

Borderlands research and policy in Africa and Europe
Niamey, 1 December 2017

Cross-border cooperation in West Africa

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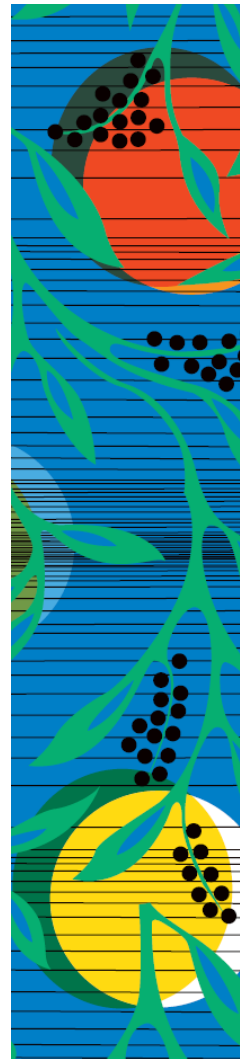
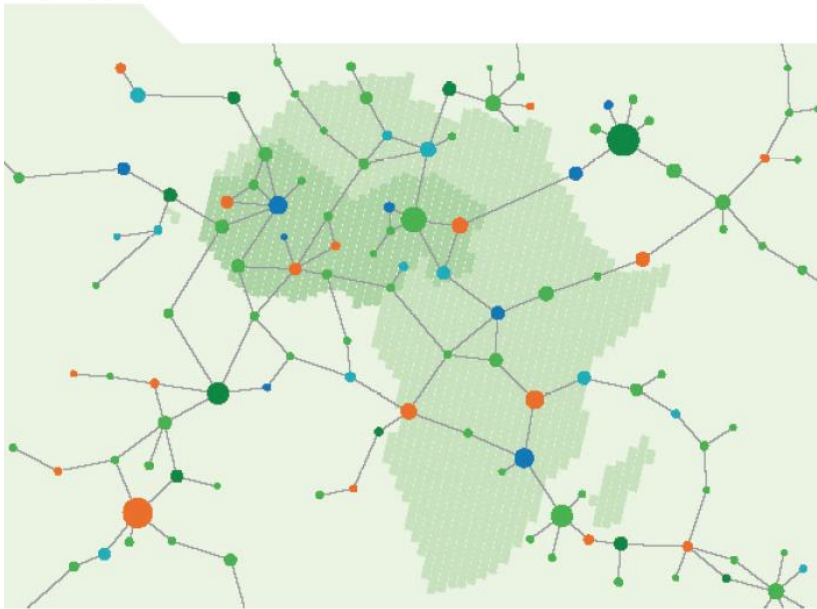
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Policy networks and space

West African Studies



Cross-border Co-operation and Policy Networks in West Africa



OECD *publishing*

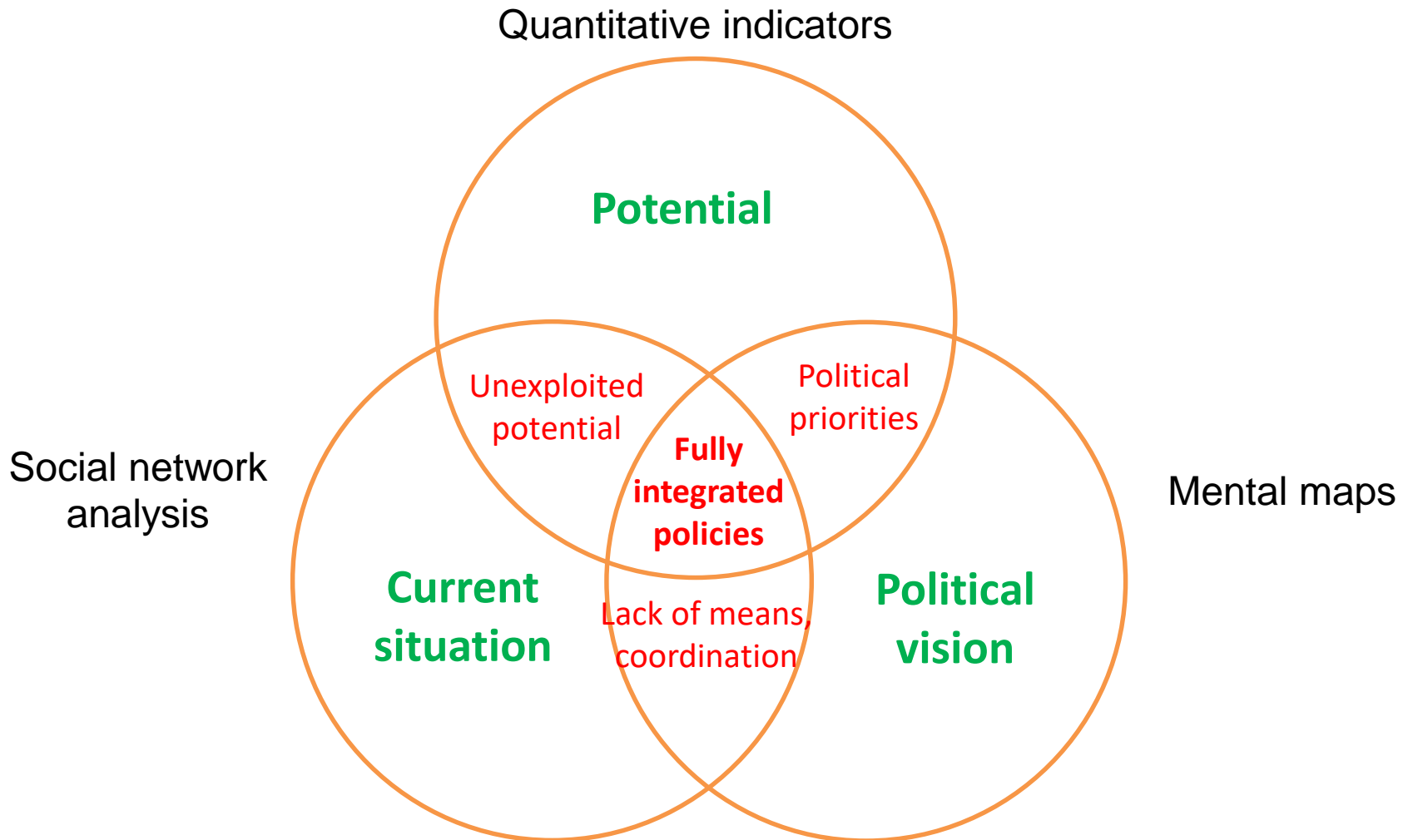
CROSS-BORDER CO-OPERATION NETWORKS IN WEST AFRICA

WEST AFRICAN PAPERS

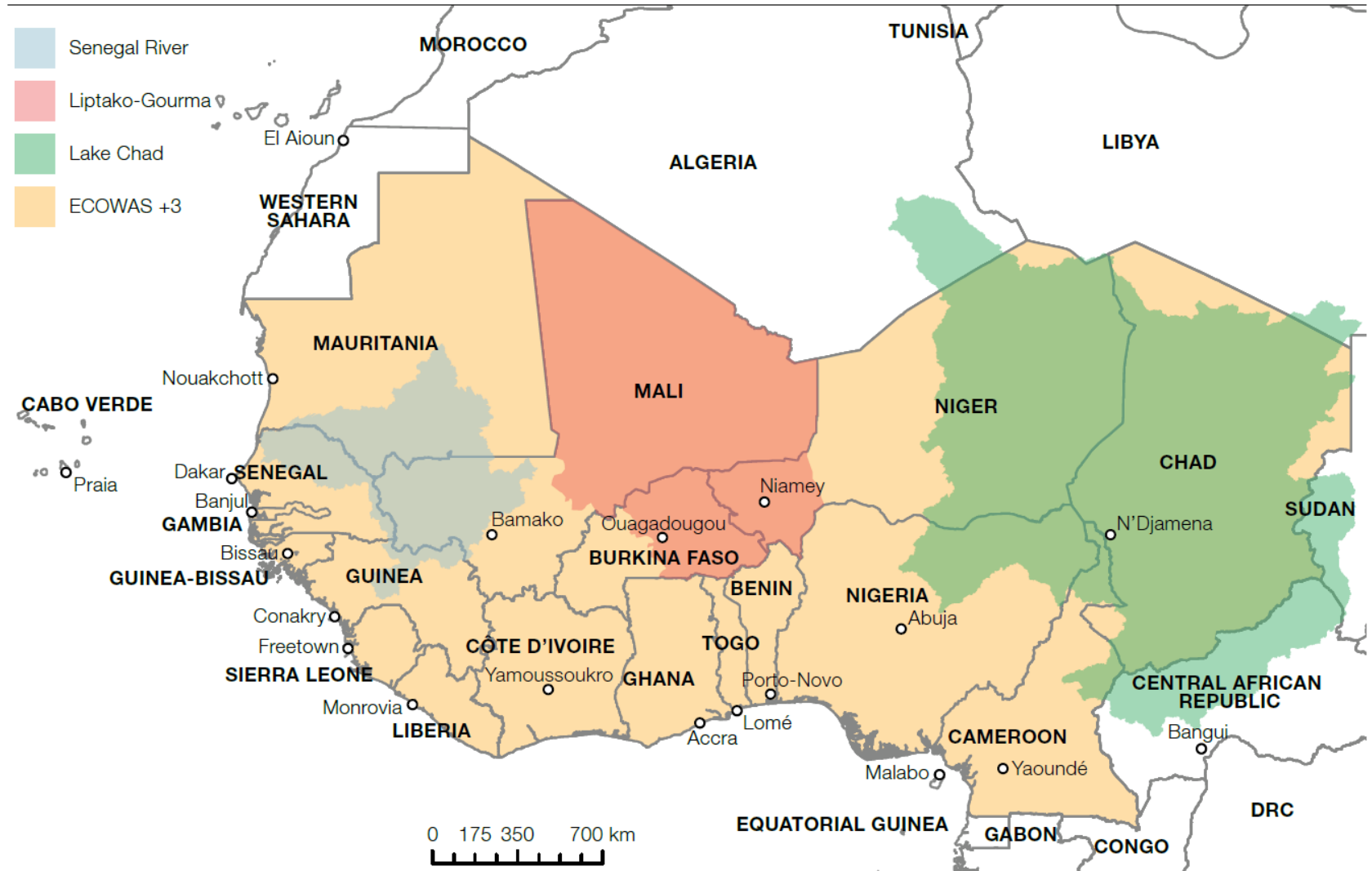
June 2017 No. 06



Cross-border cooperation

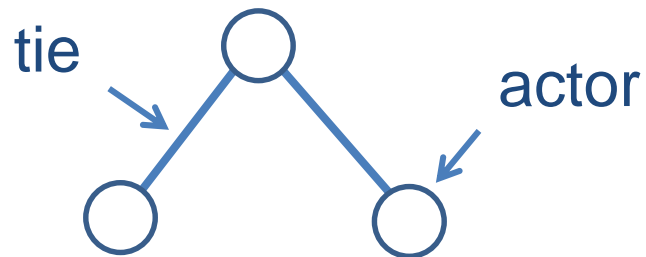


18 West African countries



Current situation – Network analysis

- Where *does* cross-border take place?

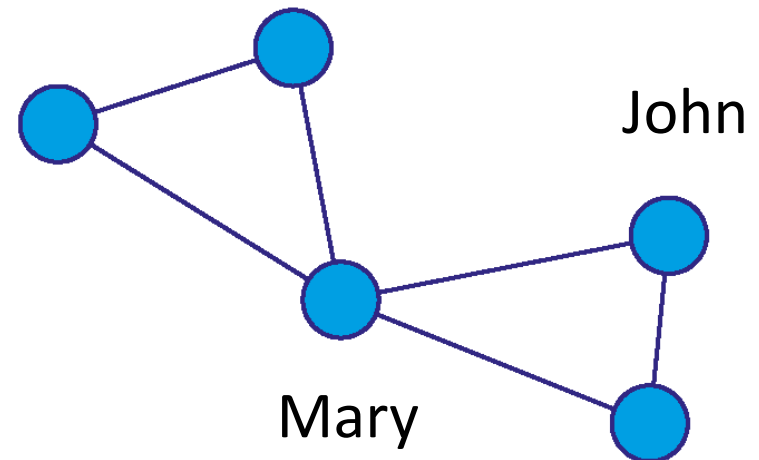
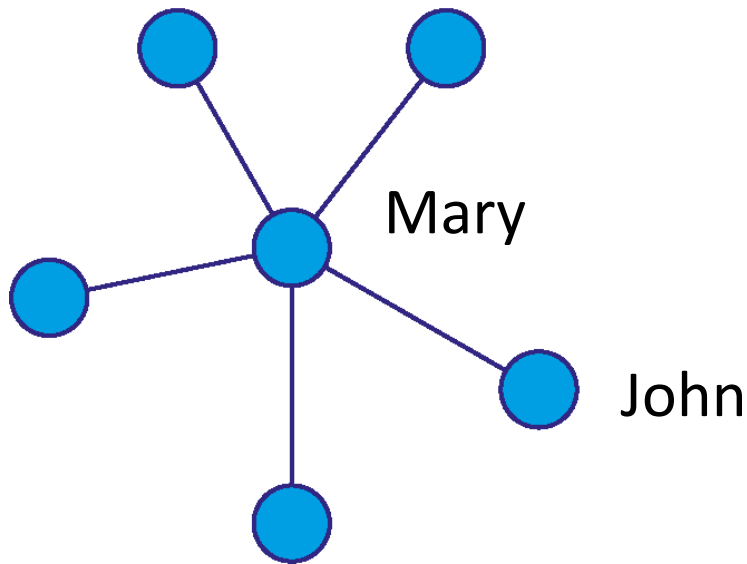


Population surveyed and response rate per case study

Case study	Number of persons contacted	Number of persons interviewed	Response rate (%)
West Africa	64	47	73.4
Liptako-Gourma micro-region	31	27	87.1
Senegal River micro-region	40	35	87.5
Lake Chad micro-region	33	28	84.8
Total	168	137	81.5

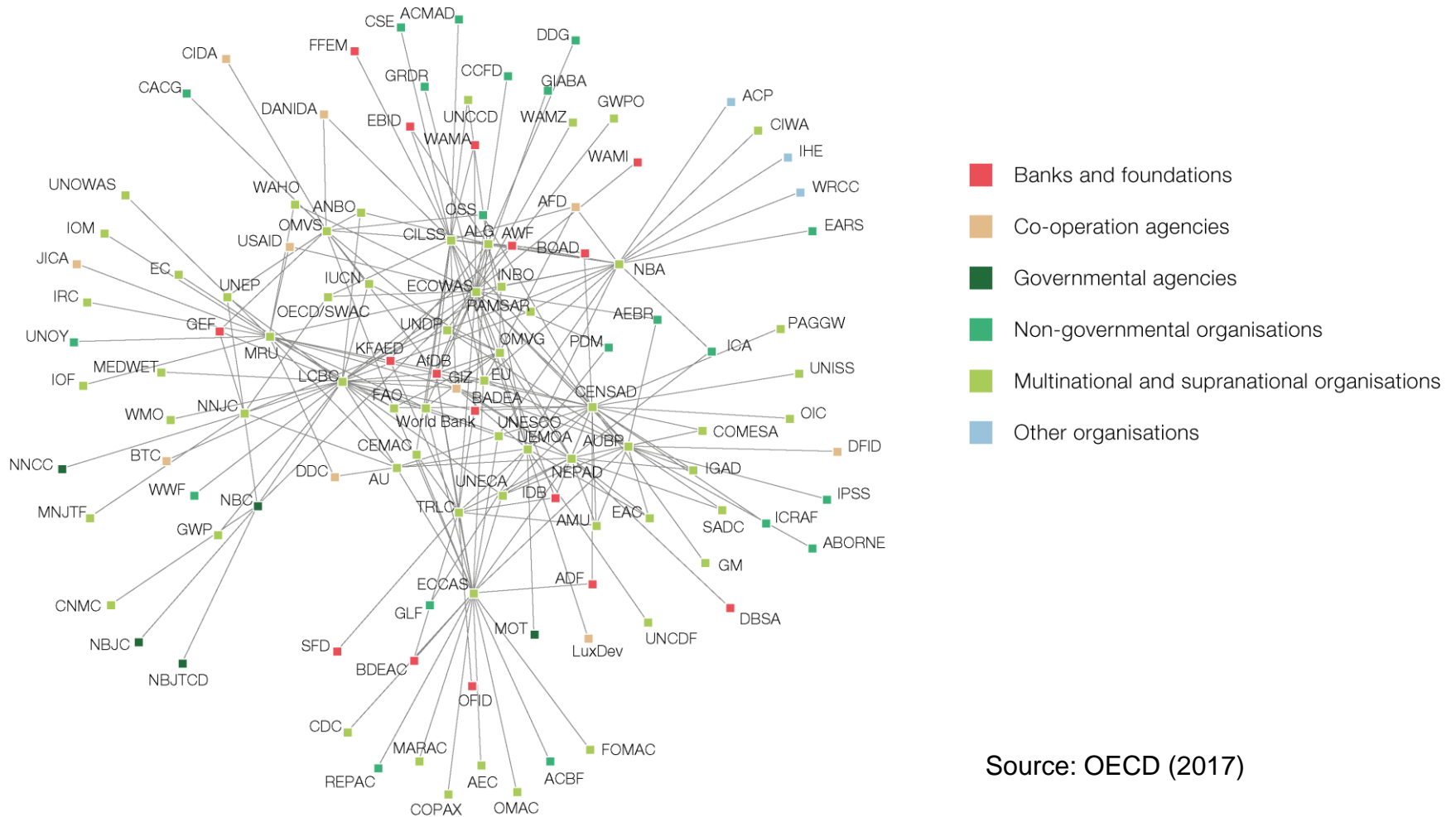
Embeddedness and brokerage

- Are policy makers densely connected or do they bridge disconnected groups?



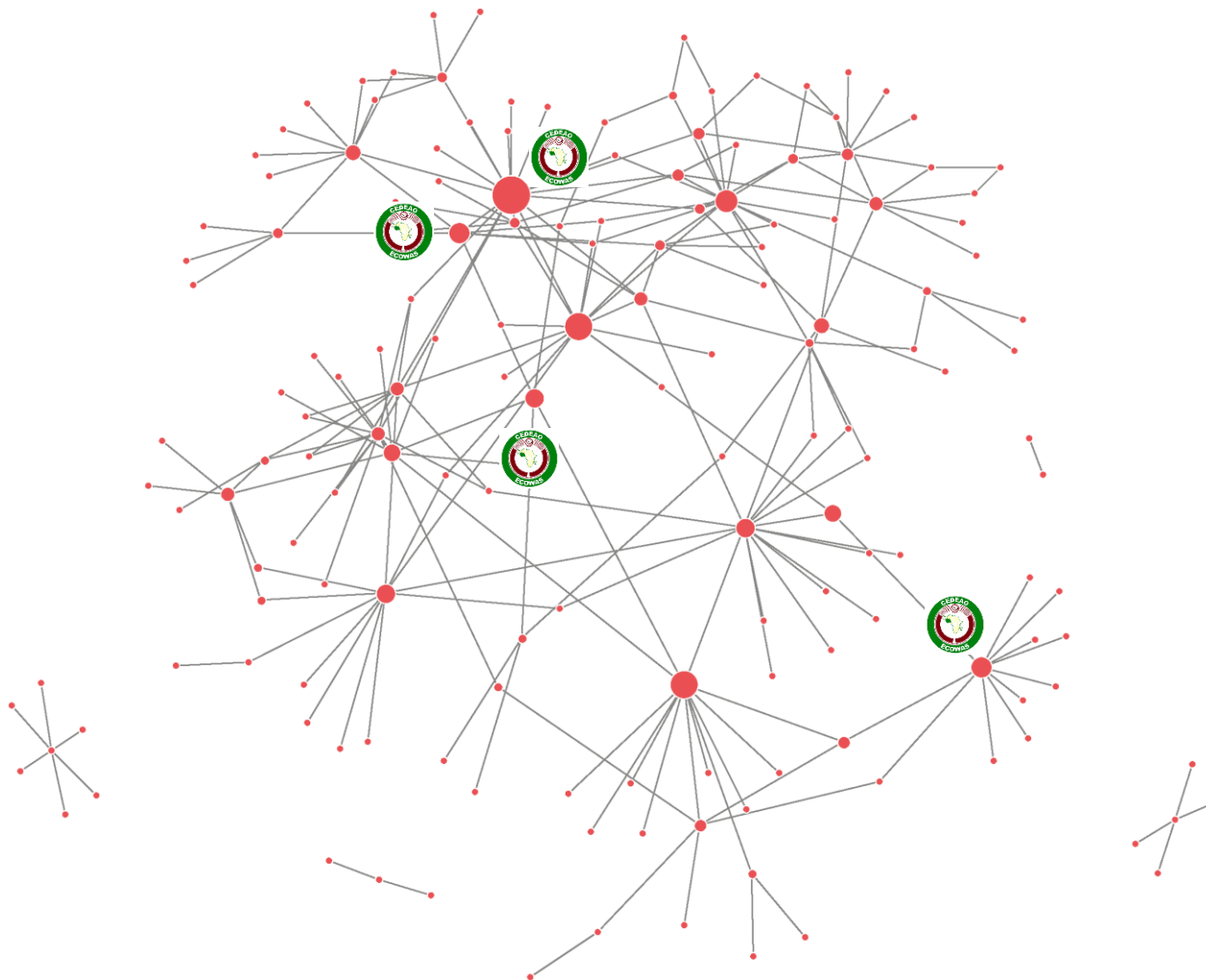
Regional organizations

- A center-periphery network



West Africa – Information network

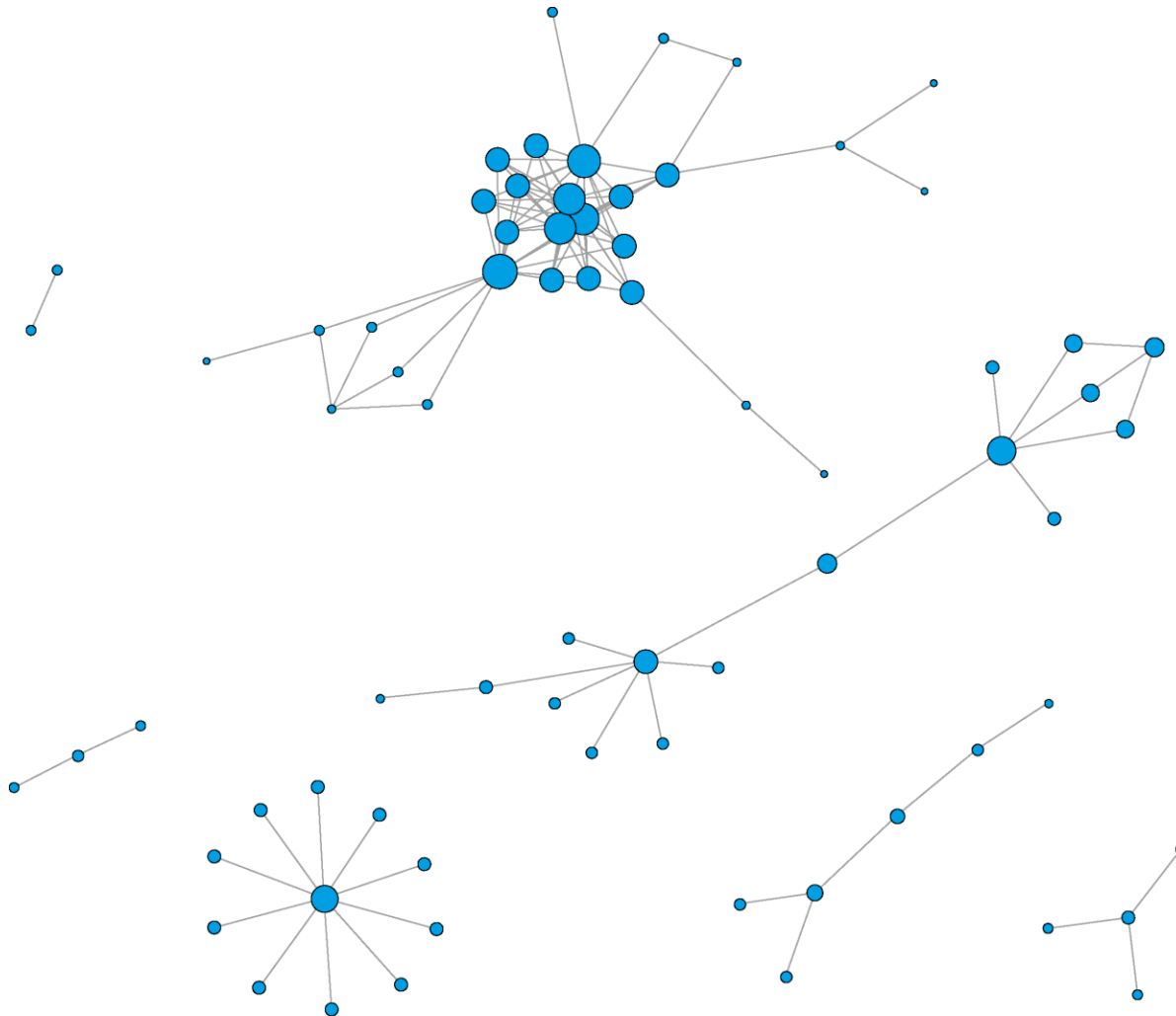
- The role of information brokers



Source: OECD (2017)

Lake Chad – Power network

- A fragmented network



Source: OECD (2017)

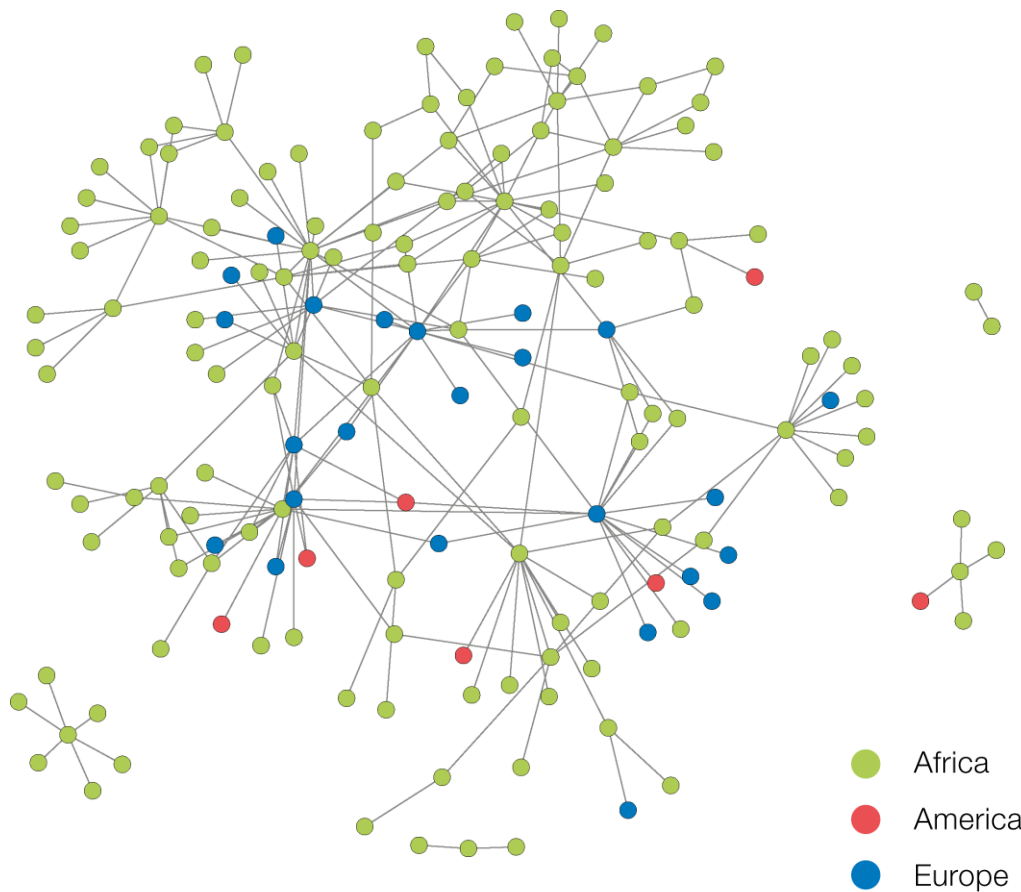
The impact of borders

- Do policy makers exchange more across borders than within their country?
- Homophily
 - Tendency for similar people to associate with each other



West Africa – Homophily

- African actors occupy the periphery

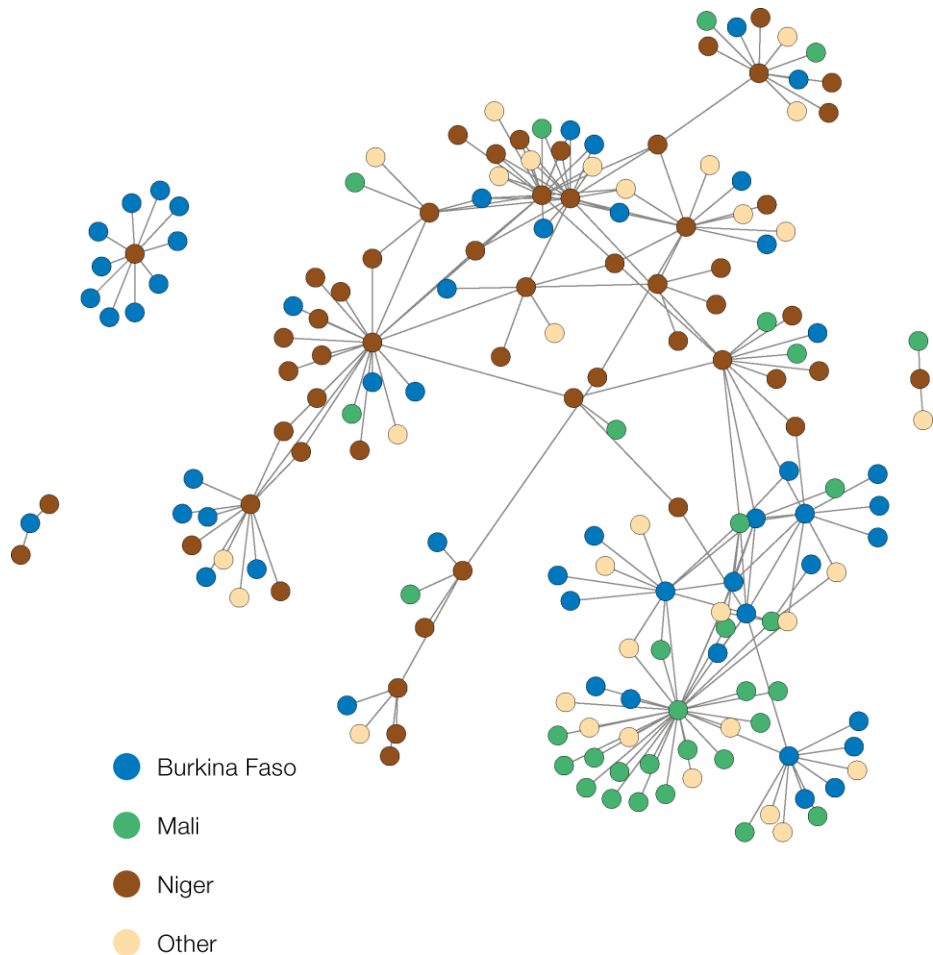


West Africa	Information network		Power network	
	<i>Homo- phily (%)</i>	<i>E/I Index</i>	<i>Homo- phily (%)</i>	<i>E/I Index</i>
Africa	67.5	-0.350	64.3	-0.285
Europe	71.4	-0.429	50.0	0.000
America	66.3	-0.325	90.5	-0.810
Whole network	67.5	-0.350	67.6	-0.352

Source: OECD (2017)

Liptako Gourma – Homophily

- Borders do not hinder collaboration



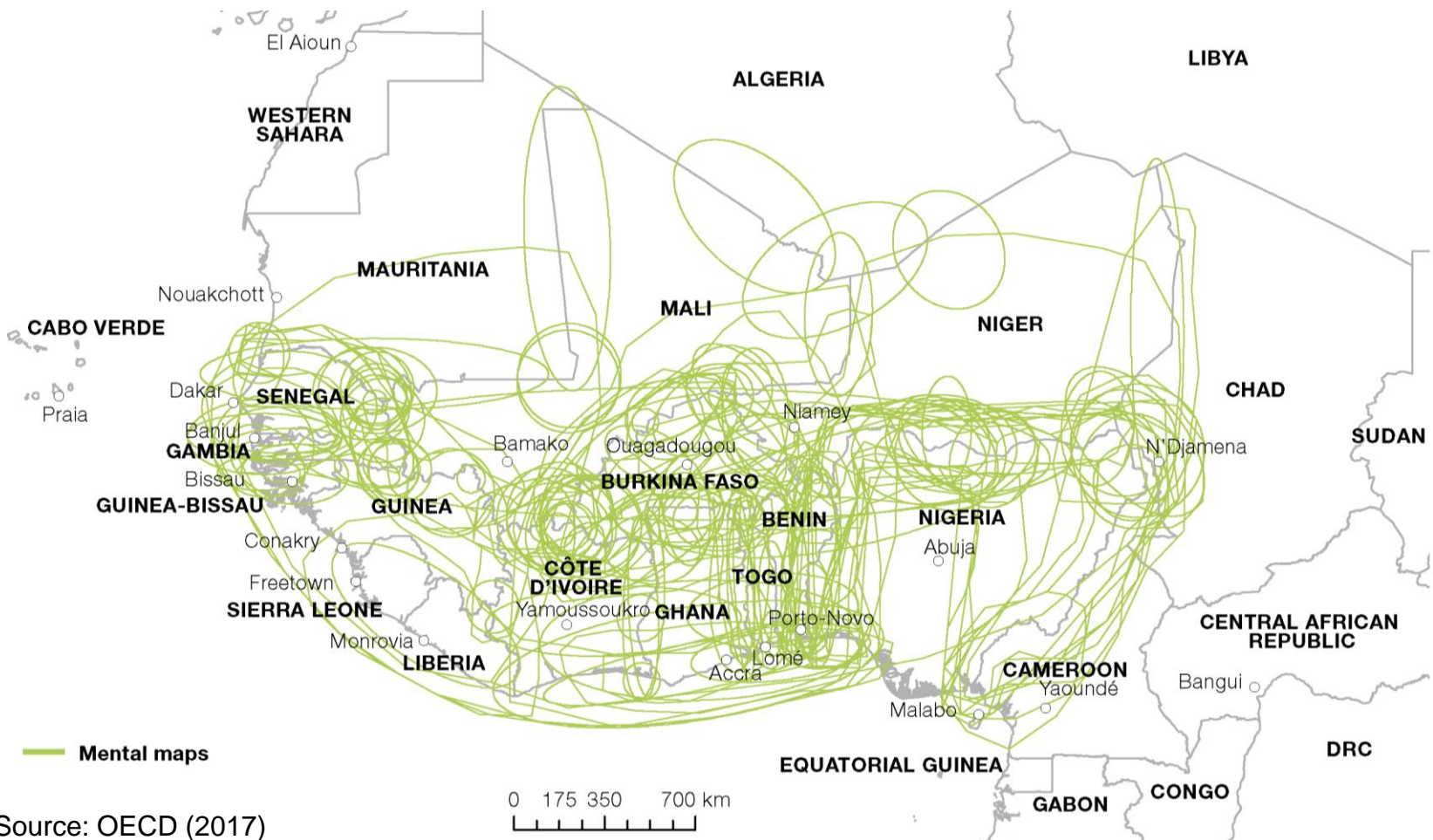
Homophily by country and micro-region

	Information network		Power network	
	<i>Homo- phily (%)</i>	<i>E/I Index</i>	<i>Homo- phily (%)</i>	<i>E/I Index</i>
Burkina Faso	41.4	0.171	26.6	0.468
Mali	21.2	0.576	33.3	0.335
Niger	36.5	0.270	29.7	0.407
Other countries	33.9	0.323	25.0	0.500
Whole network	34.8	0.303**	29.1	0.419*

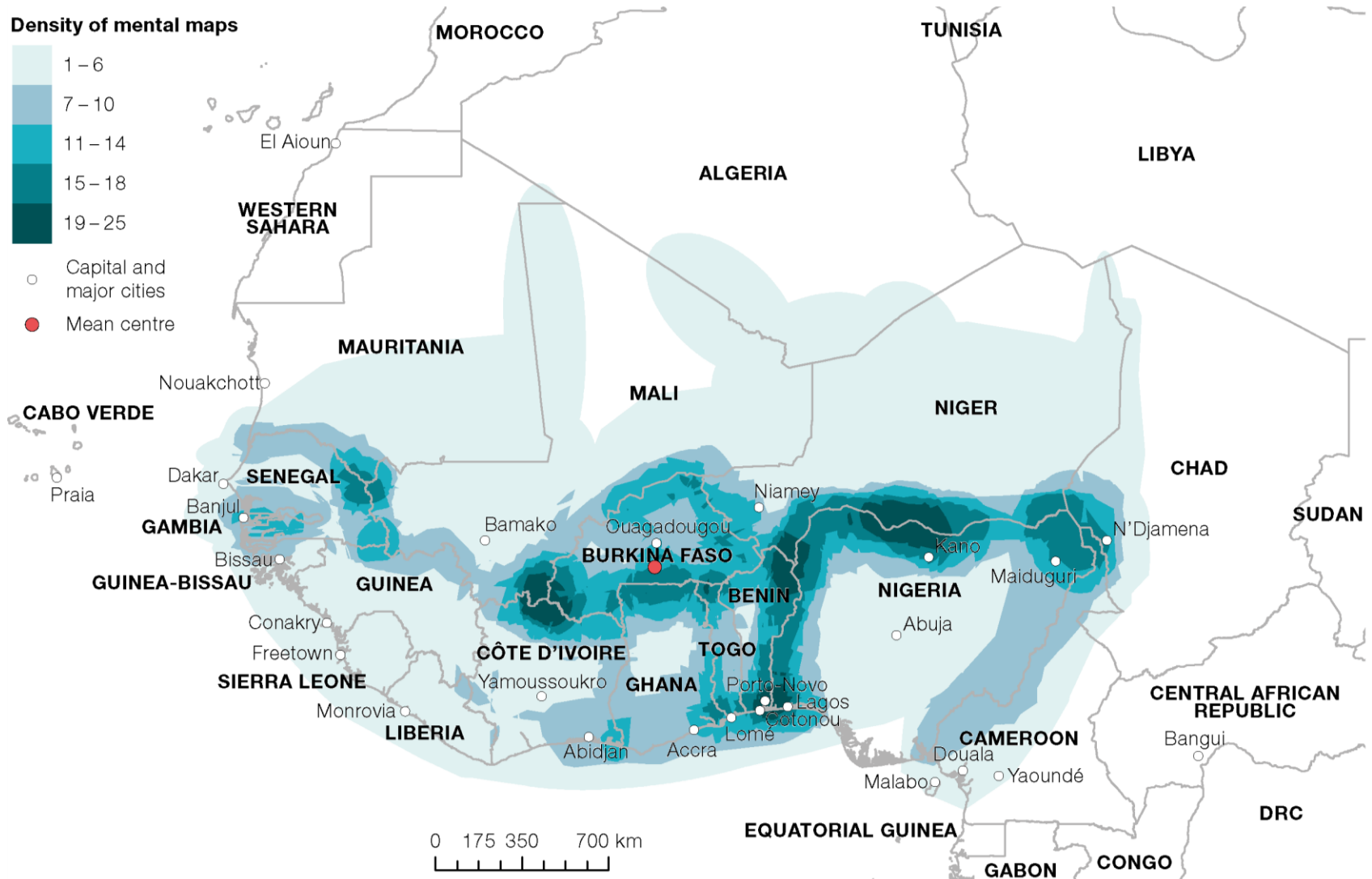
Source: OECD (2017)

Vision – Mental maps

- Where *should* cross-border cooperation take place?



Not all border regions are seen as priorities



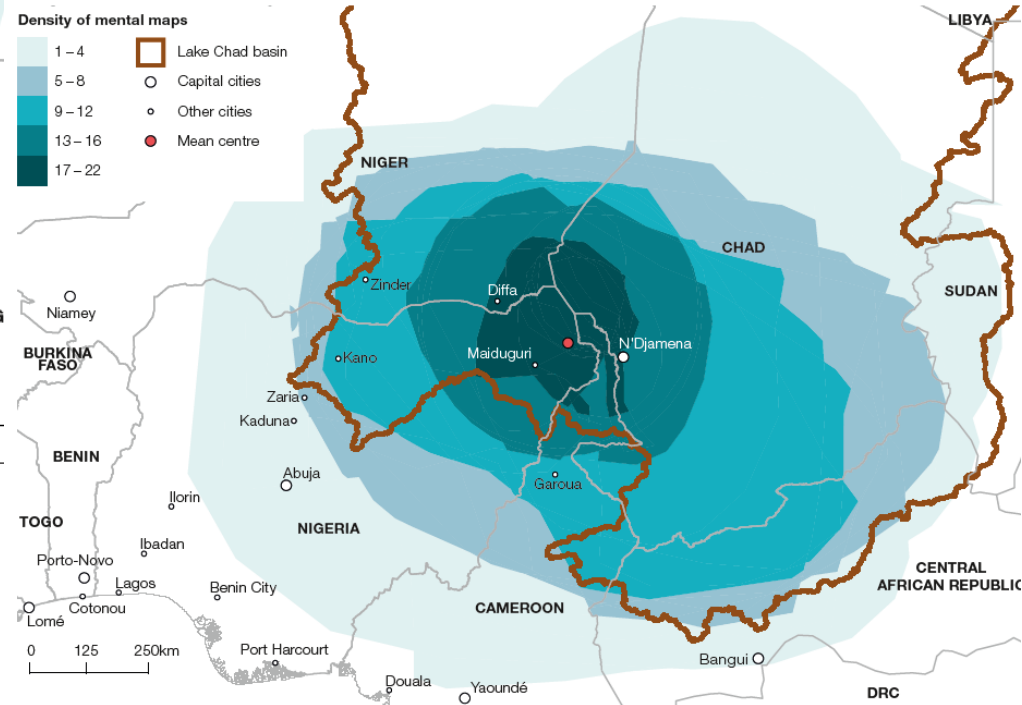
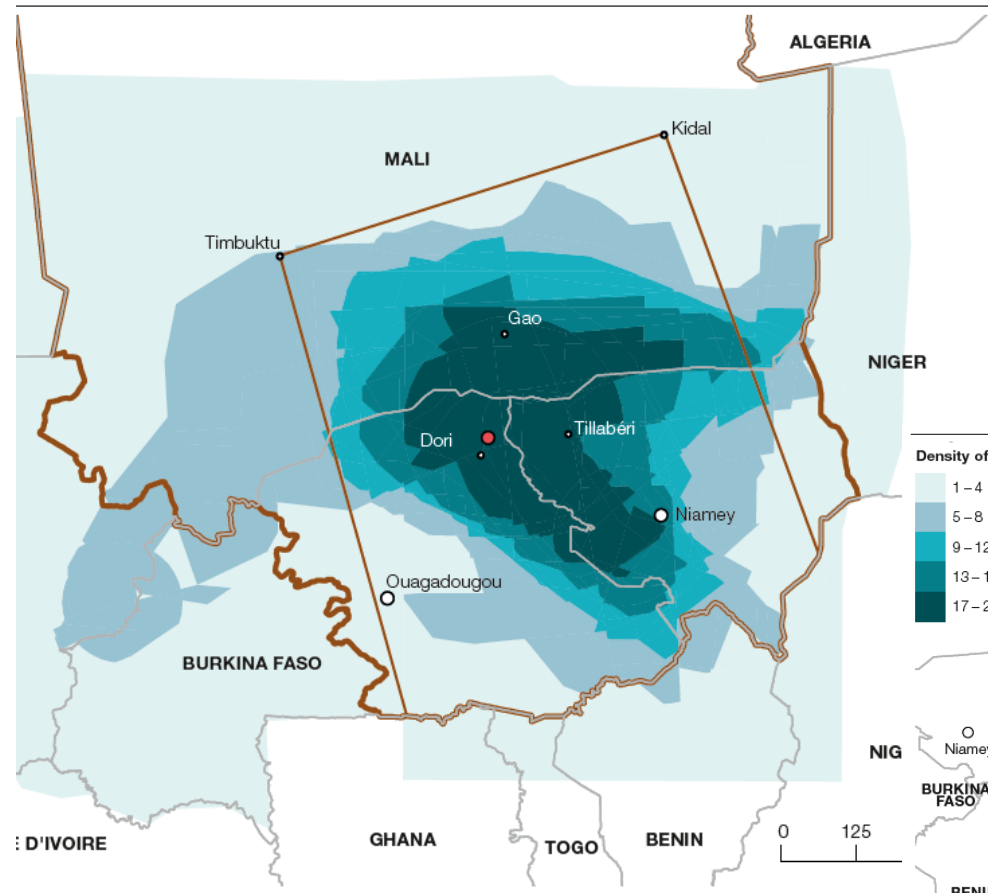
Source: OECD (2017)

Spatial representations and consensus

Consensus over the extent and centre of gravity of cross-border co-operation

Region	Territorial extent	Centre(s) of gravity
Senegal River valley	• Average area • Density	• Standard distance • St. dev. ellipse
Liptako-Gourma	Yes	No
Lake Chad region	Yes	Yes
Lake Chad region	No	Yes

Liptako-Gourma and Lake Chad



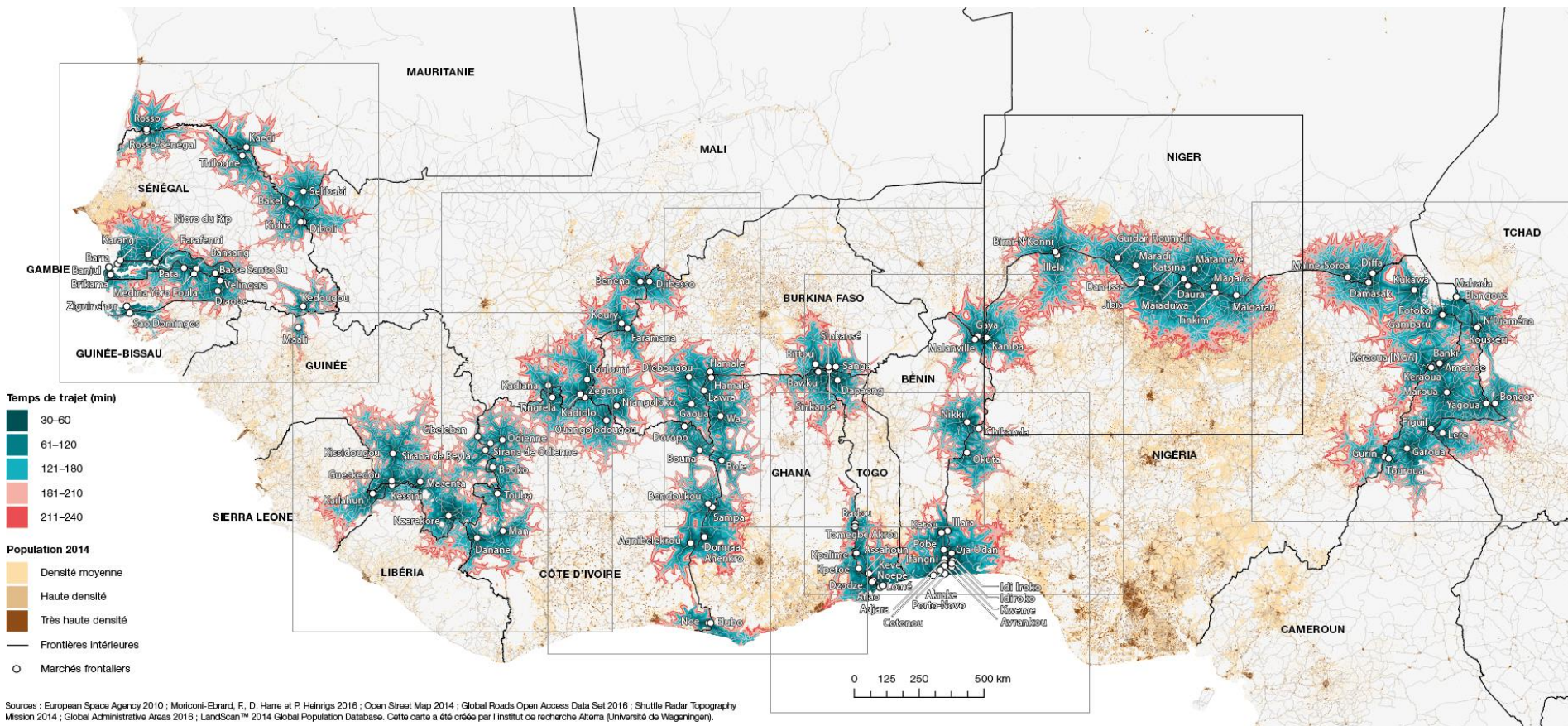
Potential – Quantitative indicators

- Where *could* cross-border cooperation take place?

Indicator	Definition
Population	Number of people who can potentially be reached from any border market in less than four hours
Water resources	Existence of shared surface water and aquifers
Agricultural and pastoral resources	Existence of shared agricultural production basins and transhumance patterns
Languages	Existence of major discontinuities between languages
Legal status of international borders	Existence of clearly demarcated and delineated borders
Political stability	Existence of border disputes, conflicts and transnational violent extremist groups
Poverty	Difference of poverty rates between contiguous regions

Population potential

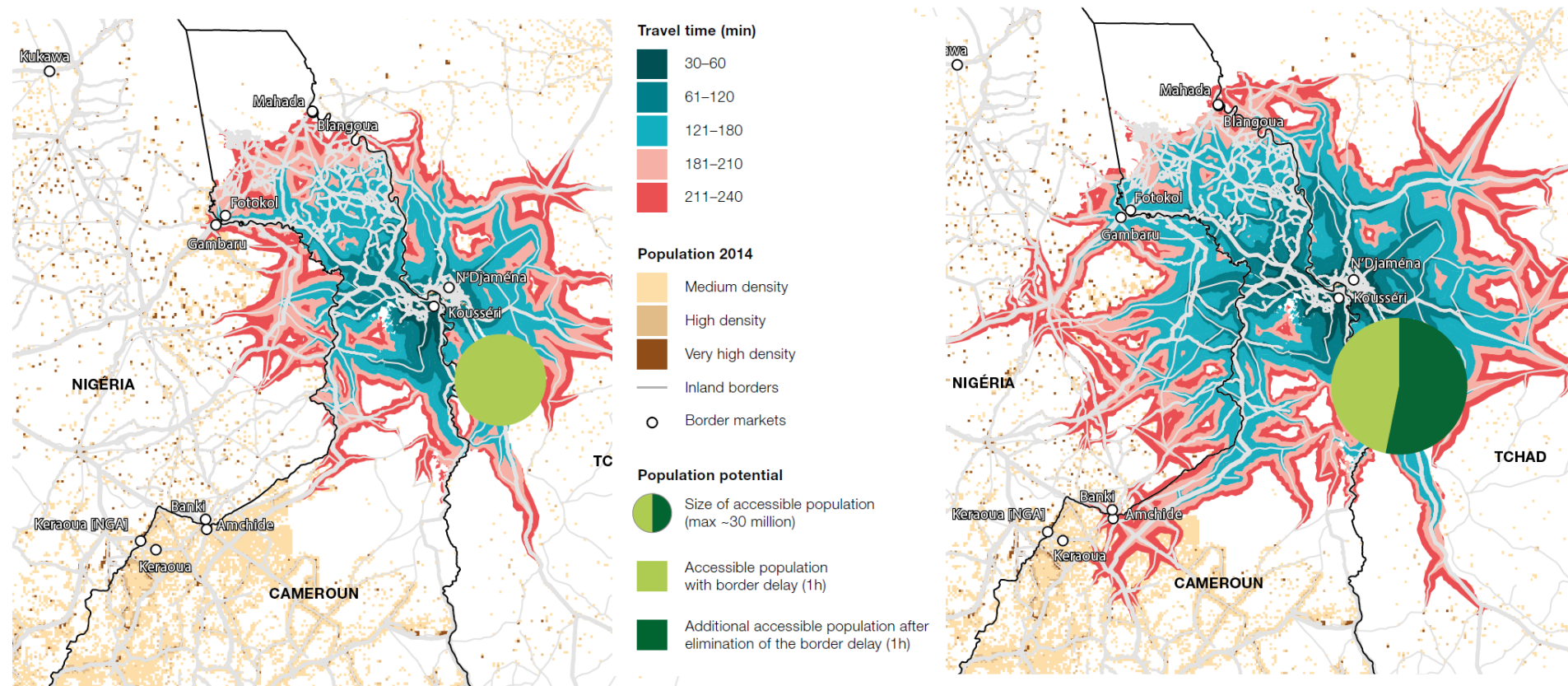
- How many people can be reached in less than 4 hours?



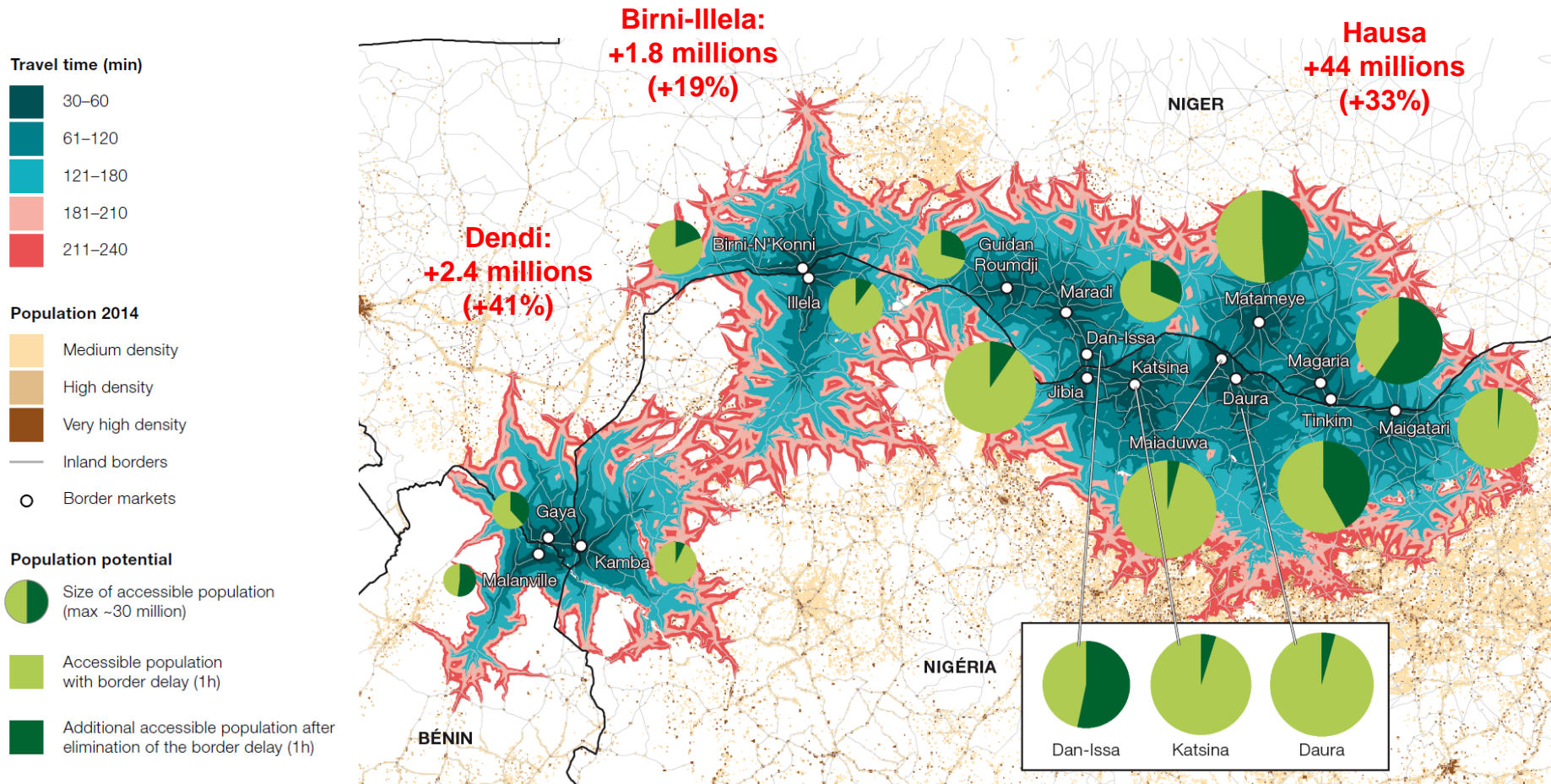
Population potential and borders

With border effect: 2.0 mio people

Without border effect: 2.7 mio people



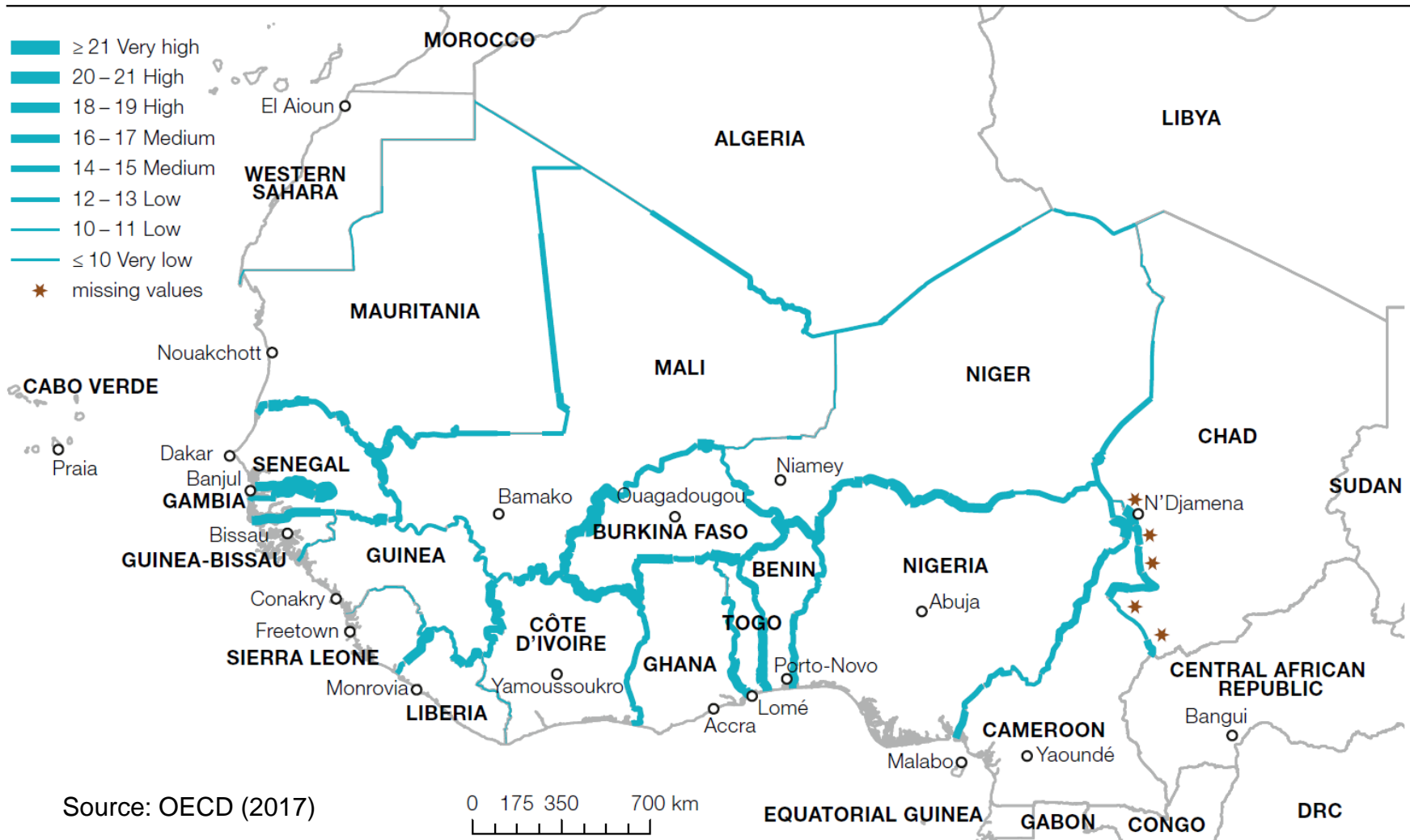
Population potential and borders



Sources : European Space Agency 2010 ; Moriconi-Ebrard, F., D. Harre et P. Heinriqs 2016 ; Open Street Map 2014 ; Global Roads Open Access Data Set 2016 ; Shuttle Radar Topography Mission 2014 ; Global Administrative Areas 2016 ; LandScan™ 2014 Global Population Database. Cette carte a été créée par l'institut de recherche Alterra (Université de Wageningen).

Cross-border potential

- Highest potential in the Sahel and Gulf of Guinea



Conclusion

- Tailoring policies to regions' specificities
 - Untapped cooperation potential (SLE, LBR, GMB)
 - Poorly developed governance networks (NER-NGA)
 - Lack of national recognition (North TGO-BEN)
- Understanding ties rather than just attributes
- Develop a West African model of integration