

# Impacts of COVID-19



- **Restrictions on mobility and cross-border trade**
- **Reduced global demand and increased local demand (surplus stocks of shea kernels)**
- **Delays in shipping and increased costs**
- **Indebtedness of women's groups**
- **Disruption of the *maillons* transformation (processing) and marketing**
- **Abandoning local ecological practices**

# Government responses to the COVID-19 pandemic



- 1. Temporary curfews and closure of international borders**
- 2. New fiscal measures and improving access to finance  
inc. lower rates of interest (3.5%) for SMEs (14)**
- 3. Support to businesses in difficulty (4)**
- 4. New social measures (13)**
- 5. Rebuilding the economy inc. Fonds de Relance  
Economique (FRE) and a Solidarity Fund for women  
(FAARF) (5)**

Source: Barbara Vincenti



Source: UNDP, 2020



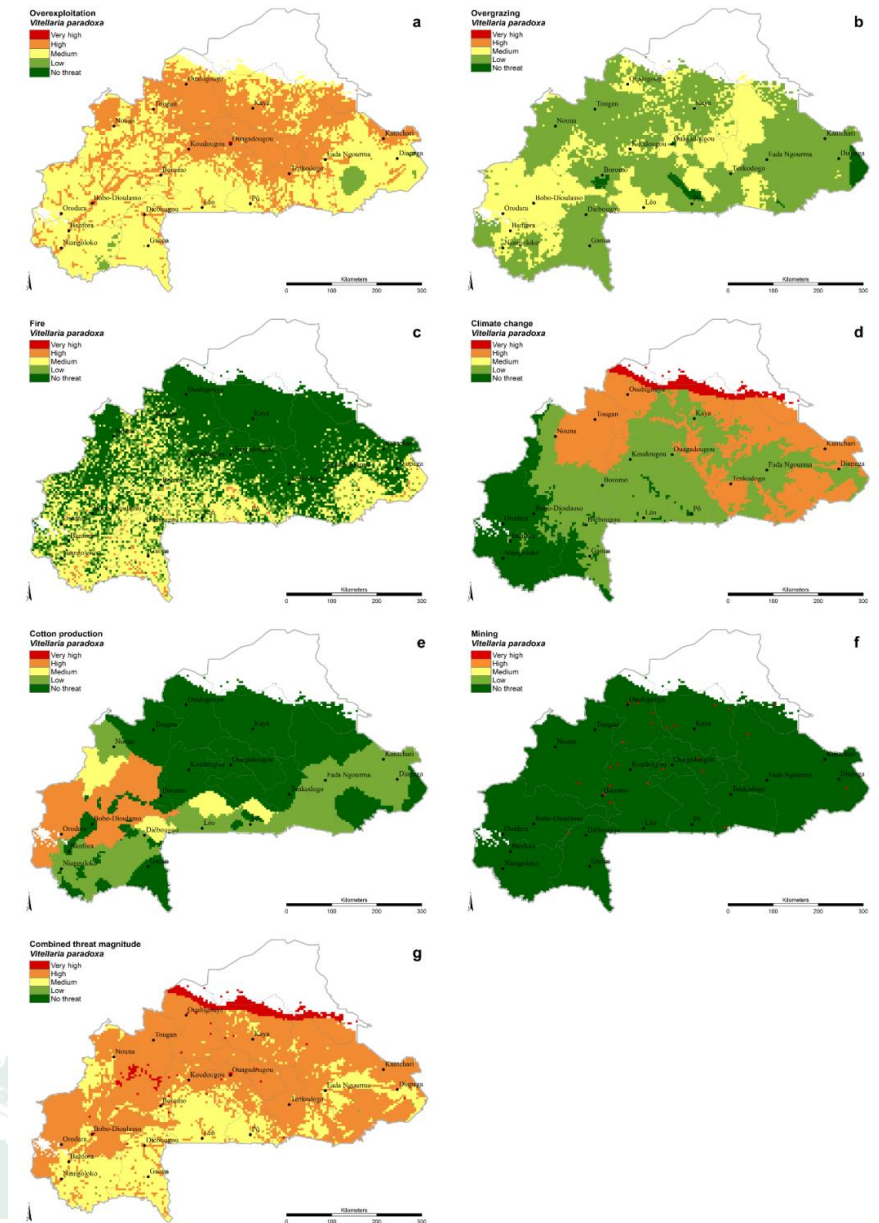
# Adaptations by women shea producers

- Collecting shea nuts in groups + husbands
- Burning collection areas
- Using mobile phone networks to increase access to domestic (shea butter) and regional markets, through intermediaries
- New markets - production of hydro-alcoholic gel and other NTFPs such as *Parkia biglobosa*
- *e-commerce* (Luxembourg Aid/UNCDF, 2019)



# A parkland threat assessment

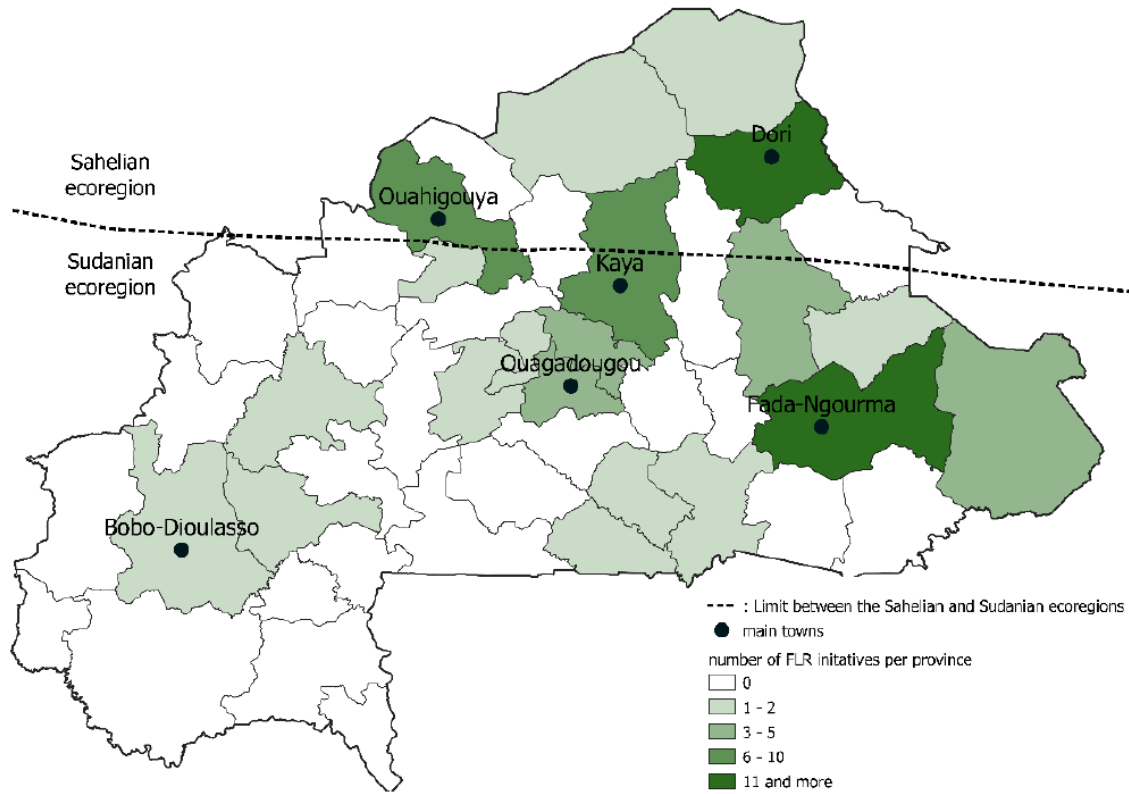
- 16 important food tree species inc. *Vitellaria paradoxa*, *Parkia biglobosa* and *Lannea microcarpa*
- Six key threats – overexploitation, overgrazing, fire, cotton production, mining and climate change)
- Species-specific and spatially-explicit approach to combine open access datasets, species distribution models, climate models and expert surveys to predict where threats are likely to have greatest impact.
- All species face serious threats throughout much of their distribution in Burkina Faso. More than 55% of the distribution of 10 species is under high threat.
- Overexploitation and cotton production most important short-term threats
- Climate change most prevalent threat in the long-term.



Source: Gaisberger et al, 2017



# Current restoration initiatives



Source: Vinceti et al, 2020

- Burkina Faso has committed to restoring 5 million hectares of degraded land by 2030
- Currently, 39 recent Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) initiatives in Burkina Faso are only meeting 2% of the national target (only 3 FLR initiatives since late 1980s/early 1990s)
- GGW Initiative: 4m ha restored (2007-2019) = 4% of 2030 target



# Building back better by restoring degraded parklands



- “Considerable damage has been done to the health and sustainability of shea parklands over the last 10 years” (Lovett and Denzil-Phillips, 2018: 4)
- 5-10 parkland/shea trees per hectare need to be planted across 100 million hectares during the next 10 years (Lovett, Issahaku and Kpelly, 2020)
- Gender differences in ethnobotanical knowledge exist (Karambire et al, 2018) but
- Both women and men may be knowledgeable about, and involved in processes associated with shea tree management and conservation
- Hence, need for a more fluid conception of how traditional ecological knowledge develops and circulates within the household (Elias, 2015)

Source: Hunwick Photography

