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Trafficking in Child Labor in Ghana and Senegal

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Trafficking in Child Labor in Ghana and Senegal

By: C2C Steven Brandt

United States Air Force Academy

Questions

- 1) What is the nature and prevalence of trafficking in child labor in Ghana and Senegal in fishing, mining, begging and agriculture?
- 2) What is the relationship between this and the governance of Ghana and Senegal?



Human Trafficking is...

Process	+	Way/Means	+	Goal
<i>Recruitment</i>	A	<i>Threat</i>	A	<i>Prostitution</i>
<i>or</i>	N	<i>or</i>	N	<i>or</i>
<i>Transportation</i>	D	<i>Coercion</i>	D	<i>Pornography</i>
<i>or</i>		<i>or</i>		<i>or</i>
<i>Transferring</i>		<i>Abduction</i>		<i>Violence/Sexual</i>
<i>or</i>		<i>or</i>		<i>Exploitation</i>
<i>Harboring</i>		<i>Fraud</i>		<i>or</i>
<i>or</i>		<i>or</i>		<i>Forced Labor</i>
<i>Receiving</i>		<i>Deceit</i>		<i>or</i>
		<i>or</i>		<i>Involuntary</i>
		<i>Deception</i>		<i>Servitude</i>
		<i>or</i>		<i>or</i>
		<i>Abuse of Power</i>		<i>Debt Bondage</i>
				<i>(with unfair wages)</i>
				<i>or</i>
				<i>Slavery/Similar</i>
				<i>practices</i>

Ghana by the Numbers

- President: John Mahama
- Population: 25,758,108 (July 2014 est.)
- Estimated # of Slaves: 181,038 (Walk Free Index)
- % of Pop. 18yo and under: 42%
- % of Children 5-14yo working: 43.5% (UNESCO)
- Per capita GDP: \$3,500
- GDP (purchasing power parity): \$90.41 billion
- Gov. Revenue: 16% of GDP (World Bank)
- Current Account Deficit: 10% of GDP (IMF)

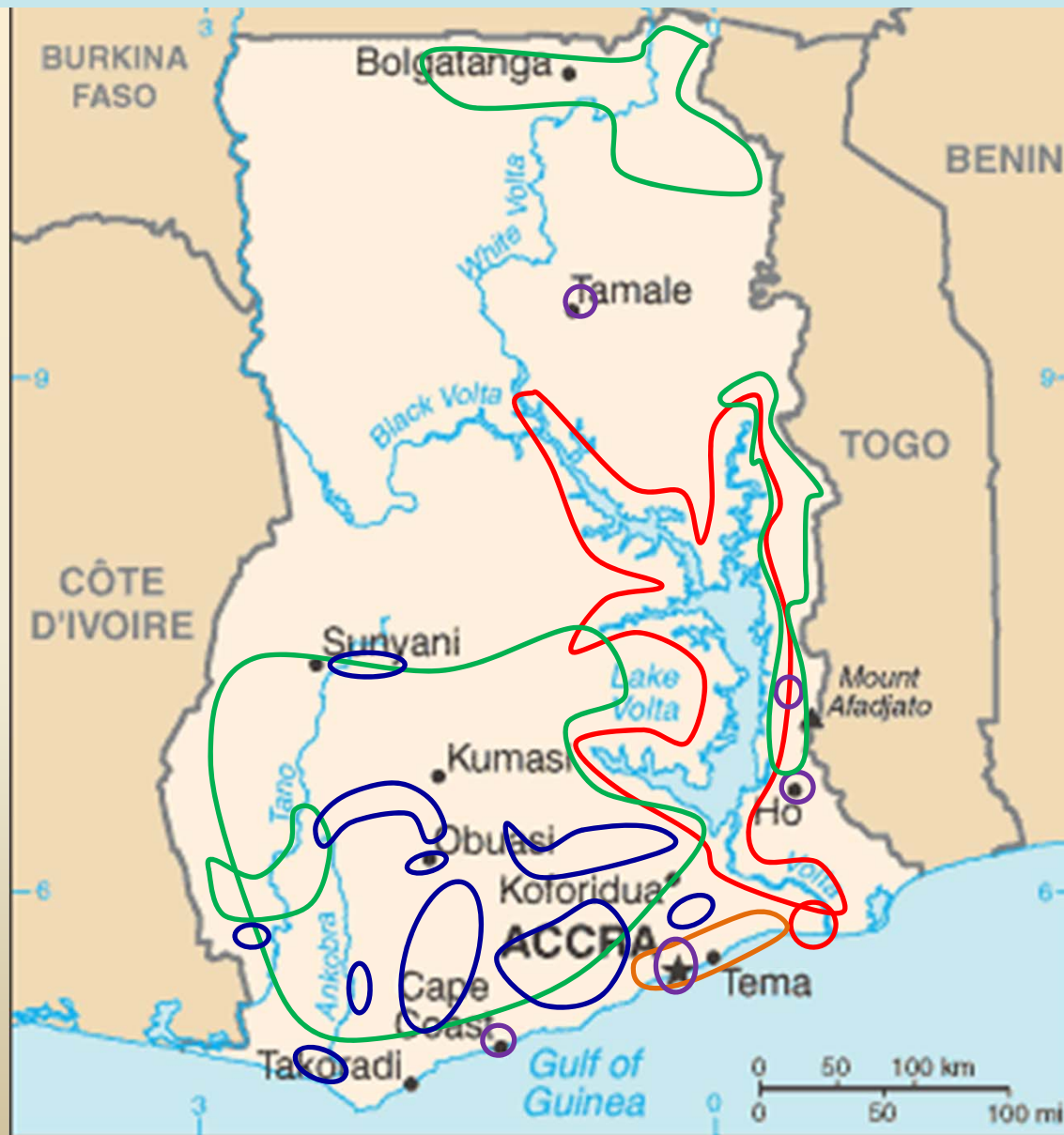
Senegal by the Numbers

- President: Macky Sall
- Population: 13,635,927 (July 2014 est.)
- Estimated # of Slaves: 102,481 (Walk Free Index)
- % of Pop. 18yo and under: 50%
- % of Children 5-14yo working: 14.9% (UNESCO)
- Per capita GDP: \$2,100
- GDP (purchasing power parity): \$27.27 billion
- Gov. Revenue: 19.5% of GDP (World Bank)
- Current Account Deficit: 5.1% of GDP (IMF)

Nature of Trafficking in Child Labor

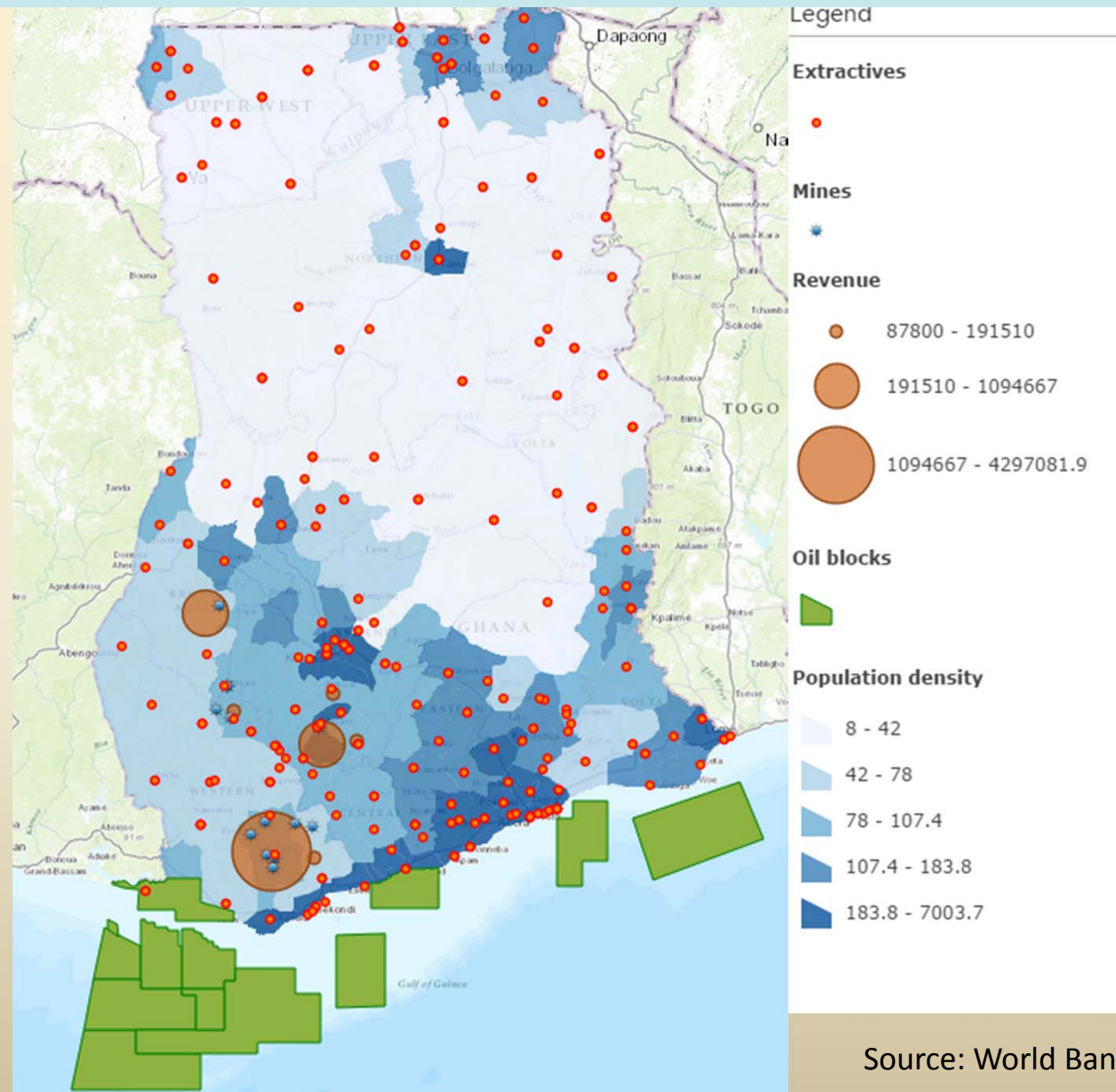
- Children taken by some sort of coercion from one part of the country or from outside the country for the sake of use in forced labor in a domestic, agricultural or other production capacity.
- Often, parental consent or partial consent exists
- Internal vs. external trafficking
- Agriculture: no protective gear, heavy loads, dangerous tools, pesticides, beatings
- Fishing: drowning, suffocating, beatings, starvation (State Dep – “There are other issues in Lake Volta”)
- Mining: Use of mercury/chemicals, dangerous tools w/o protective gear, heavy loads
- Begging: Sexual abuse, beatings, heavy loads, starvation
- Sexual Services: Occurs in the above cases

Where Does it Happen Most? - Ghana



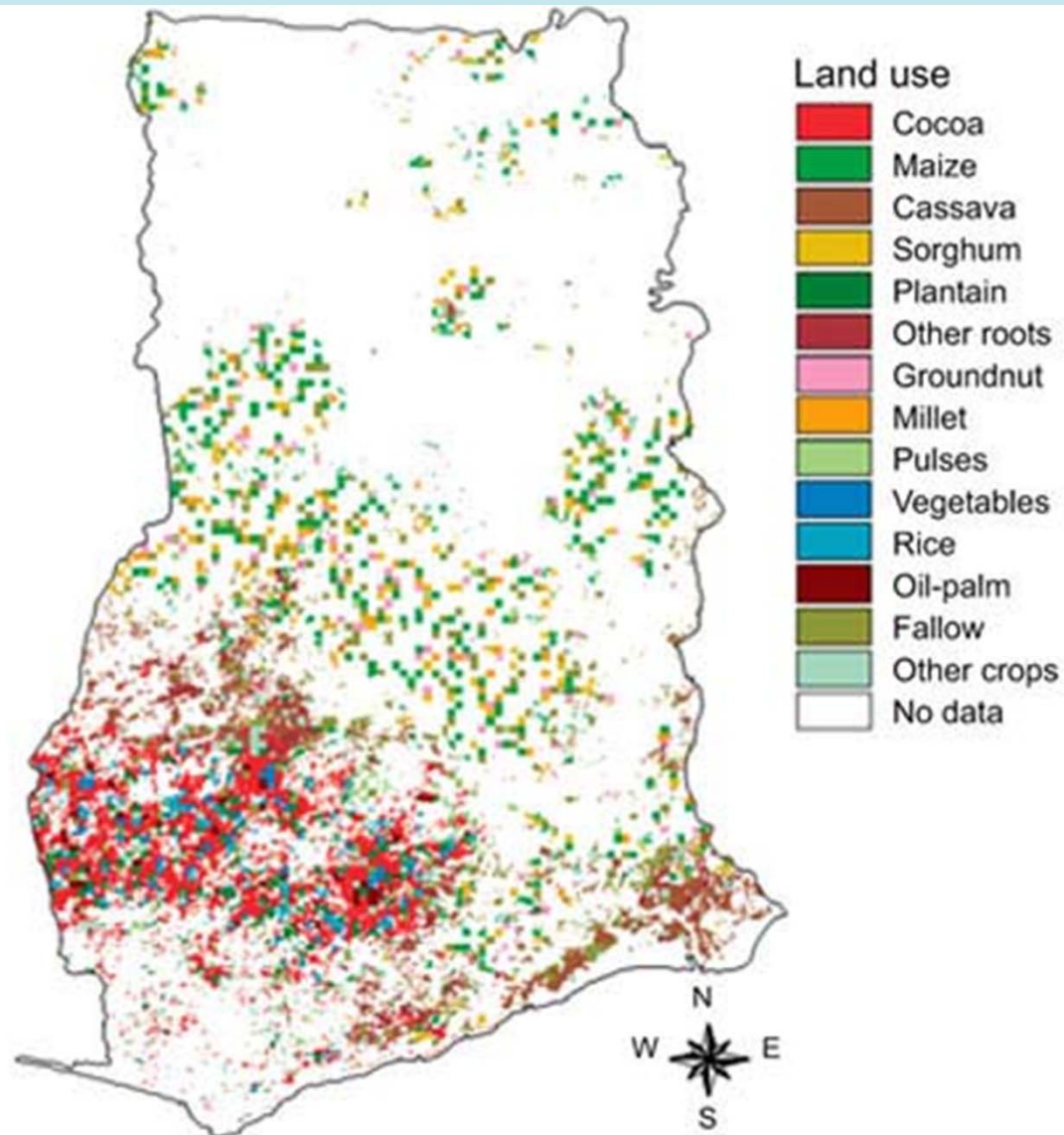
Red = Fishing
Blue = Mining
Green = Agriculture
Orange = Forced
Begging
Purple = Sex
Trafficking/
Domestic Labor

Mining Sites - Ghana



Source: World Bank 2014

Agricultural Production - Ghana



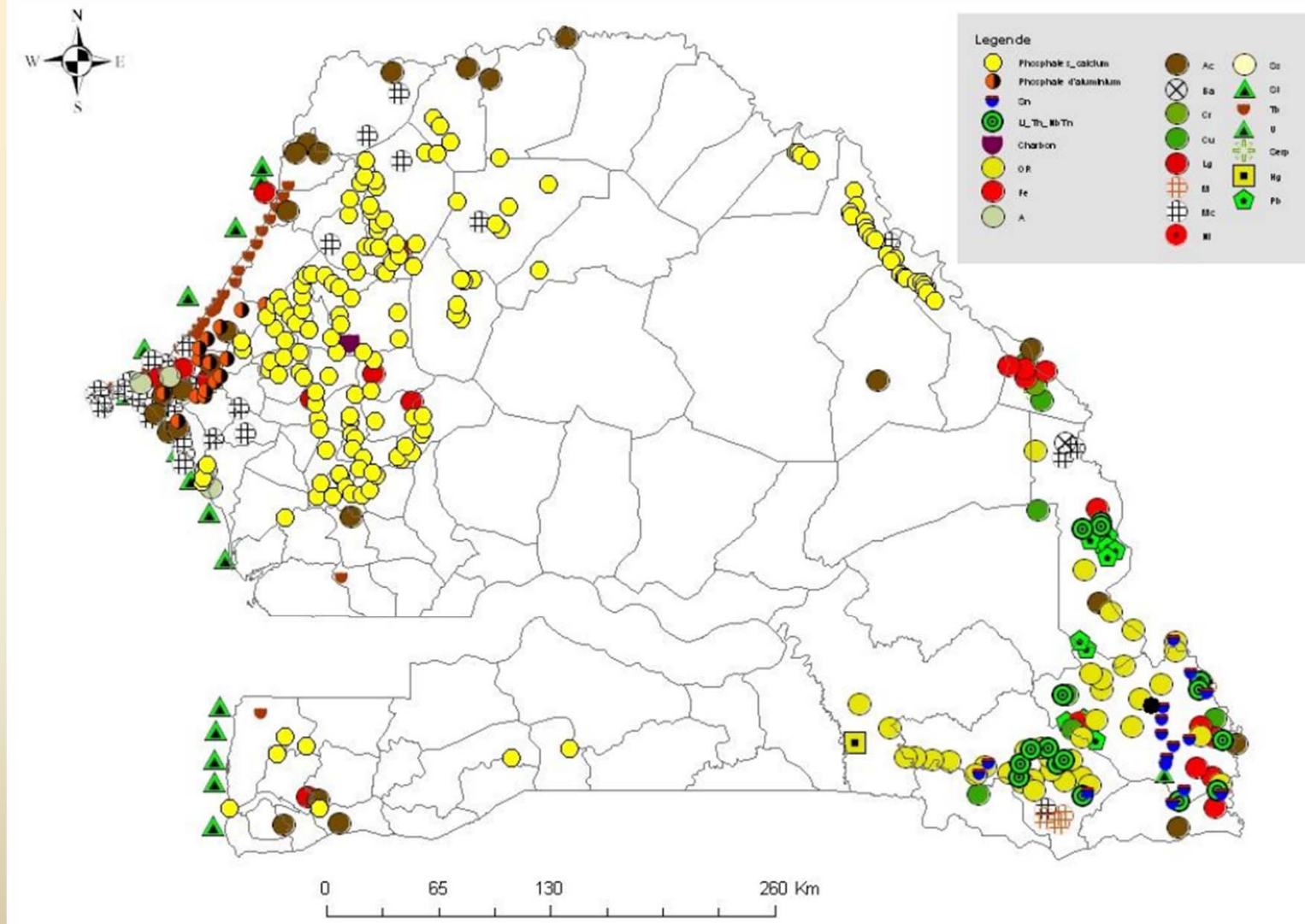
Source: FAO 2004

Where Does it Happen Most? - Senegal



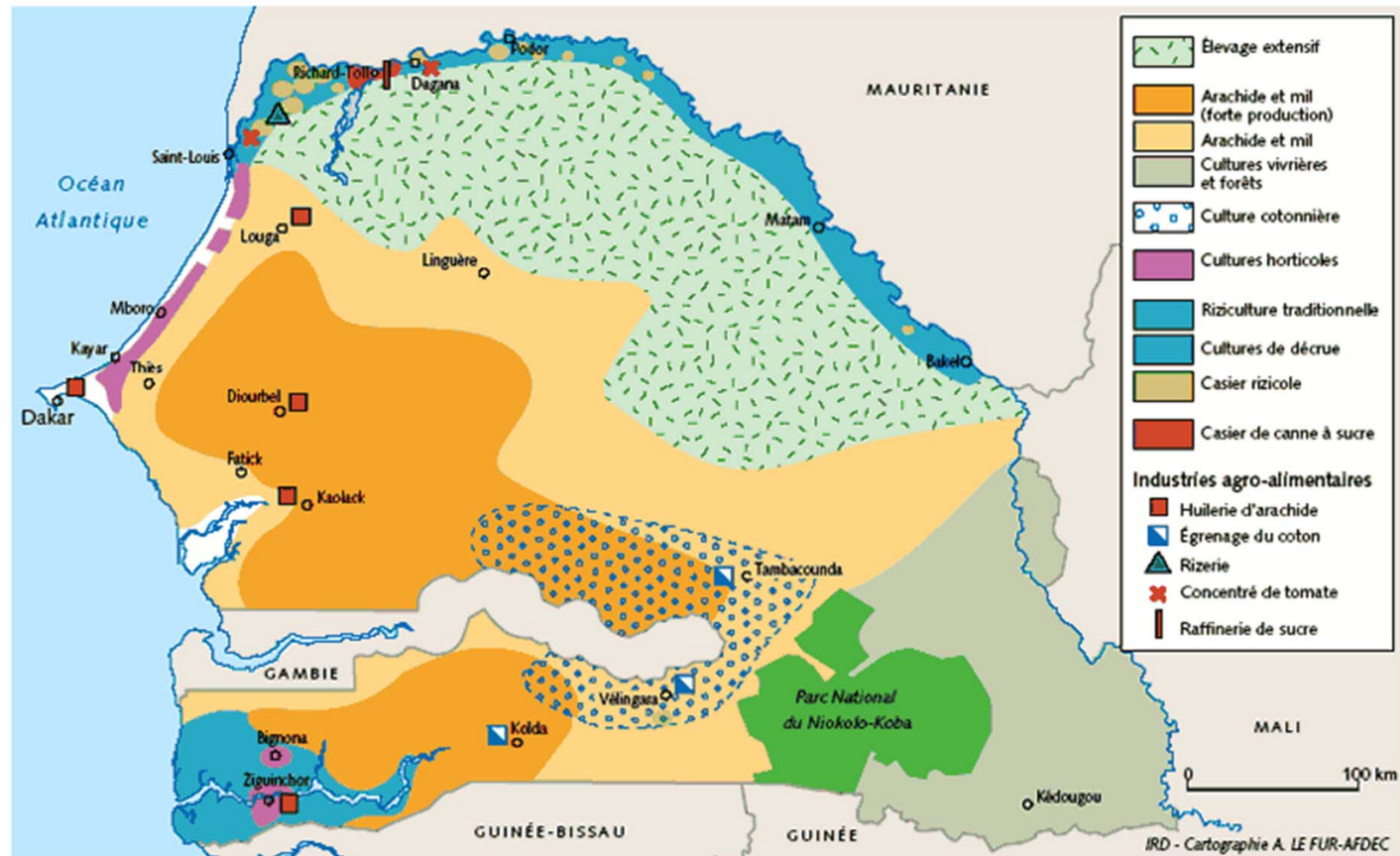
Red = Fishing
Blue = Mining
Green = Agriculture
Orange = Forced Begging

Mining Sites - Senegal



Source: Plan Minérales de la République du Sénégal

Agricultural Production - Senegal



Source: Institut de Recherche pour la
Développement 2010

Nature and Prevalence of Trafficking

Fishing	Mining	Agriculture	Begging
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ghana's Volta Region: internal, Burkina, Togo, Benin, Guinea - Senegal's Coast: internal, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Mali, Burkina -Estimated 20,000 in Ghana; unknown in Senegal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Southern Ghana, Southeastern Senegal, and West-central Senegal - Trafficked mostly internally; Burkina, Mali, Guinea - Estimated 5,000-15,000 in Ghana; unknown in Senegal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Southern Ghana: cocoa, cashew, rice - Southern and Central Senegal: cotton, rice, mangoes - Estimated 30,000-40,000 in Ghana, 7,000-15,000 in Senegal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Major cities in Ghana and Senegal, especially Dakar - Estimated 40,000 in Dakar, 90,000 in Senegal; unknown in Ghana
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family ties and the definition of "family business" - Poverty of surrounding countries and regional internal poverty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decline of market prices of fish, cocoa, cotton, gold etc. - Non-regulation and widespread promulgation of the informal sector <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In general, 70% internally, 30% externally trafficked - Sexual abuse is prevalent throughout 			

Governance and the Law

- Both countries passed comprehensive anti-trafficking laws in 2005: prevention, protection, prosecution
 - Senegal: 5-10 years prison, 5-10 million CFA fine for trafficking, 2-5 years prison, 500,000-2 million CFA fine for forced begging
 - Ghana: no less than 5 years prison sentence
- Both ratified ILO WFCL Convention, adopted ECOWAS regional plan
- Both have laws specific to economic sector (i.e. Small-Scale Mining Law of 1989)
- Both have anti-trafficking task forces, Ghana's CLMS
- Issues: Ghana – funding, training, access to informal sector (Patience Quaye)
Senegal – no conviction since 2012, religion, funding, access

Governance and the Economy

- Poverty is a huge motivation to:
 - 1) Send children to *daaras*, fishing communities, mines etc....because...
 - a) One less person to support (good intentions)
 - b) Often families receive some compensation
 - 2) Receive or trafficking children...because...
 - a) Children can be paid less
 - b) Children can be resold

Governance and Immigration

- Both countries are destination and source countries for trafficking – despite ECOWAS, there is still little collaboration
 - Lela: Burkinabe girl “trafficked” by her Uncle in Ghana
 - OICEM – 90% of domestic laborers are West African
- Porous borders – officials care about money, regulate only “important” goods

Governance and Politics

- Politicians have little incentive/power to enforce legal regulations
 - Due to patronage system (i.e. repercussions of ending forced begging in Dakar)
 - Due to authority of local village leaders/chief
 - Due to cost and complexity of reaching far into the supply system (i.e. Senegal MOL)
- Little collaboration with U.S. or European governments regarding anti-trafficking training

Governance and NGOs

- Most NGOs focus on aftercare (i.e. Challenging Heights)
 - IJM : prosecution
 - World Vision, Tostan, Compassion, Chalmers Center and Free the Slaves: prevention through community development
- Little collaboration between government and NGOs regarding rehabilitation

NGO's in Ghana

Compassion Int'l:
250 child
development
centers

World Vision: 34
area development
programs

Chalmers Center:
60 savings groups

Challenging
Heights

Madina Shelter

Osu Shelter



Afrikids
Ghana

Volta Region:

- IJM
- Free the Slaves
- Right to be Free
- Finding Refuge
- PADOCEP

Orphans
Heroes

NGO's in Senegal



Tostan: 175 CEP communities

World Vision: 150 projects (grouped into 28 integrated programs) in 61 communities

Governance and Religion

- Both countries are very religious: Ghana – 75% Christian, Senegal – 95% Muslim
- Religion does not stir the consciences of the slave-holder in Ghana or Senegal
 - Ex: “Jesus is Lord” on side of Volta fishing boat
- Religion connects *marabouts* to politics in Senegal preventing the end of *daara* based trafficking – “You lose votes, maybe you lose office, and you face trouble” (HRW)

Recommendations...

...regarding common threads between these industries:

- 1) Familial Ties and Poverty: Encourage the development of and partnership with the NGO community that focuses on developing communities – educating families on the harms of trafficking and on alternative means of economic production
- 2) Law Enforcement and Regulation: Increase anti-trafficking and police training; develop systematic regulation of *daaras* and the informal mining, fishing, and agricultural sectors; increase punishments and pursue prosecutions more vigorously

...regarding research:

- 1) Primary Research on locations of child laborers (mapping) and on the percent of child laborers that are actually trafficked

Future Research

Focused on the governance piece of the study including traveling to Ghana and Senegal to interview officials and NGO staff on the perceived issues regarding immigration, law enforcement, the impact of religion and the development of the NGO community

For sources or other questions:

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Questions?