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# APPEAR PhD working title: FISH DIVERSITY AND ASSESSMENT OF ECOLOGICAL STATUS OF AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS IN BURKINA FASO

**SUSFISH**



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# **OUTLINE**

**INTRODUCTION**

**METHODOLOGY**

**PROGRESS**

**Expected results**

## INTRODUCTION 1/6

- Freshwater ecosystems (lakes, rivers ...) represent usefulness various natural areas with high biological richness
- Historically they are exploited for many activities without sufficient consideration to their value and their future.
  - ✓ Dams creation
  - ✓ Agriculture activities
  - ✓ Livestock
  - ✓ Fishing



## INTRODUCTION 2/6

- Recently, climate change and strong anthropogenic pressures jeopardize more and more aquatic organisms and water resources survival
- Presently, preserve these environments and their living resources is a challenge for sustainable management
- Achieve this challenge need a good understanding of aquatic ecosystem and its organisms functioning



## INTRODUCTION 3/6

- Like other ecosystems, functioning in aquatic one is characterized by the interaction between its organisms and their biotic and abiotic environment (Begon, 2006)
- Thereby ecosystem monitoring encompasses environmental variables, matter and organisms that it composes

## INTRODUCTION 4/6

- Ecologist regarded fish as relevant biological element to evaluate aquatic ecosystems health (Karr, 1981).
  - ✓ Relevant roles in the food web in aquatic ecosystems
  - ✓ Its large size
  - ✓ Its relatively long-lived
  
- In the light of the above improve knowledge on fish is also a challenge for scientist



## INTRODUCTION 5/6

- Through Africa several recent studies on fish diversity and water quality are done (Hecky R. E. et al., 2010, Spreitzer M. L. et al., 2011; Deines A. M. et al., 2013)
- Whilst in Burkina Faso less studies are done on fish and its use to assess aquatic ecosystem (Ouédraogo R., 2010, Melcher et al., 2011)
- This study aims to characterize Burkina Faso fish communities and their habitat



## INTRODUCTION 6/6

- The specific objectives are:
  - ✓ Assess fish communities and publish the distribution of each species
  - ✓ Assess the effect of habitat parameter on species richness, abundances and diversity
  - ✓ Analyze anthropogenic pressure impacts on fish
  - ✓ Develop method to assess freshwater health within arid countries using fish assemblage

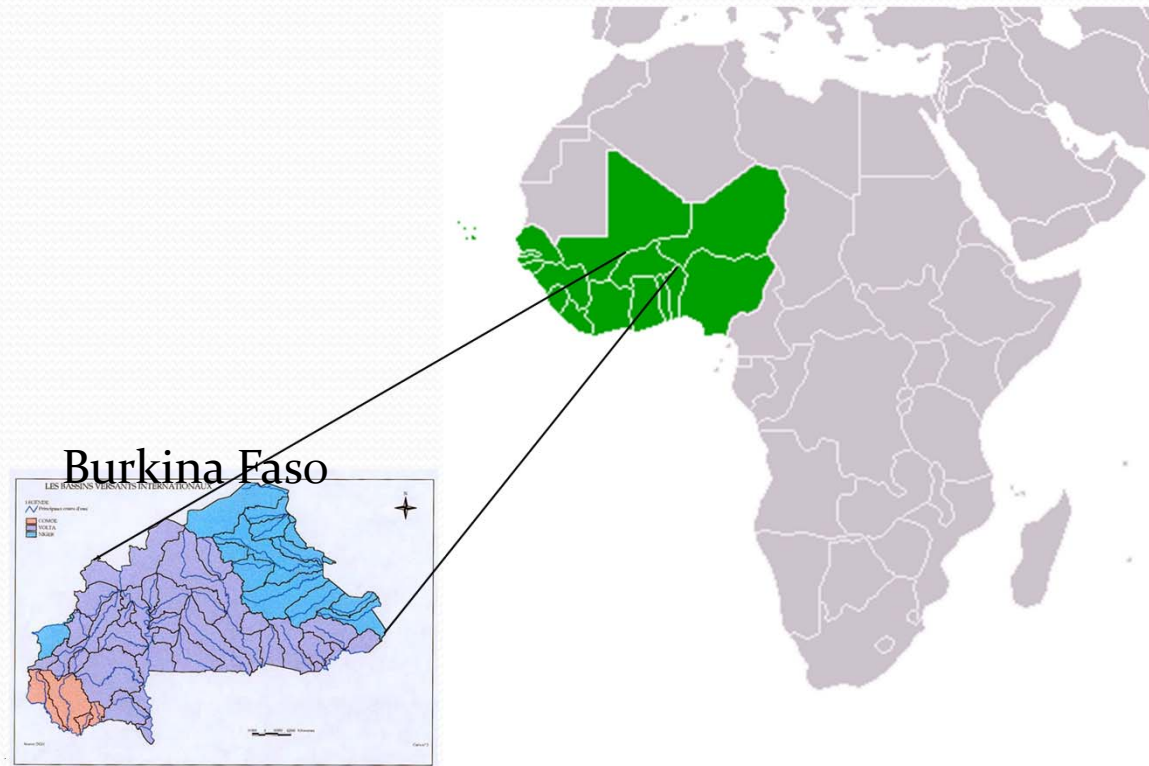




# METHODOLOGY

# STUDY AREA

landlocked in  
the central part  
of West Africa  
between the  
latitudes  $09^{\circ}20'$   
&  $15^{\circ}03'$  N and  
the longitudes  
 $02^{\circ}20'$  E &  
 $05^{\circ}03'$  W

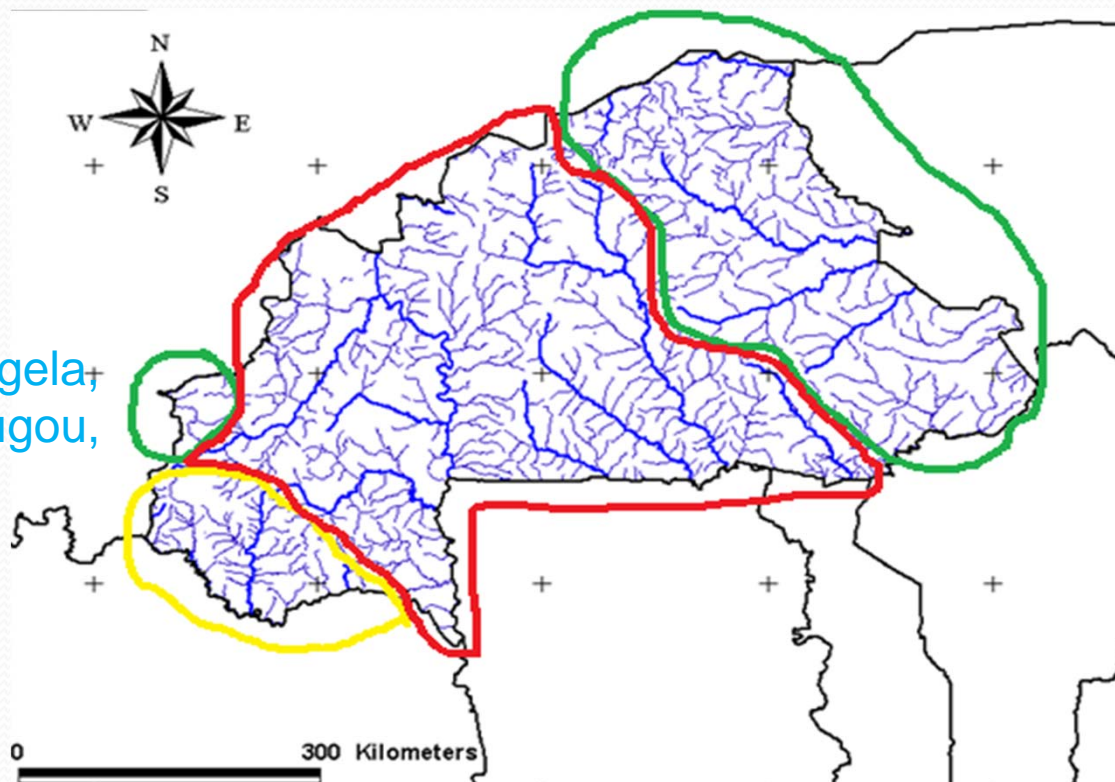


situation of study's country and the river catchments as defined by the water strategy (GIRE-BF, 2000a)

# SELECTED SITES

## COMOIE

Lera, Karfegela,  
Moussodougou,  
Tingrela



## NIGER

Yacouta  
Dori  
Higa  
Tapoa

## VOLTA

Bam, Sika, Koulinéré  
Bagré, Zagré, Badnogo,  
Nazinga, Sourou, Boromo,  
Boura, Kou, Ziga, Koubri

# STUDY METHOD

Fish sampling



Gillet fishing



**Gillnet fishing**



Cast net fishing



# STUDY METHOD

## Fish sampling



**Electrical fishing in a channel**



**Electro-fishing**

# STUDY METHOD

## Fish sampling

- After sampling, fishes are sorted into species according to *Paugy et al. 2003* and counted.
- Their total and standard length measured to the nearest millimeter.



## STUDY METHOD

- Questionable fishes are preserved in alcohol 70% and send to the laboratory for further identification.
- Even, some samples of fish are brought in alcohol 70% to the laboratory as proof.



# STUDY METHOD

## Physicochemical parameters sampling

- Sampling, we measure in the water : pH, oxygen, conductivity, temperature and the transperance with WTW Multi 340i Gear





# STUDY METHOD



Anthropogenic pressures



# STUDY METHOD

- To analyze fish communities
  - ✓ Reference site: Nazinga
  - ✓ Less impacted sites: Sourou, Boura
  - ✓ Impacted sites: Koubri, Ziga, Loumbila



# FIRST RESULTS



# PROGRESSING

**BAGRE**

**COMOE**

**NAZINGA**

**BOURA**

**KOUBRI**

**SOUROU**

**KOUGRI**

**LOUMBILA**

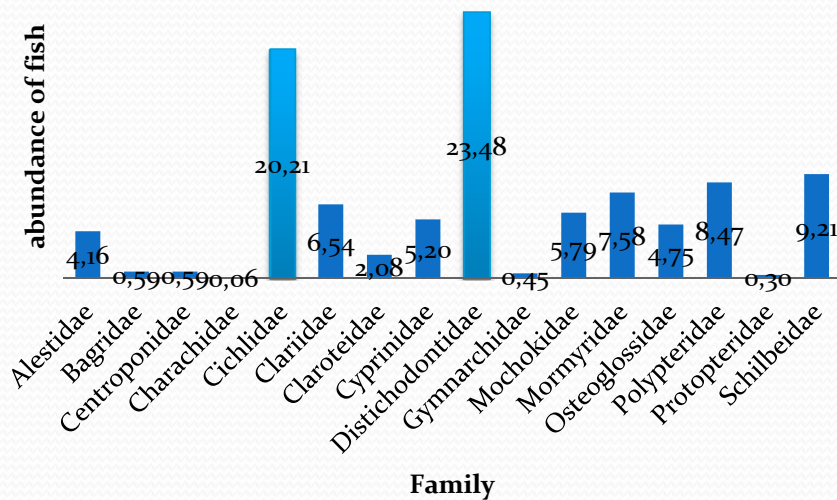
**ZIGA**

# first results

Fish composition in SOUROU:

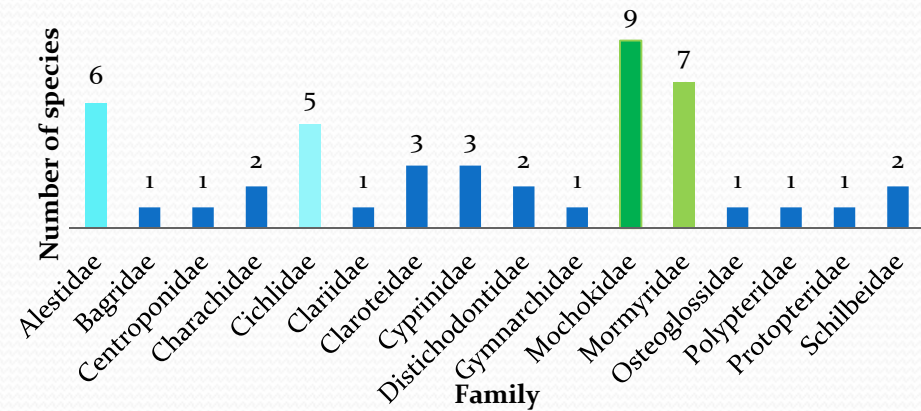
16 families, 47 species, 673 fish specimens

**SITE:SOUROU**



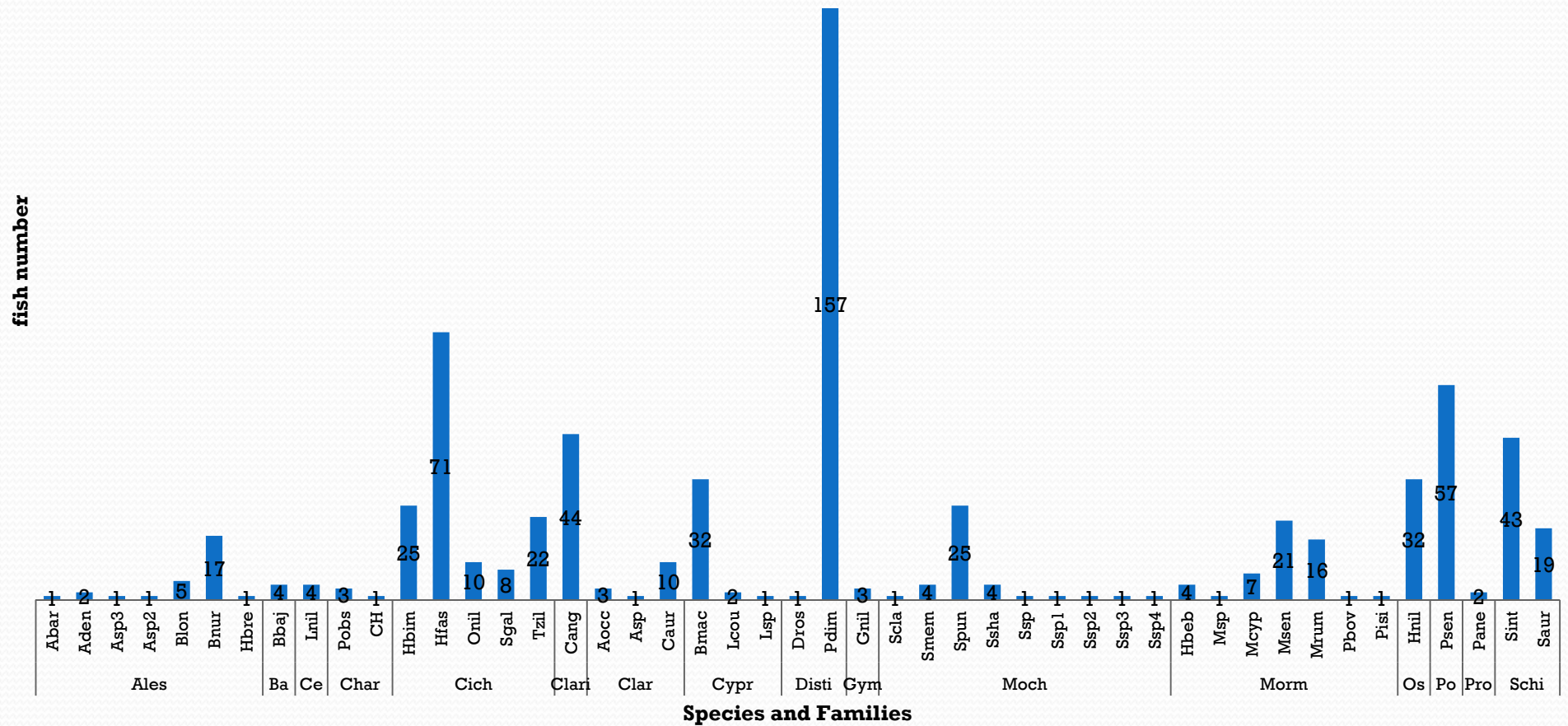
Fish abundance

**SOUROU**



specific Composition

# first results

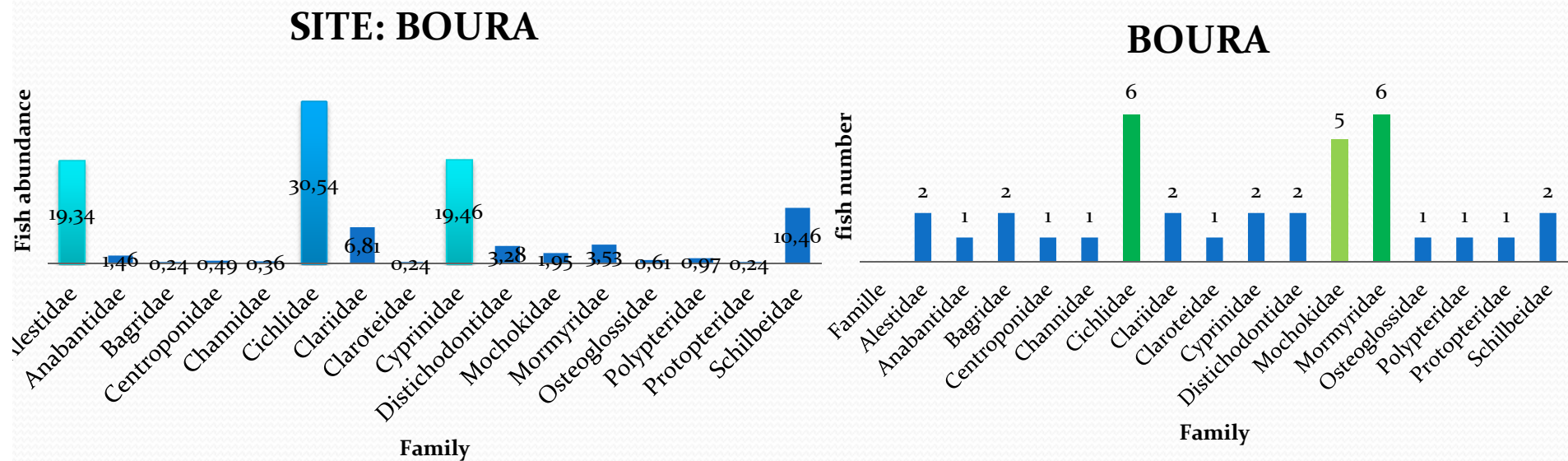


## Fish composition

# first results

## Fish composition in BOURA:

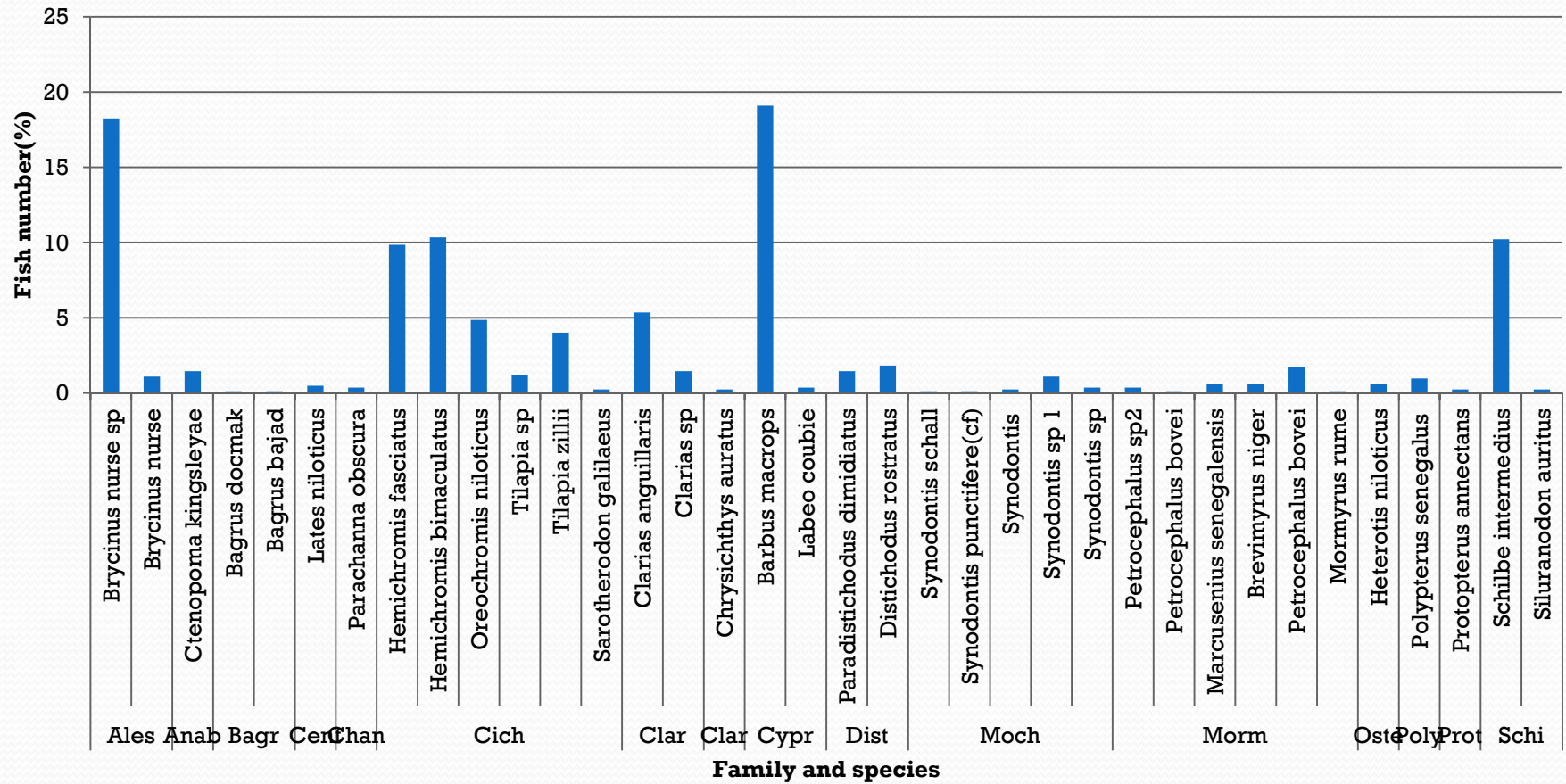
16 Families, 36 species, 822 fish specimens



Fish abundance

specific Composition

# first results



## BOURA: Fish composition

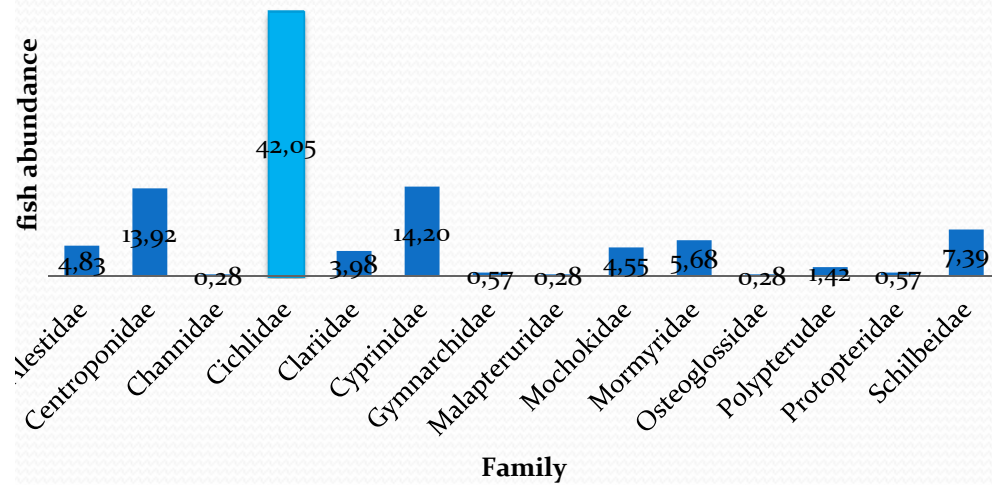


# first results

## Fish composition in COMOE:

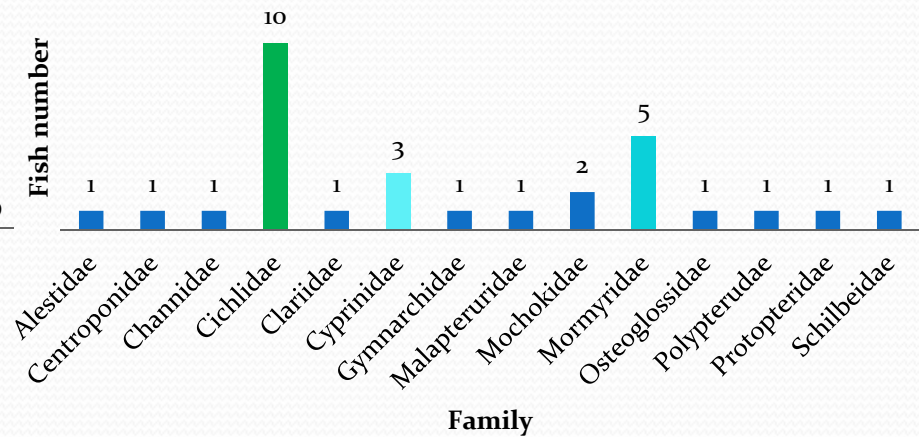
14 Families, 30 species, 352 fish specimens

### SITE: COMOE



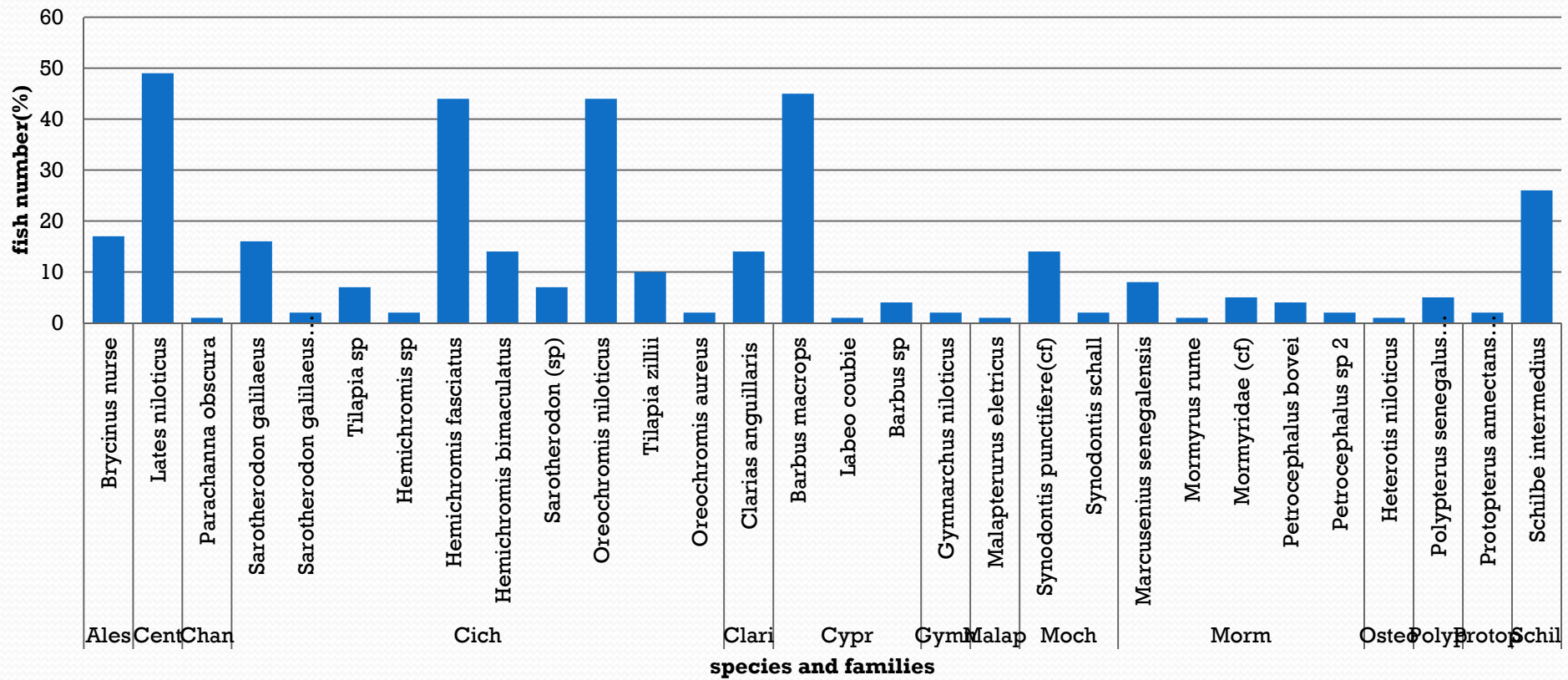
Fish abundance

### COMOE



specific Composition

# first results



## COMOE: Fish composition



## EXPECTED RESULTS

- List of fish of Burkina Faso's rivers are available
- Effect of anthropogenic pressure is raised
- Fish species that indicate the health status of aquatic ecosystems of Burkina Faso are known
- And a fish base index ( or protocol) is established to assess water quality in Burkina Faso

# TIME TABLE

YEARS	BURKINA FASO	VIENNA
2012-2013	<b>July 2012-December 2012</b> Fish sampling Treatment and identification <b>January 2013-April 2013</b> Treatment and identification Literature learning	
		<b>May-December 2013</b> Literature learning Identification and data analysis Proposal submitted Courses Manuscript _1 preparing
2013-2014		<b>January 2014-February 2014</b> Courses Data analysis Manuscript _1 submitted at journal
	<b>March 2014-August 2014</b> Fish sampling Identification, data analysis Manuscript _2 preparing	
		<b>September-December 2014</b> Courses Identification and data analysis Manuscript _2 preparing and submitted
2014-2014		<b>January- February 2015</b> Data analysis Manuscript _2 submitted
	<b>March-August 2015</b> Data collection Data treatment, analysis Thesis writing	
		<b>April-December 2015</b> Data treatment, analysis Thesis writing Thesis submitted to studienkonat <b>Final exam (Defense)</b>



## NEXT STEPS

- Courses
- Identify questionable species
- Sampling in all sites during dry season (March-June)
- Data further analysis
- Thesis writing, Manuscripts writing and submitting
- Manuscript preparing: freshwater fish pattern in a land-locked and sub-arid country (Burkina faso)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



12/03/2012