

# Impact of population on the vegetative development in Burkina Faso



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## Background

Located in West Africa, Burkina Faso is a landlocked country of 274,200 square kilometers with a population of 20,000,000 people in 2017

41.6 births/1,000 population in 2017 (6th in the world), and 3% of population growth

Most of the population is located in center and southwest Burkina Faso

Ouagadougou is the largest city with 1.8 million people and is also the capital of the country

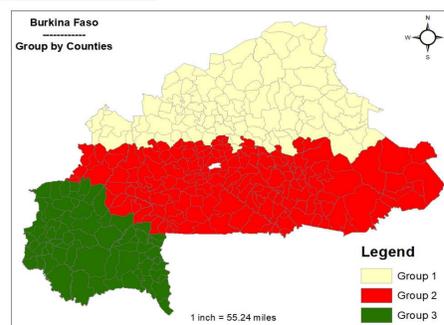
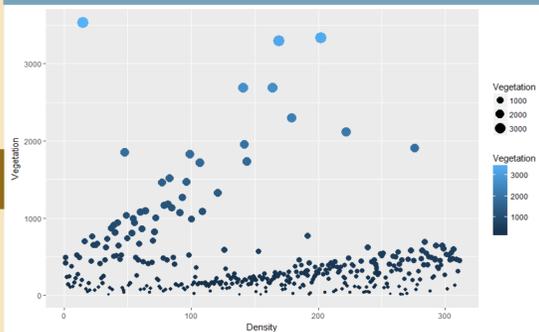
In Burkina Faso, over 80% of the population are farmers

Burkina Faso has experienced a mining boom since 2008

## Research question

Agriculture and mining being the two main activities in the country, requiring a huge area of land, and regarding the growth of the population, what is the relation between the population and the vegetative development in Burkina Faso? Is the population influencing the vegetation index?

## Methods

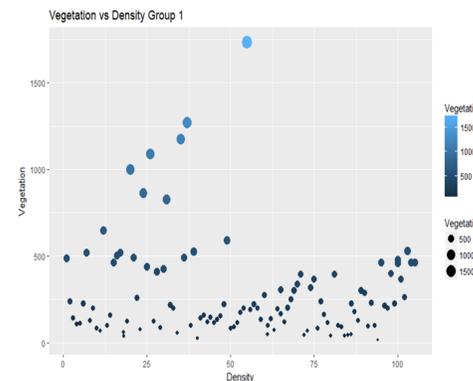


## Results

### Group 1

This area is characterized by the desert, a very dry and hot climate.

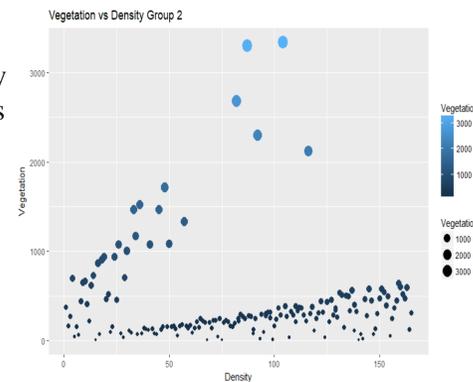
For Fulbe, one of the main ethnic groups in Northern Burkina Faso culture acts as a major barrier to embracing four of the most successful livelihood strategies: labor migration, working for development projects, gardening, and the engagement of women in economic activities.



### Group 2

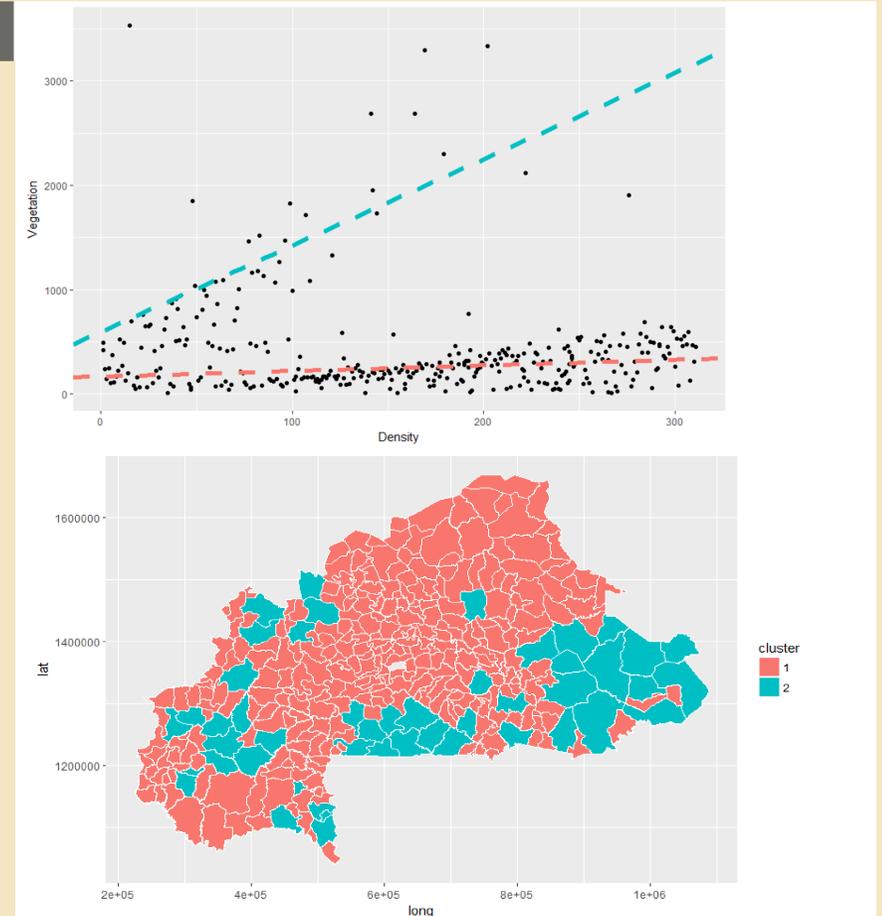
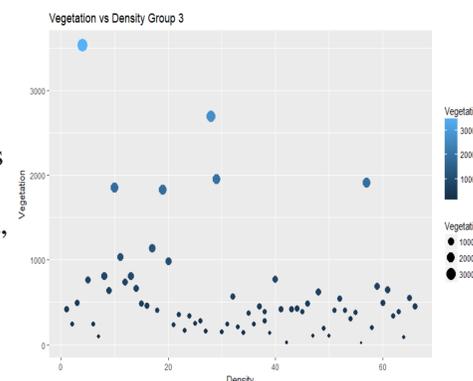
The region is characterized by a very agricultural tradition as well as high fertility rate.

This is also where the capital of the country is found with some of the most popularized and urban places.



### Group 3

In this region of the country, immigration is very developed due to the richness of the land for agriculture, a relative non-popularized area, and the closeness of this region with some coastal countries as Ivory Coast or Ghana.



## Possible explanations

- Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR)
- Different Water and Soils Conservation Systems
- Cultural influence

## Conclusions

The explanations provided by the different patterns can be considered as a first step toward the understanding of the relationship between density and vegetation in Burkina Faso. Therefore, other parameters should be considered in order to come up with a solid explanation of the impact of population on the vegetative development.

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Reij, C.; G. Tappan; and A. Belemvire. 2005. Changing land management practices and vegetation on the Central Plateau of Burkina Faso (1968–2002). Journal of Arid Environments.