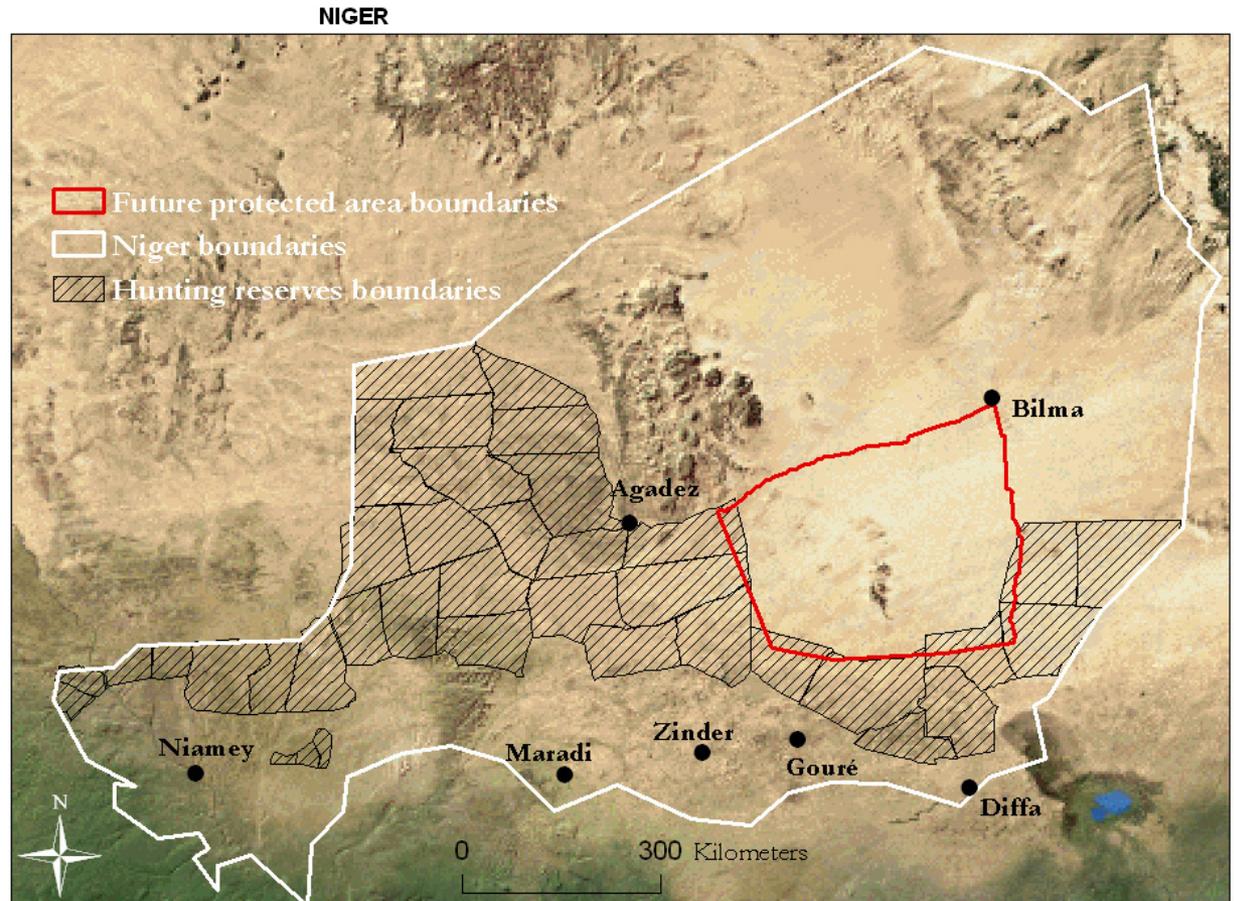
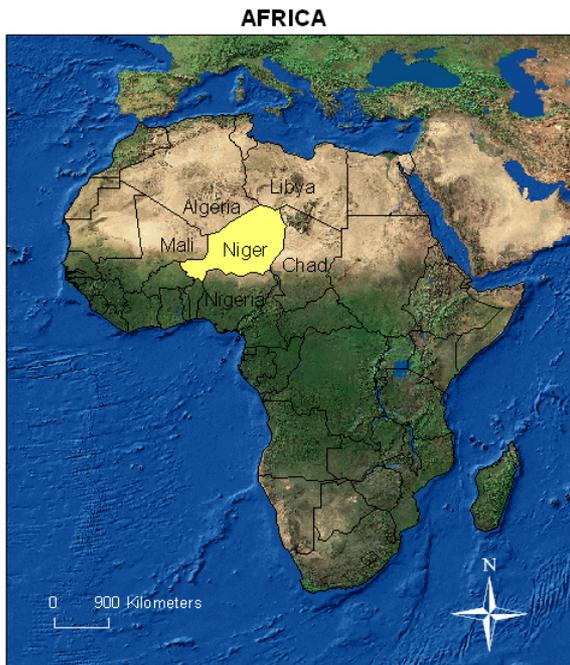




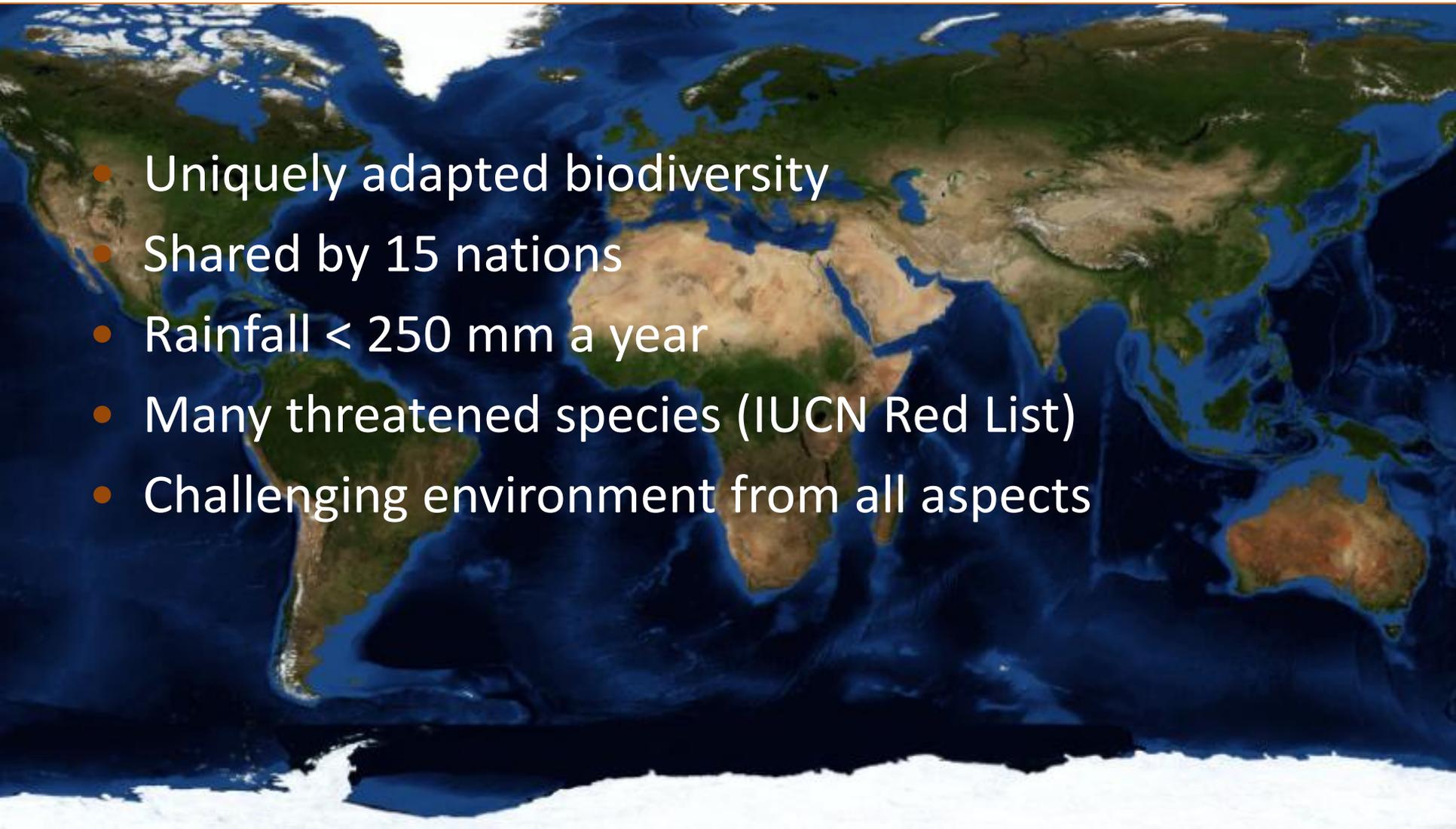
***Termit - TinToumma***  
Nature Reserve : a Noah's ark  
in the Sahara



# Termit –TinToumma, *Saharan biodiversity hotspot*



# *The Sahara: the biggest desert on earth*

- 
- A satellite-style map of the world, showing the continents and oceans. The Sahara Desert in North Africa is highlighted in a light brown color, indicating its vast extent. The map is centered on the Atlantic Ocean, with the Americas on the left and Europe and Africa on the right.
- 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

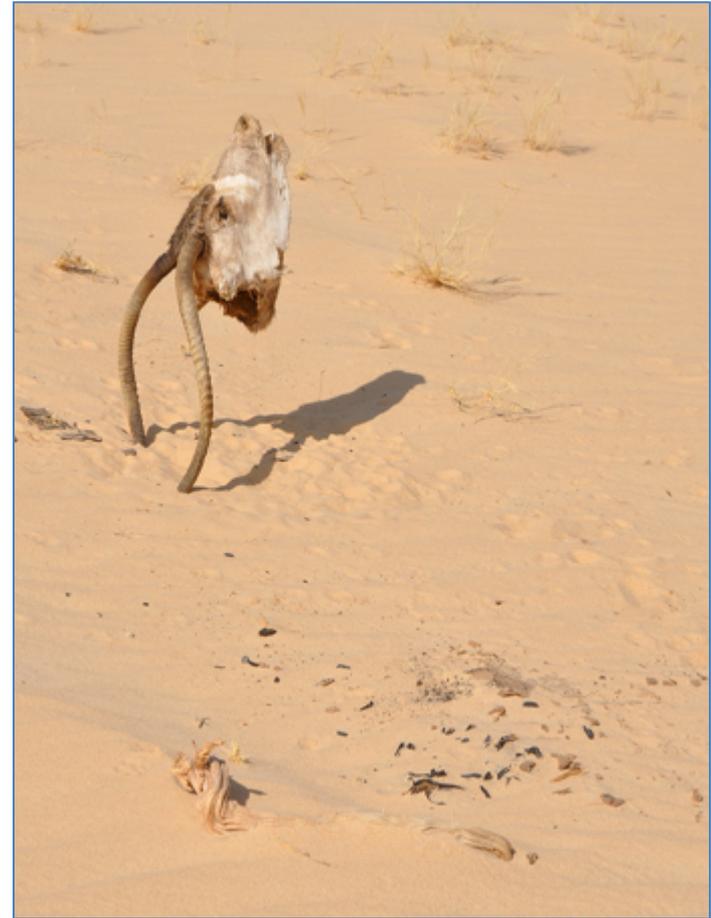




# Oil



# 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

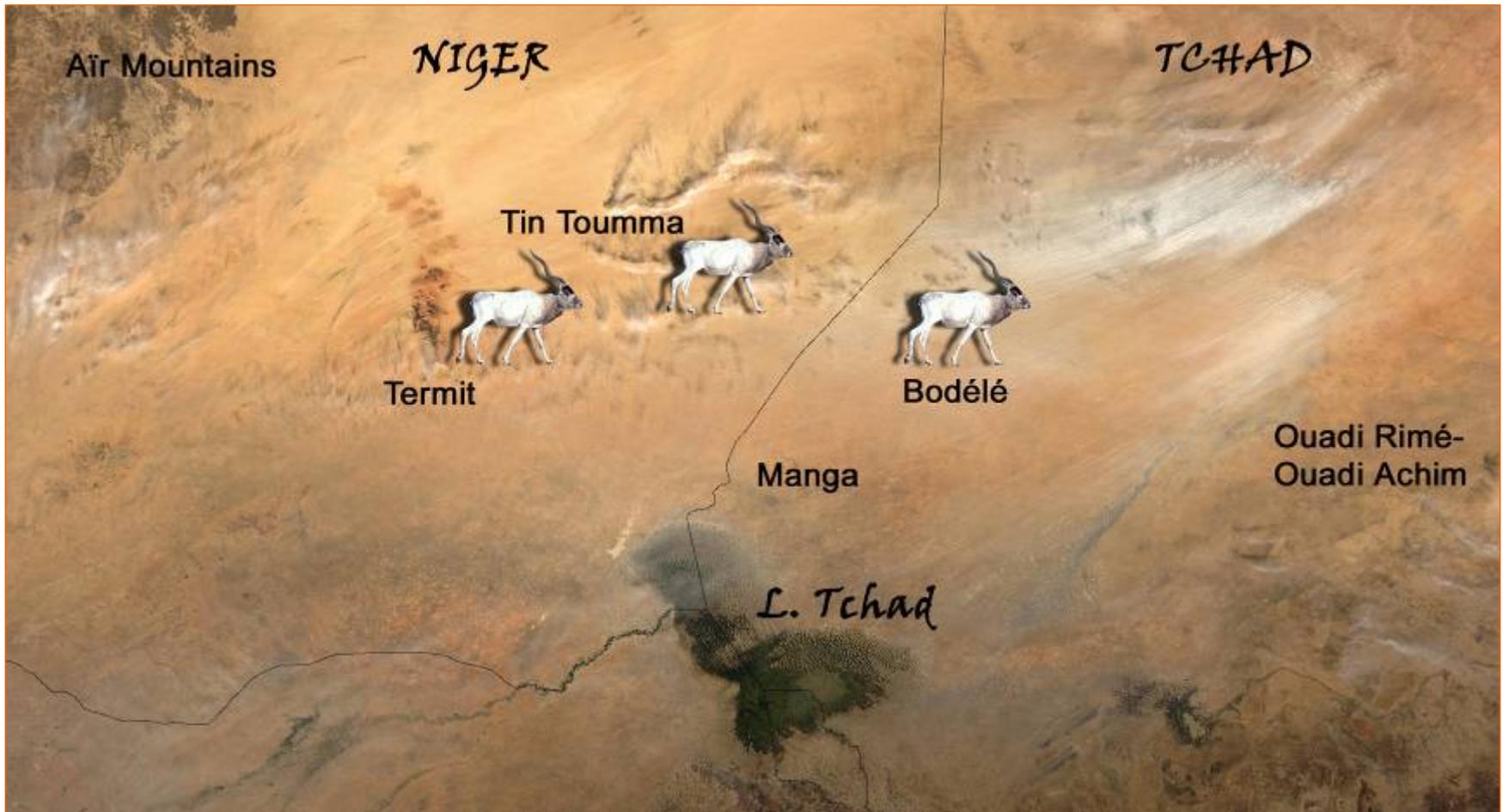


# Livestock development



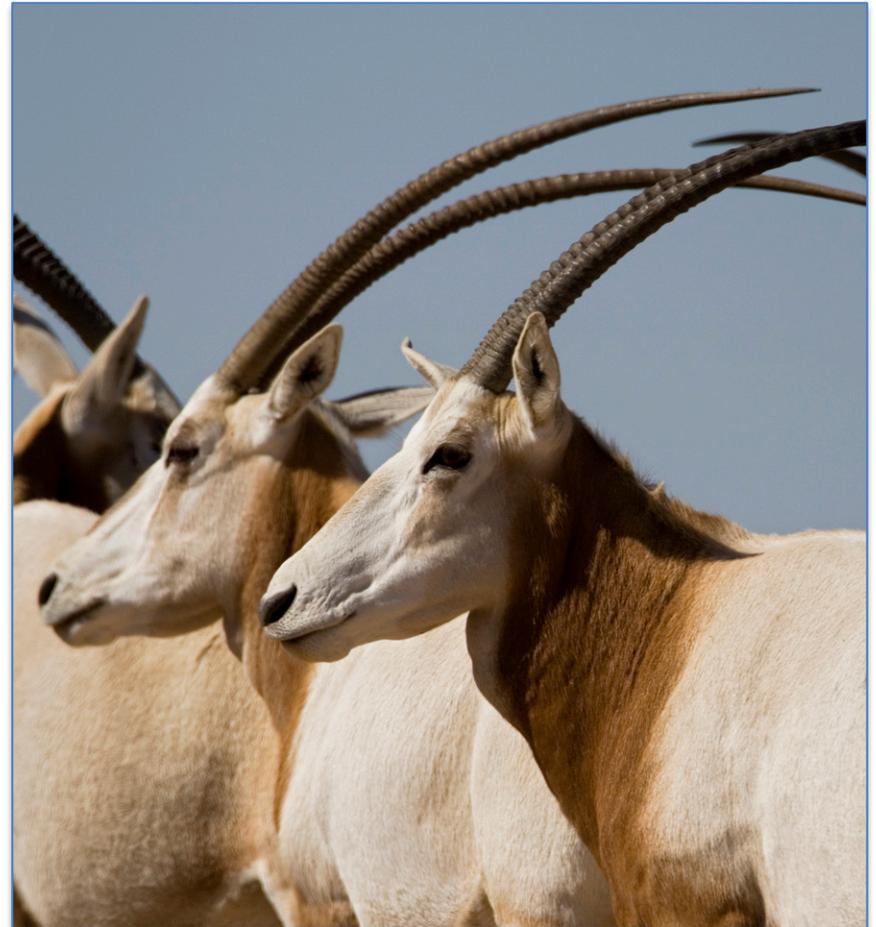
# The vision: “addax sans frontières”

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



# Follow Us

On the web:

[www.saharacconservation.org](http://www.saharacconservation.org)

[www.noecconservation.org](http://www.noecconservation.org)

Sandscript:

<http://www.saharacconservation.org/-Sandscript->

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/saharacf>



SAHARA CONSERVATION FUND

## Sandscript

Number 10 October 2011

*For the benefit of people and nature*

It had been a rough and gritty night. A vicious sandstorm lashed up by distant thunderstorms had blown into camp around midnight and hadn't let up until just before dawn. Shaking out my bedding I looked up towards the rising sun and saw what appeared to a dozen grey caterpillars crawling slowly across the horizon. On closer inspection the caterpillars turned into centipedes, each one made up of hundreds of canals' legs. A caravan of biblical proportions was on the move. Rapidly packing up camp we headed off to meet it, thoughts of Lawrence of Arabia's encounter with the massed tribes in the Wadi Rum firmly in our minds.

Following hearty salams, news was exchanged. The caravan, led by veteran guide Mahamat of the Uled Turki, was five days out of Djedid with another six to go, travelling day and night, before arriving at the salt mines of Faya, where chunks of rattron would be purchased, packed into palm-woven baskets and stored as salt lick for the animals over the coming winter. Did we have tea or sugar to spare? Tobacco? Perhaps a skin or two of water? Or medicine for Ali who was bitten on the arm by a stroppey camel in a fit of pique? Parting with what we could we each went our ways with friendly waves and mutual wishes for God's favour on our various enterprises.

Throughout the month we spent in Chad's Ouadi Rimé reserve, a South Carolina-sized expanse of grassland and thorn bush, we were constantly reminded of the importance of the place for the thousands of nomadic people who live there, depending for their survival on the very same resources of pasture, shade, seasonal water and space as the wildlife we had travelled to see and to survey with a view to improving their conservation status and chances of survival. Taste and time again we were also reminded of the mutual benefits that careful land management and sound conservation can bring not only to wildlife but also to people. Better practices and careful planning before new wells go in and tracks are cut can truly result in win-win solutions for all concerned.

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*The Pinnacled Iby (top) and the wild melon (bottom) are just two of the many plants in flower during the Sahara's all too brief wet season*



# 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



