

Schools food environments in Boukombe and Natitingou and students' perception about these environments

HOUNDOLO Melina Maureen^{1,2*}, BODJRENOU Fiali Ulrich Sam^{1,2}, BANKOLE Bissola Malikath^{1,2}, JORDAN Irmgard³, TERMOTE

Celine³, AMOUSSA HOUNKPATIN Waliou¹

¹Faculty of Agronomic Sciences, University of Abomey Calavi, Benin ²Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, Benin ³Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, Kenya

* reenmelh@gmail.com, 00229 96492332

Background and Objective

- The food environment is recognized as having a very strong influence on the eating habits of individuals and students
- This study aimed at analyzing the food environment around Boukombe and Natitingou's main colleges and the students' perception about this environment.

Methods

- Main secondary school of Boukombe and Natitingou were selected
- Mapping of food environment with GPS coordinates on one (01) kilometer
- School food environment perception survey with students

- n=101 Boukombe's school children
- n=201 Natitingou's school children

Main Results

Boukombe food outlets

Natitingou food outlets

32 Fruit trees

17 Fruit trees

1 Roadside vendor

1 Marquis

1 Supermarket

1 Restaurant

1 Home vendor

1 Ambulant vendor

4 Canteen vendors

2 Restaurants

3 Kiosks

10 retail shop

14 canteen vendors

90 open air markets vendors

24 Roadside vendors

Fig 2: Food outlets in Boukobe and Natitingou

Fruits and vegetables were available every days at Natitingou but only market days at Boukombe

Fig 3: Fresh vegetables in Boukombe school food environment

- Only alcohol drinks were regularly promoted in the both school food environment.
- Sometimes watermelon is promoted by discount in Natitingou's food environment

Fig 4: Advertising poster in Boukombe school food environment

Funding

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Main Results

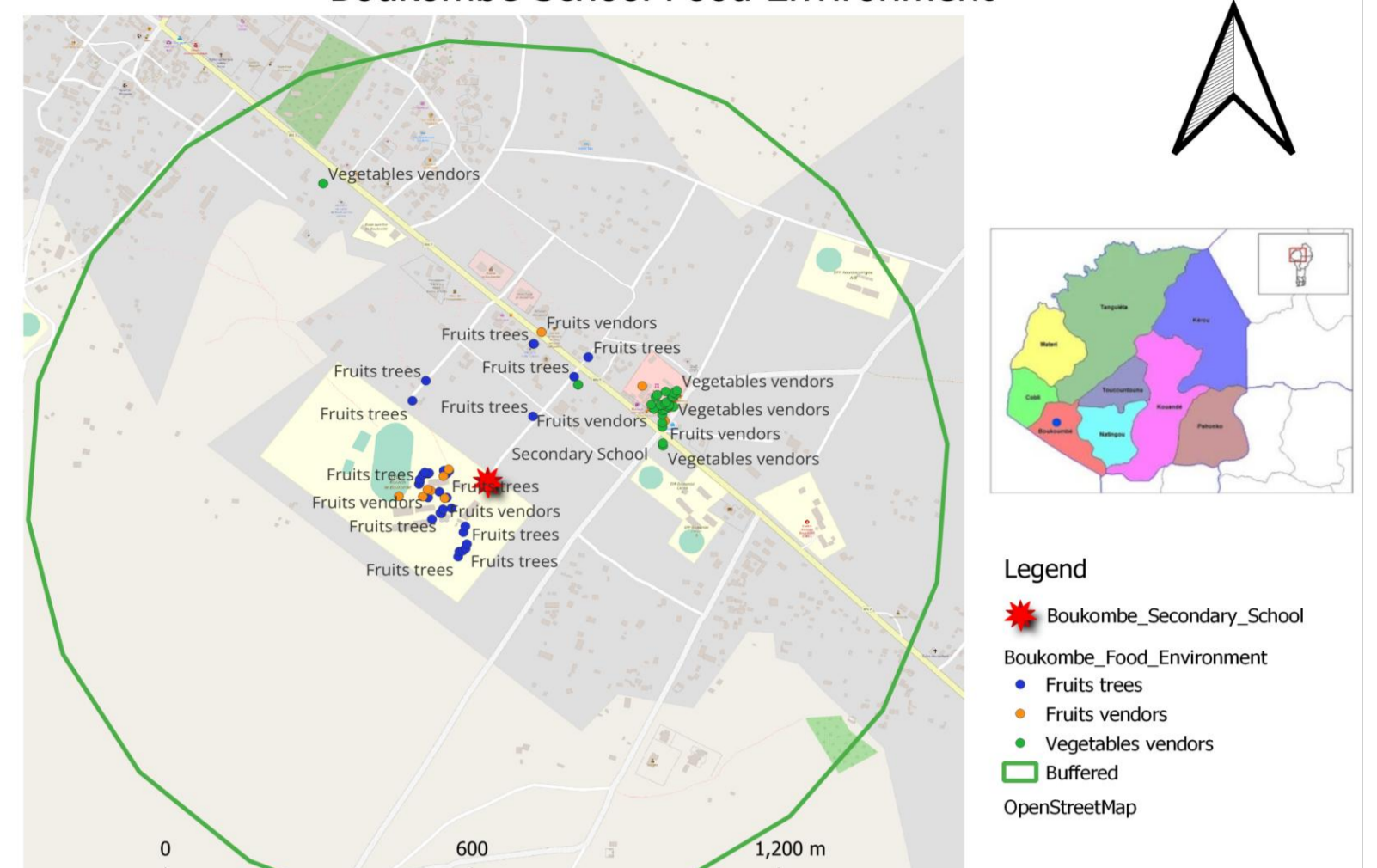


Fig 5: Boukombe school food environment

Vegetables were available on 20.5% of food outlets and fruits on 7.3% only

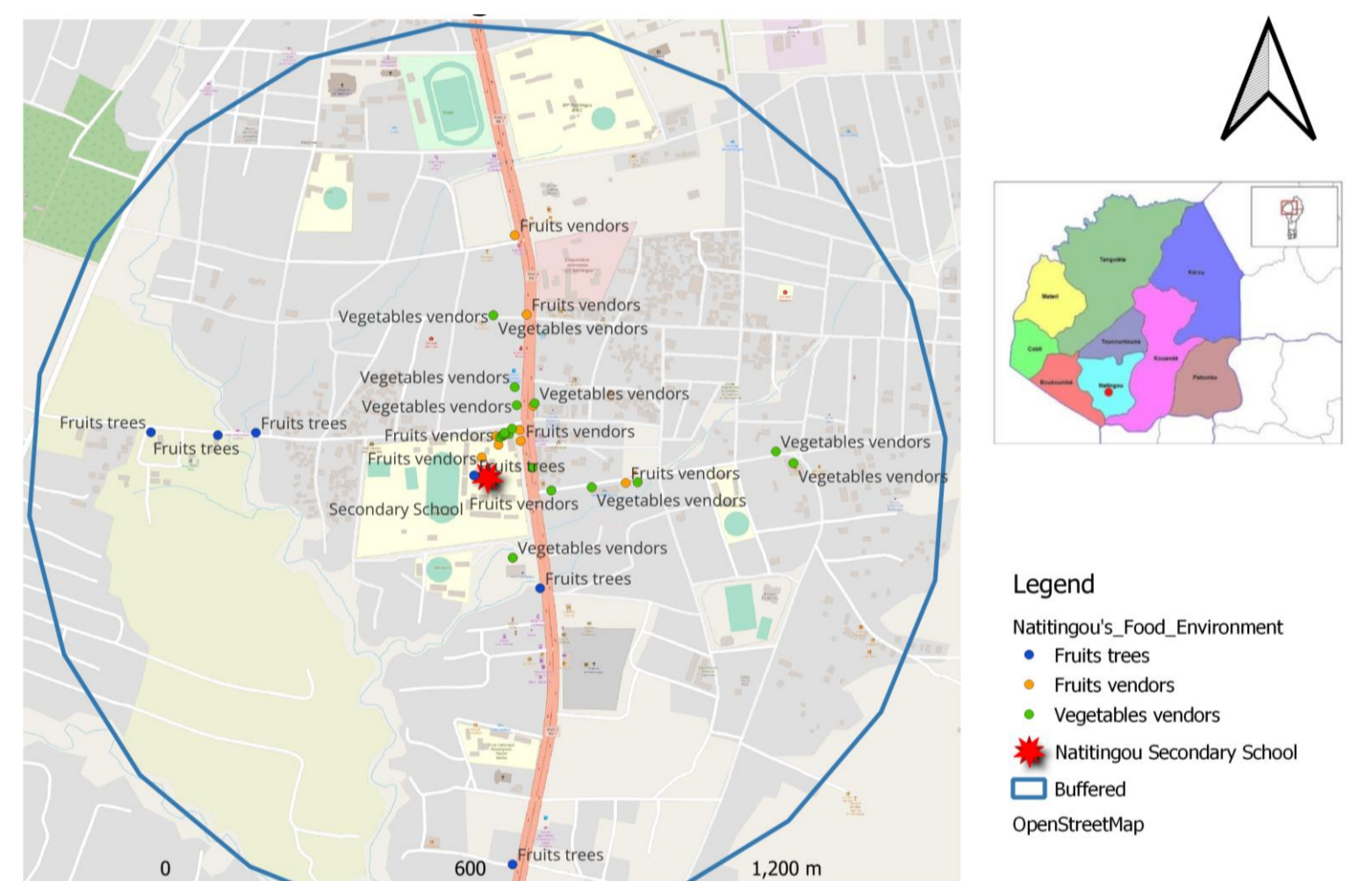


Fig 6: Natitingou school food environment

Vegetables were available on 13.4% and fruits on 8% of food outlets

Tab 1: % of Students according to perception about school food environment

Parameters	Perception	Boukombe (n=101)	Natitingou (n=201)
		%	%
It's easy to find healthy fruit and vegetables at the restauration point	Totally agree	2.0	24.0
	Indifferent	8.8	7.0
	Disagree	82.4	39.5
	A bit agree	4.9	29.5
It costs more to consume fruit and vegetables	Totally agree	42.2	41.5
	Indifferent	21.6	4.5
	Disagree	5.9	23.0
	A bit agree	30.4	31.0
It's difficult to find healthy option at the restauration point	Totally agree	14.7	26.0
	Indifferent	2.9	6.5
	Disagree	24.5	30.5
	A bit agree	57.8	37.0

Conclusions

- School food environment is a real challenge in both colleges.
- It is important to take actions such as implementation of school gardens to improve the availability and accessibility of fruits and vegetables for students.

Conflict of Interest

None