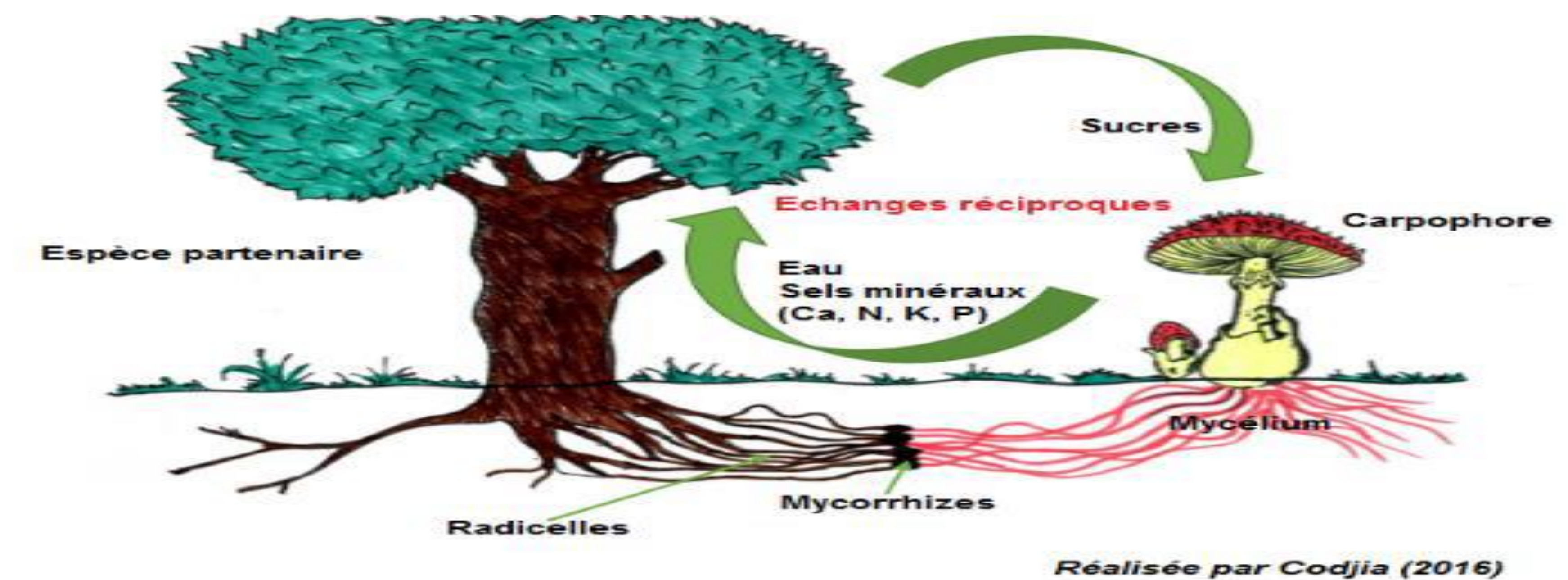


This project is about safeguarding an ecosystem service that largely benefits local people. It is about protecting local income by protecting the environment. In Benin fungi are important in the daily lives of local people. In spite of this, their natural habitats are subject to very strong anthropogenic pressures. The aim of this study is to draw local populations to the causes and consequences of the degradation of natural habitats of higher fungi.



Symbiosis between forest tree and fungi



Consequence of agriculture on Ectomycorrhizal trees

Symbiotic trees (*Isobertinia doka*) threatened



Cutting wood (ectomycorrhizal trees) for the production of charcoal

Symbiotic trees (*I. doka*) illegally slaughtered



Harvesting of firewood in forests



Effect of farming on our forests



Amanita loosii Beeli



Amanita subviscosa Beeli. Bull



Amanita masasiensis Härk. & Saarim



Lactifluus gymnocarpoides (Verbeken) Verbeken

Some species of fungi whose natural habitats are degraded by human activities

Forests are reservoirs containing various natural resources useful to local populations. Among these natural resources are fungi, some of which serve as food and medicine for the local population during the lean season.

It is therefore important to sustainably conserve our forests.

We thank the Rufford Foundation for funding this project.



Dynamic vegetation cover of the Wari-Marô Forest Reserve from 1998 to 2018 and projection for the year 2042

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This project concerns the safeguarding of an ecosystem service that largely benefits local populations. It's about protecting local income by protecting the environment. In Benin, natural habitats provide goods and services to local populations. In spite of this, they are subjected to very strong anthropic pressures which results in their reductions in surface area and biodiversity. The purpose of this study is to attract local populations to the dynamics of natural habitats of higher fungi.

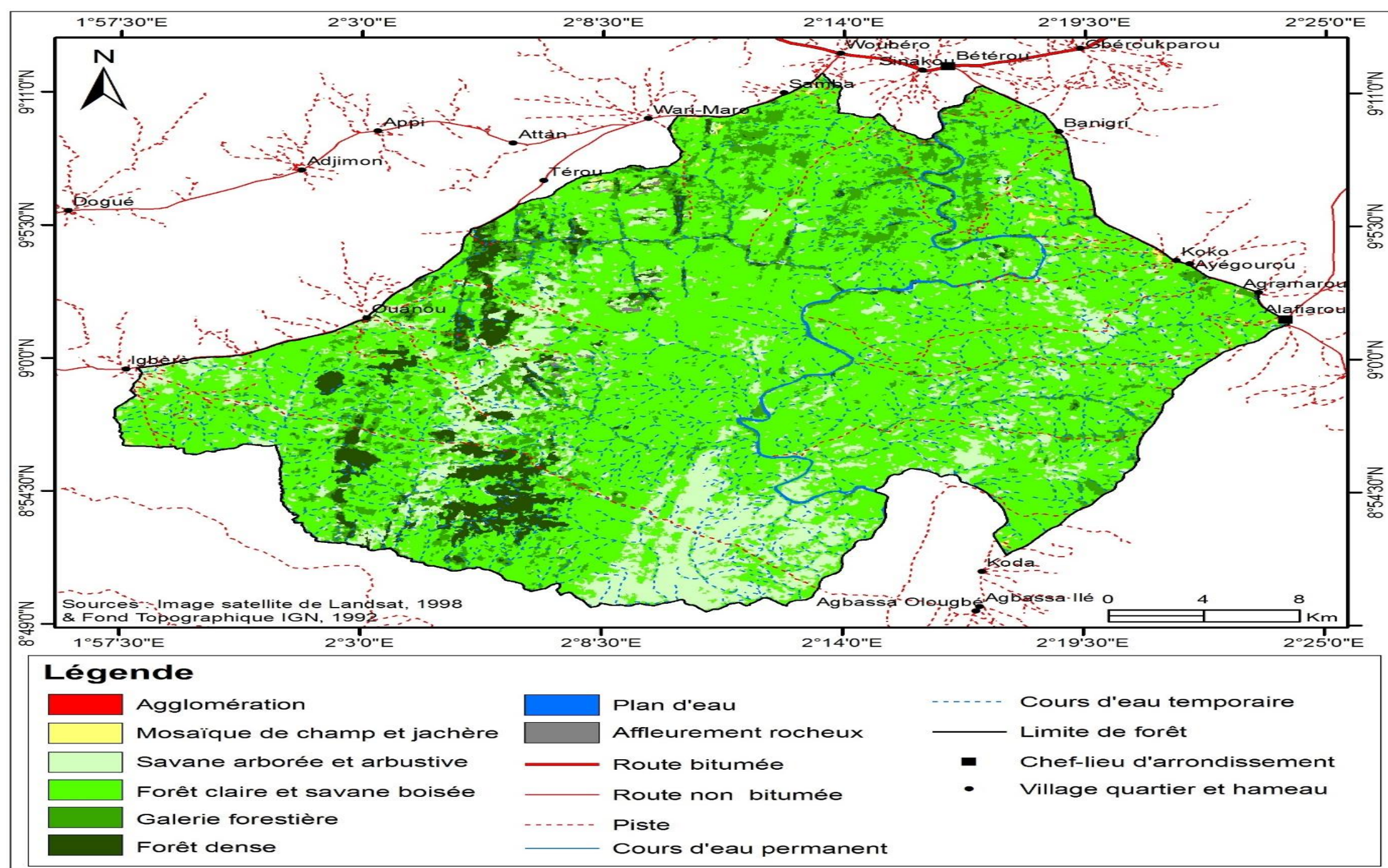


Fig.1: Land Cover Units of the Wari-Marô Forest Reserve in 1998

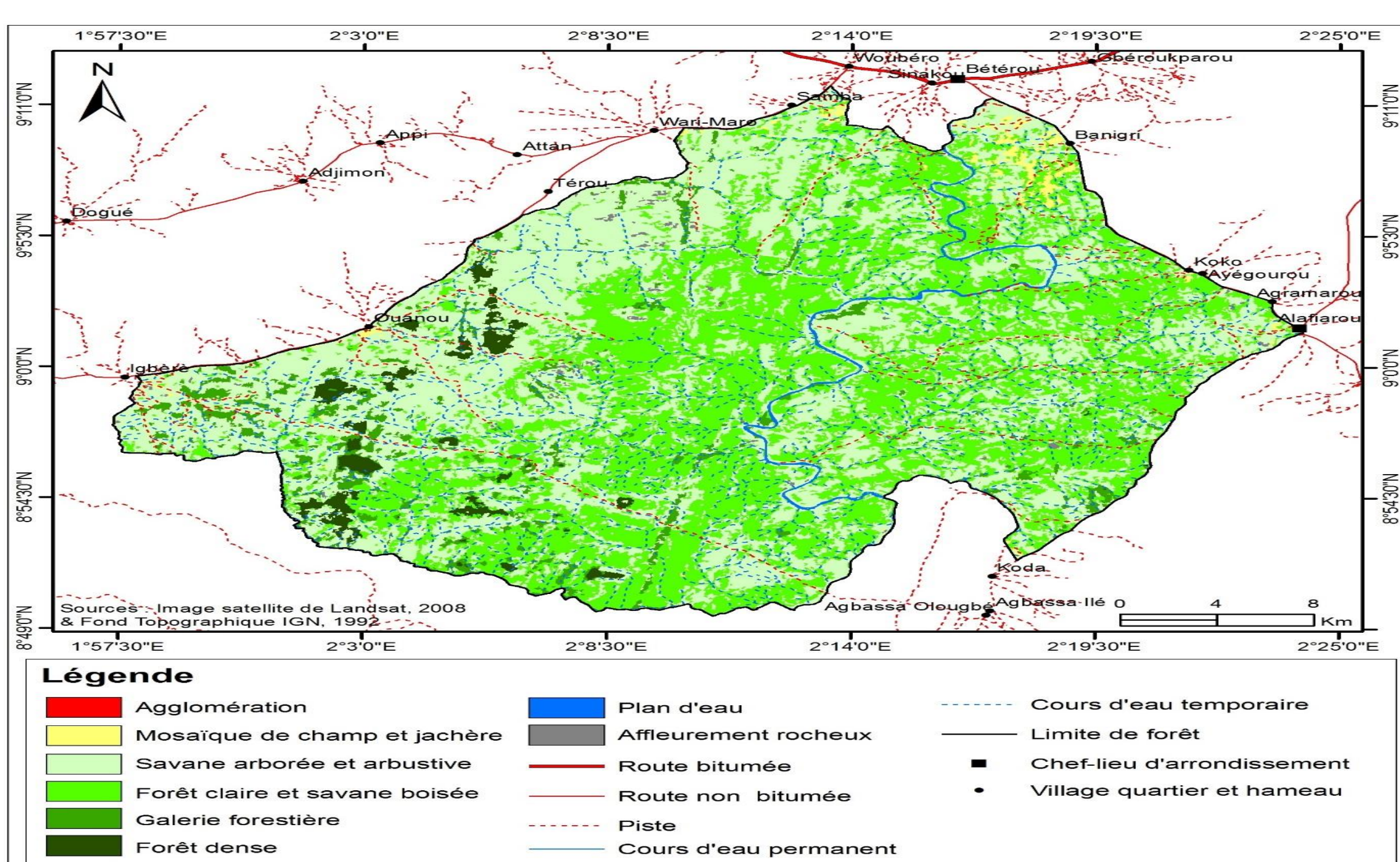


Fig.2: Land Cover Units of the Wari-Marô Forest Reserve in 2008

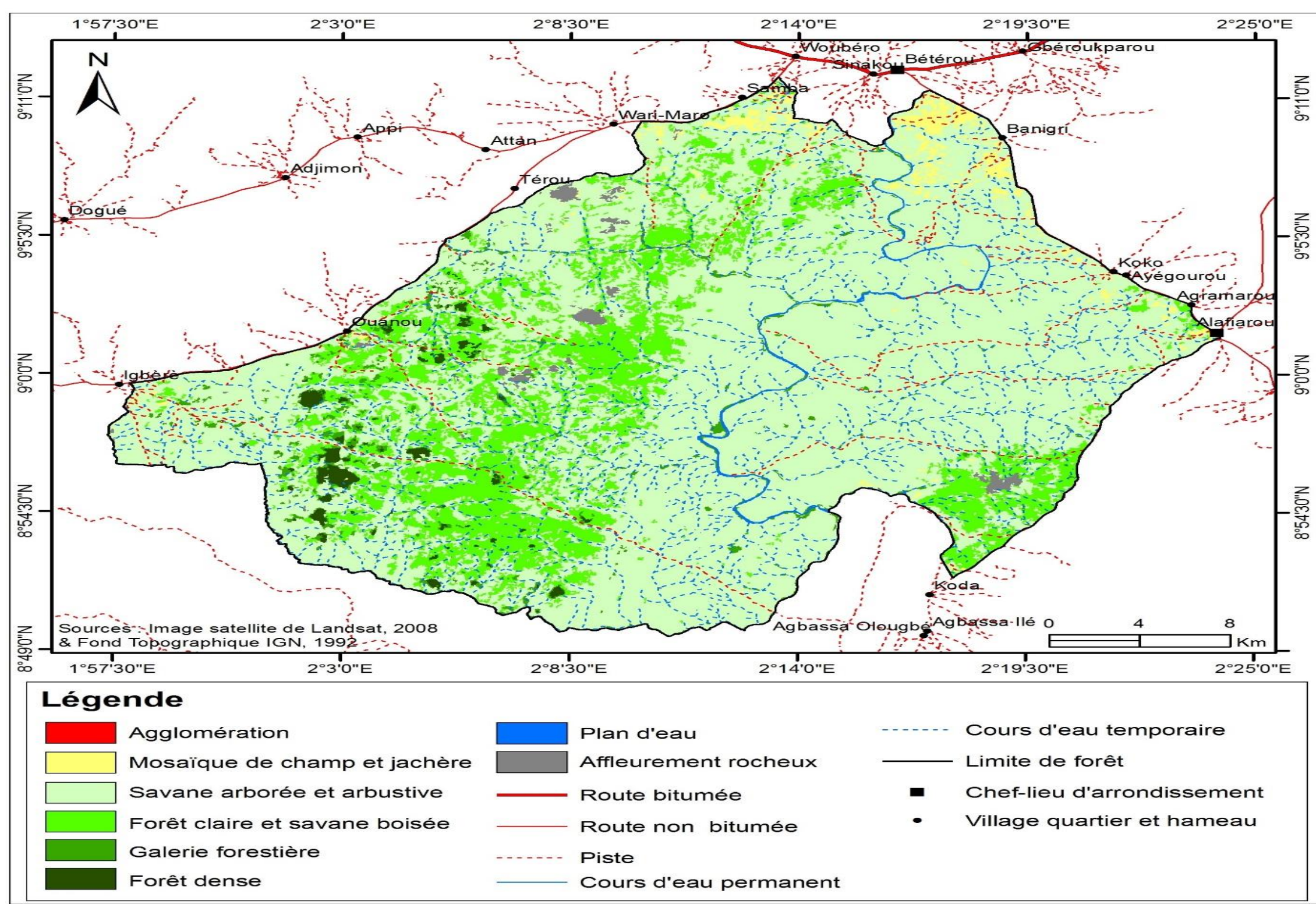


Fig.3: Land Cover Units of the Wari-Marô Forest Reserve in 2018

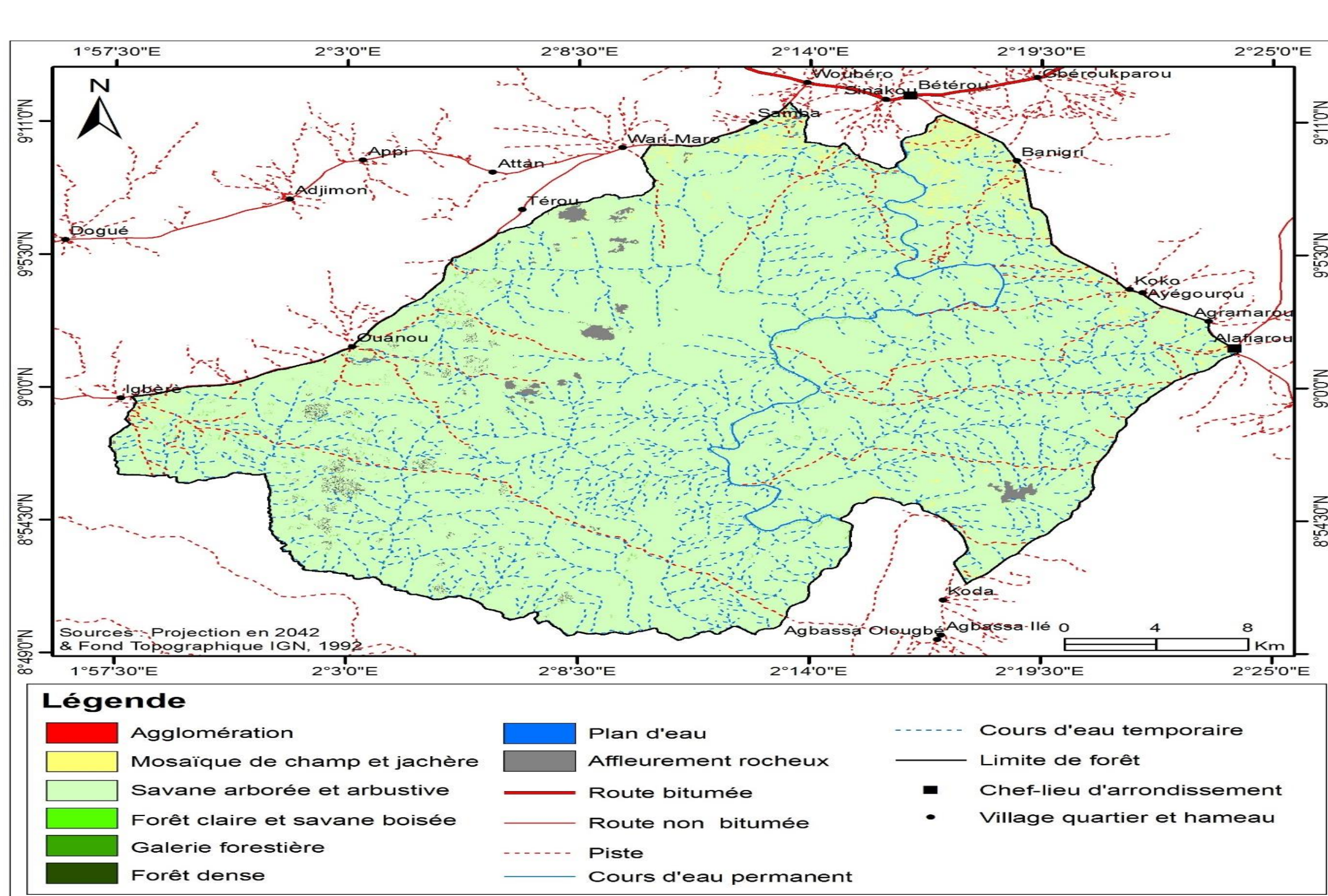


Fig.4: Projection map of the vegetation cover of the forest reserve for the year 2042

Table.1: Rate of evolution of vegetation cover from 1998 to 2018

Units of occupation	1998		2008		2018	
	Area (ha)	Proportion (%)	Area (ha)	Proportion (%)	Area (ha)	Proportion (%)
Agglomération	8.94	0.01	10.55	0.01	13.86	0.01
Field mosaic and fallow	363.52	0.32	1157.65	1.04	2149.64	1.93
Savannah with trees and shrubs	17310.09	15.58	54499.19	49.06	84089.79	75.69
Woodland and wooded savannah	77194.48	69.48	47644.85	42.89	20489.03	18.44
Dense forest	5186.91	4.67	1982.34	1.78	1056.49	0.95
Galery forest	10331.60	9,30	4759.11	4.28	2184.82	1.97
Body of water	497.24	0,45	582.50	0.52	265.11	0.24
Rock outcrop	202.61	0,18	459.19	0.41	846.63	0.76
Total	111095.38	100,00	111095.38	100.00	111095.38	1003.00

Table.2: Projection statistics for the year 2042

Units of occupation	2042	
	Superficie (ha)	Proportion (%)
Agglomération	15.33	0.01
Field mosaic and fallow	1214.15	1.09
Savannah with trees and shrubs	108220.55	97.41
Woodland and wooded savannah	344.75	0.31
Dense forest	337.21	0.30
Galery forest	87.83	0.08
Body of water	119.04	0.11
Rock outcrop	756.53	0.68
Total	111095.38	100.00

Natural habitats are under pressure from local populations. But these natural habitats regeoges natural resources some of which serve as food and medicine to local people during the lean periods. It is therefore important to reduce or reduce the degradation of natural habitats of higher fungi.

We thank the Rufford Foundation for funding this project.