

# Competing land use in the area of the W Biosphere Reserve in Benin Republic

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# Introduction

- W Biosphere Reserve : nature reserve
- Grazing, cropping... are **prohibited**
- Contact zone of “crop-livestock”
- Competition in land use with diverse impacts



# Research questions

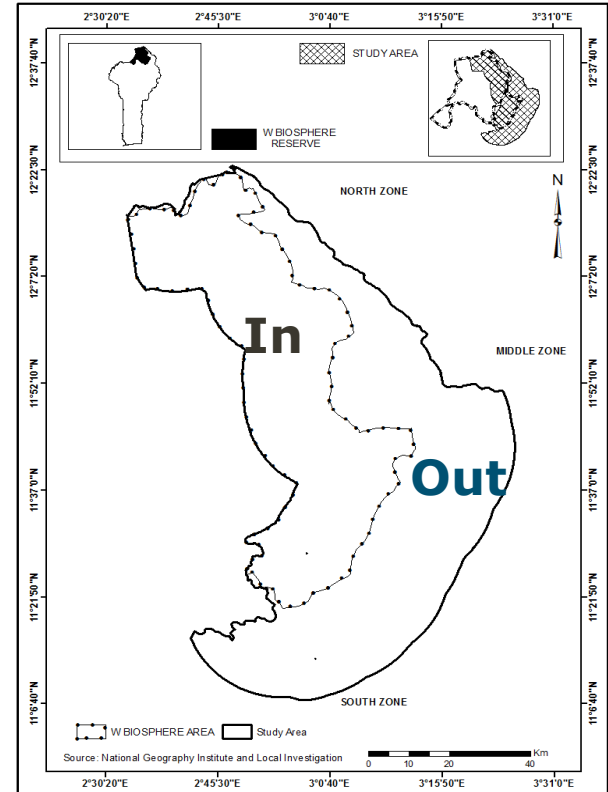


- **Competing land use: where and to what extent?**
- **What are the drivers of competing land use?**
- **What is the most important threat to Reserve**

# Materials & methods

## Study area

- Semi-arid zone
- People > 434000 inhabitants
- Activities: Crop and livestock
- 2 Land segments
  - In WBR: 20 km
  - Out WBR: 20 km



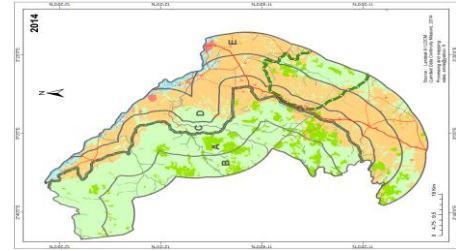
# Materials & methods

■ GIS and land use map 1994, 2004 and 2014 of Area: 65000 km<sup>2</sup>

■ Analysis of regional statistics & literature

■ Analysis of data :

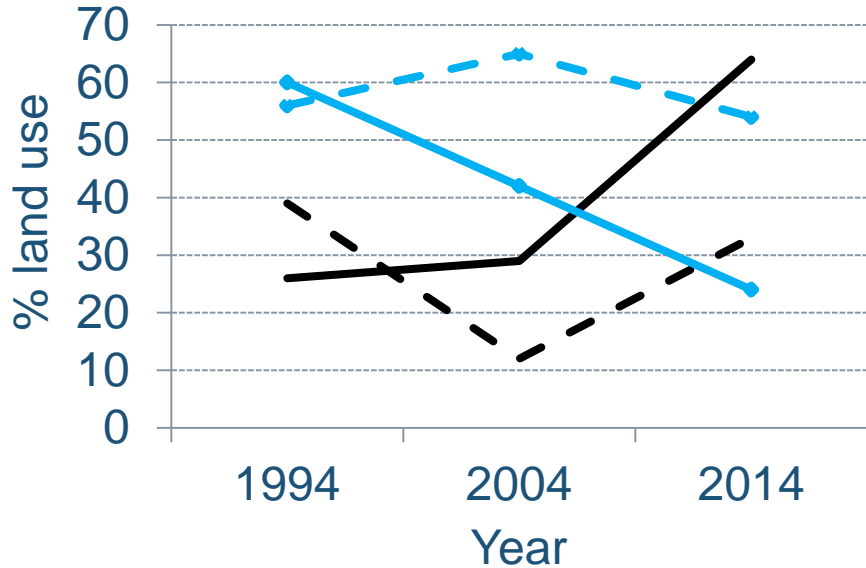
- 6 community meetings
- 86 individual interviews



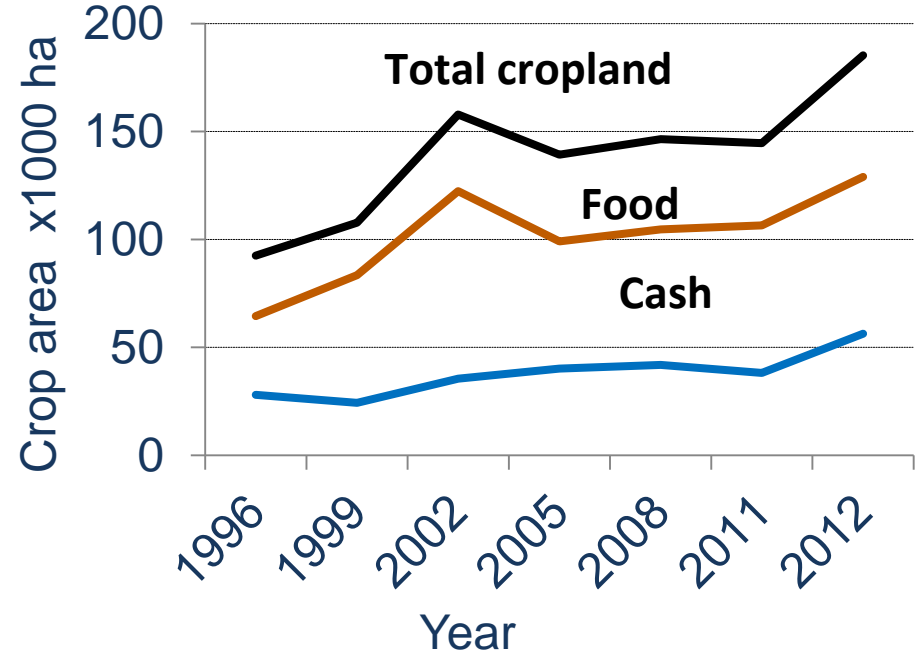
# Results

## General Land use change

- - crop In
- crop Out
- savanna In
- savanna Out

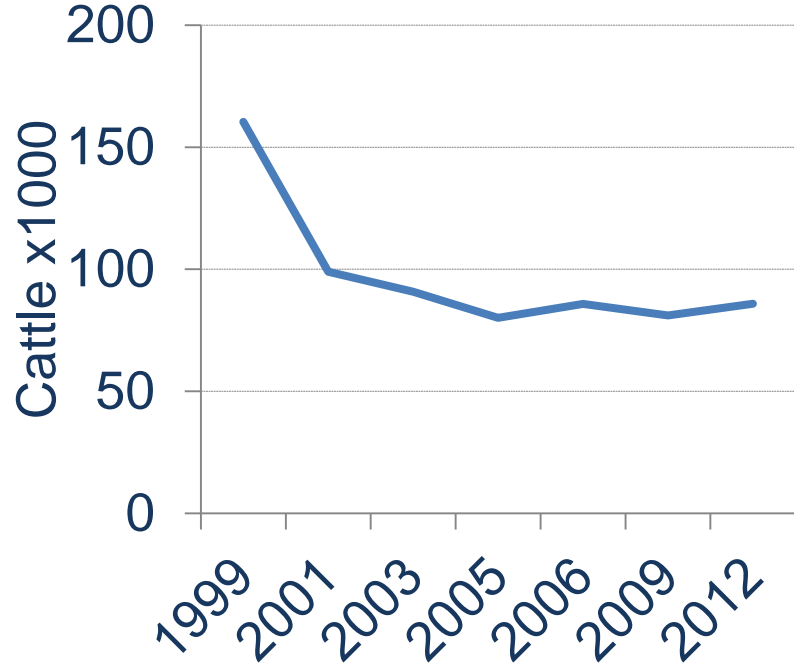


## Specific land use change

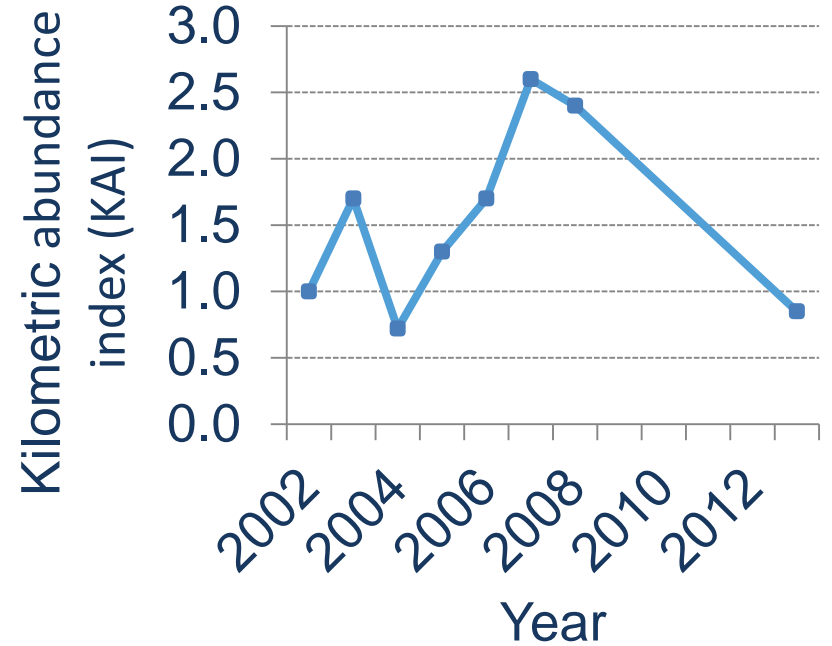


# Results

## Decline of cattle number

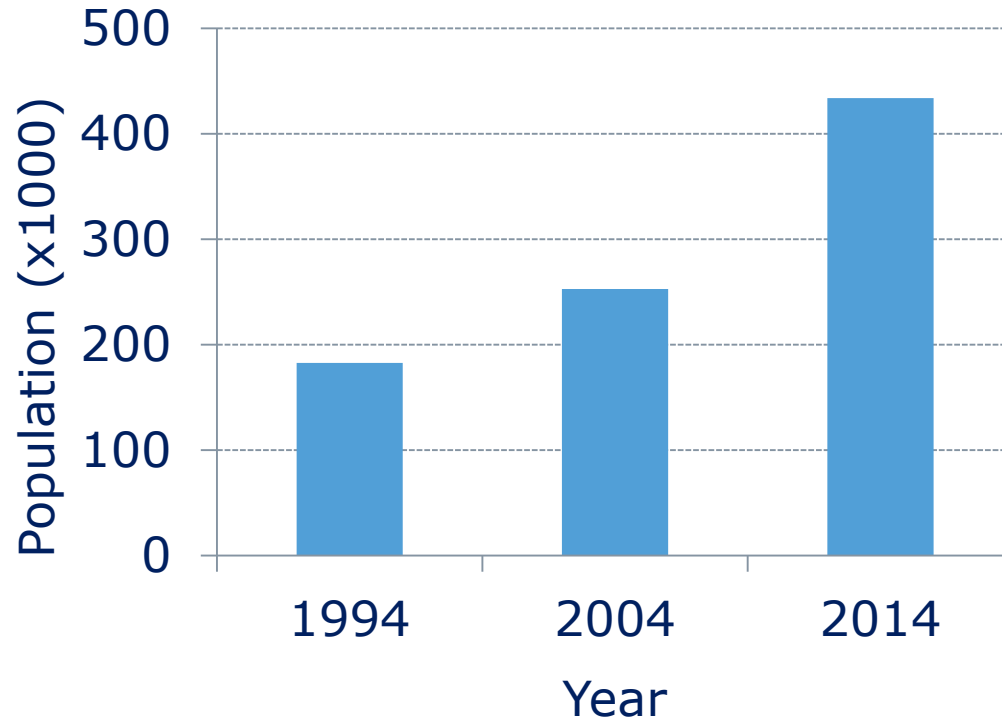


## Decline of big mammals



# Results

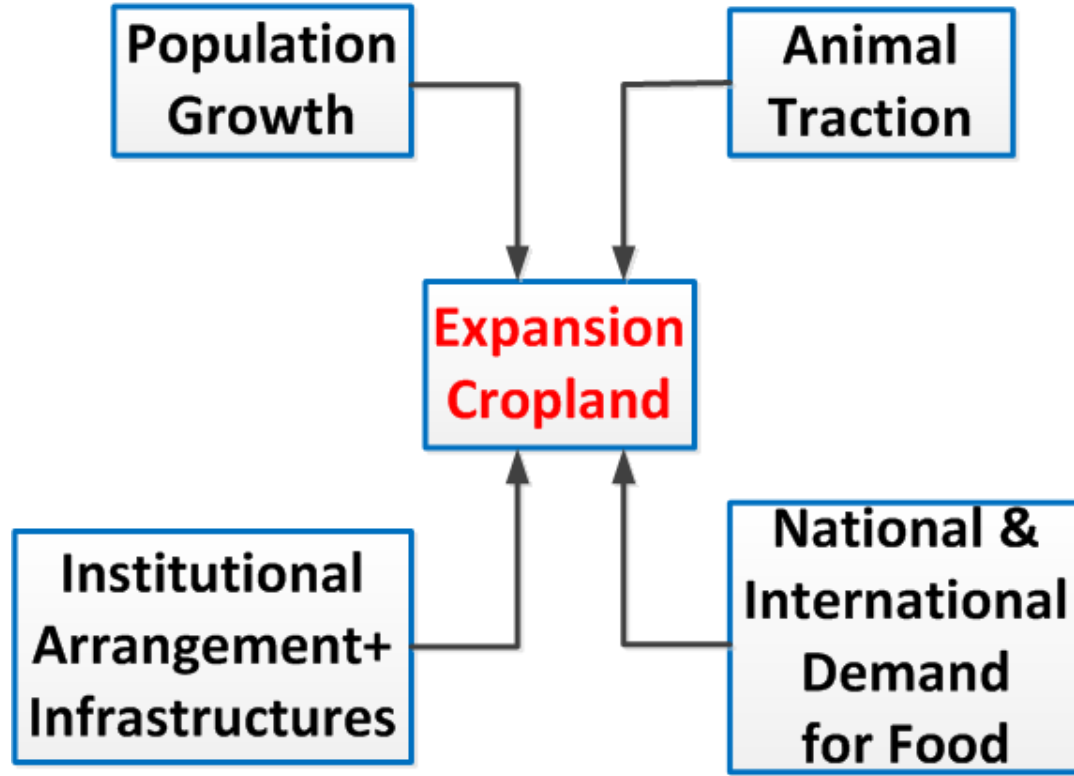
## Drivers



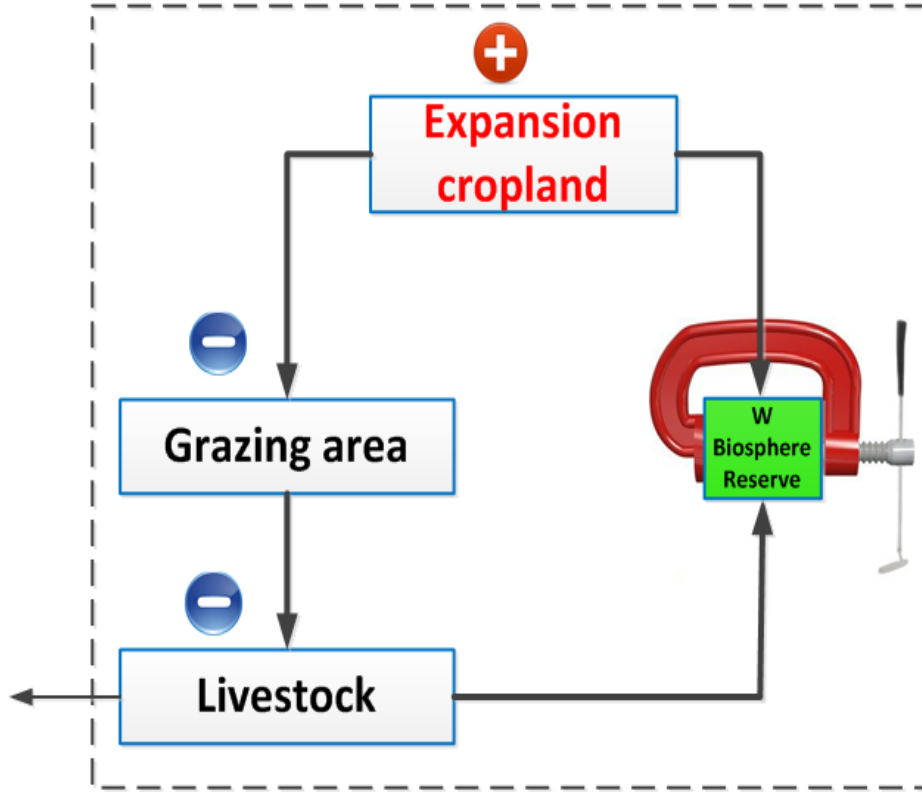


# Results

## Drivers



# Conclusion and implications



- **Livestock not the only important threat to WBR**
- **Sustainable development:**
  - **Crop farming**
  - **Livestock farming**

# THANK YOU!

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