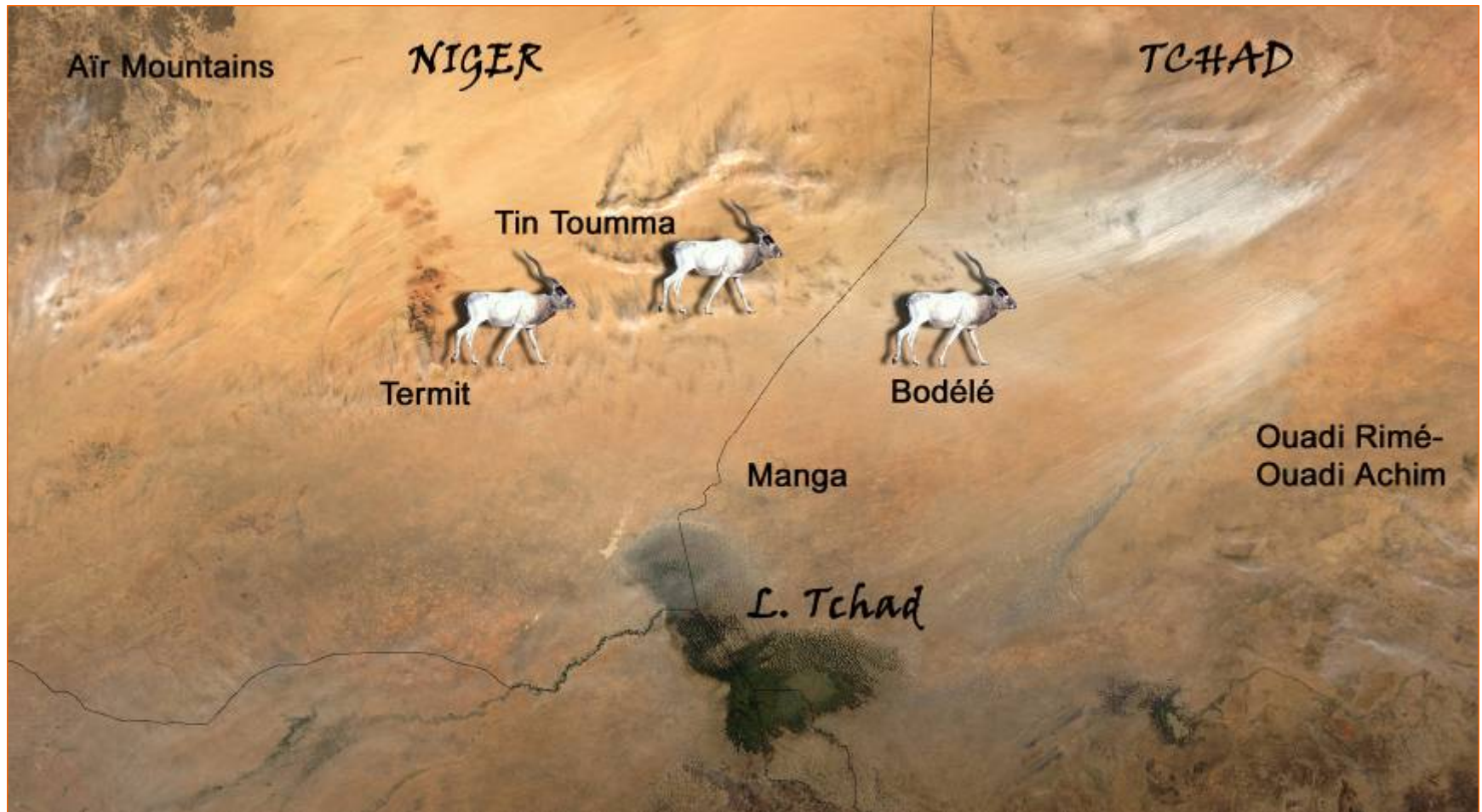


Livestock development



The vision: “addax sans frontières”

Trans-boundary conservation between Niger and Chad



2015: the return of the Scimitar-horned Oryx to the wild ?

- Extinct in the Wild (1988)
- Lots in captivity
- Excellent knowledge base
- Iconic species in home range
- Flagship for aridlands conservation
- Door opener for habitat conservation
- Opportunity to break through conservation bottlenecks
- Once in a lifetime opportunity?



Partners



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Take Home Messages

- Deserts are not barren wastelands! They are worthy of our attention. Please spread the word.
- Action is possible in spite of major challenges.
- The future of the Sahara's wildlife depends on finding solutions beneficial to all stakeholders.



Thanks for listening



Thank you



