

Poster N° 2

KPERA G.N., SAÏDOU A., EILERS C.H.A.M., AARTS M.N.C., SINSIN B., MENSAH G.A., VAN DER ZIJPP A., 2010. Human–crocodile interaction around agro-pastoral dams in Northern Benin. NPT-146/NUFFIC Workshop, Cotonou, 5–7 October 2010.

Human-crocodile interaction around agropastoral dams in Northern Benin



Kpéra G. N., Saïdou A., Eilers, C.H.A.M., Aarts, M.N.C., Sinsin B., Mensah G. A. & van der Zijpp A.

Background: Agropastoral dams are waterholes built by Benin government for the purpose of livestock production, fish farming, and develop vegetable production. These dams have been invaded by crocodiles leading to 2 kinds of interaction between human and crocodile: peaceful collaboration and conflict which hinders the enjoyment of dams goals.

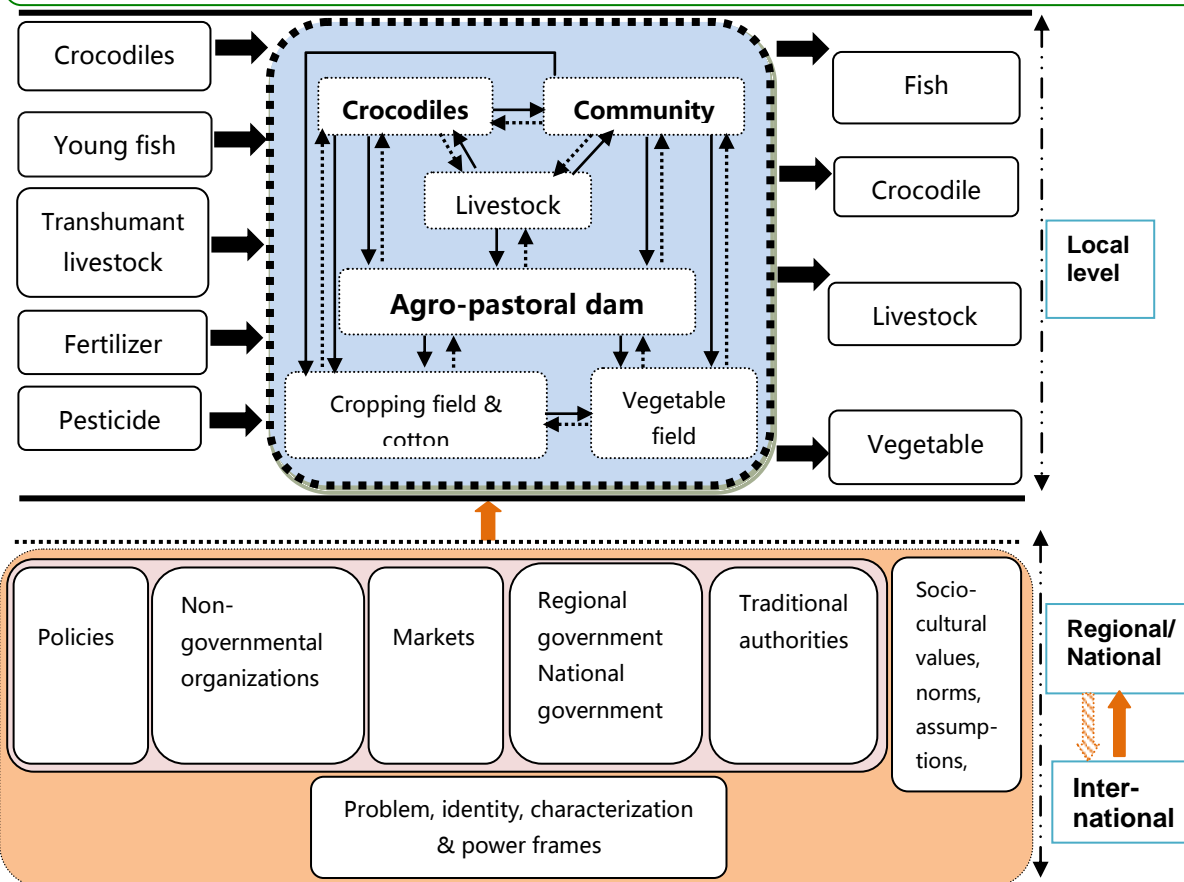


Figure: Agro-pastoral system showing multiple relations between system components and institutional context

Objective: Improve agro-pastoral dam management in Northern Bénin by understanding human-crocodile interactions around agro-pastoral dams.

Specifics:

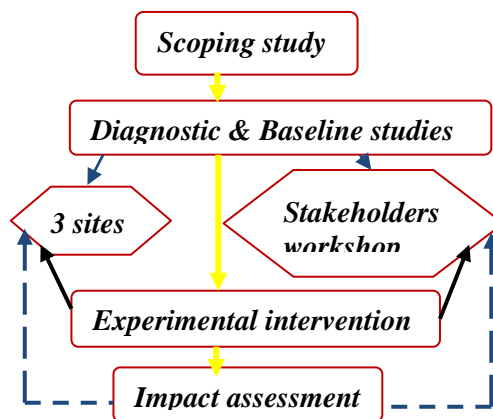
- O₁. To understand the way stakeholders frame crocodile behaviour and habitat use in the case of both peaceful collaboration and conflict;
- O₂. To understand crocodile behaviour and habitat use and its relation to integrated water management;
- O₃. To identify technical and institutional constraints on and opportunities for peaceful collaboration between humans and crocodiles;
- O₄. To develop an improved agro-pastoral dam management system in collaboration with all stakeholders.

Methodology

Study area

Nikki, Sakabansi & Fombawi in Nikki district (9°56'2 N & 3°12'16 E)

Research design



Methods: 3 different dams; participative observation, surveys, semi-structured interviews, experimentations & Stakeholders Workshops, etc.

First results

Activities around agro-pastoral dams

Watering for livestock (50%), Fishing (25%), Vegetable production (7%), cleaning & washing (20%), swimming (8%)

Mapping of actors involved in agro-pastoral dam use and management:

Farmers, fishermen, herders, dam management team, herders association (UCOPER), Women association, Municipality, NGOs, PADPPA, CeRPA, SNV, DFRN

Identification of institutional and technical constraints:

Silting up, water lily, pollution, crocodiles (predators), lack of material for activities, non-access to credit, conflict, mismanagement, decentralization, non-respect of traditional rules, absence of water management plan.

Experimentations: water quality, crocodile movement, joint learning in conflict management.....