

Mauritania Technology Fosters Tradition (TFT)

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1. Presentation of TFT, Overview

- Location, environment and people
- Objective and character
- Approach
- Output
- Scales and stakeholders
- Partners

Location, environment and people

- Location
 - SE Mauritania, near town of Aioun
- Environment and ecology
 - Semi desert and ephemeral wetlands
 - Isohyet for 400 mm precipitation moves south
- People
 - Mostly Maure and Haratins/Black Maure, some black Africans

Objective and character

- Objective
 - Document and formalize traditional property- and use-rights to resources, specifically rangelands, together with local people, and through using GIS/GPS and ICTs
- Character
 - Not investment, but research-cum-action

Approach

- Area assessment (survey)
- Identify land-use (interviews)
- Codify in local languages, translate into Arabic and French
- Establish a legal rural registry
- Set up new local and national co-management institutions
- Create GIS maps, publish on Internet

Output

- Body of trad. knowledge pertaining to natural resource management.
Available in print form in relevant languages and on the Internet
- Institutional and legal reform
- Decrease in the amount of conflicts
- Dissemination elsewhere in the Sahel
- World Bank policy paper

Stakeholders

Users and beneficiaries at various scales:



Global - Donors, Law com., Sahel countries

National - Donors, Govt., Public sector

Regional - Courts, Donors, Regional adm.

Local - Donors, Farmers, Herders, Trad. leaders

Partners

National:

- Government

International:

- CBNRM Net
- GLIN (and NASA)
- GTZ
- World Bank

2. Analytical framework

Law and legal paradigms:

- Legal pluralism
 - Trad. law, Islamic law, French law
 - Problems of application and coexistence
- Characteristics of codes
 - Written and unwritten
 - Roles of interpretation, translation and use
 - Applicable to a certain area/scale of society/culture

Power and empowerment

How to address power – and achieve empowerment – follows from the methodological approaches chosen:

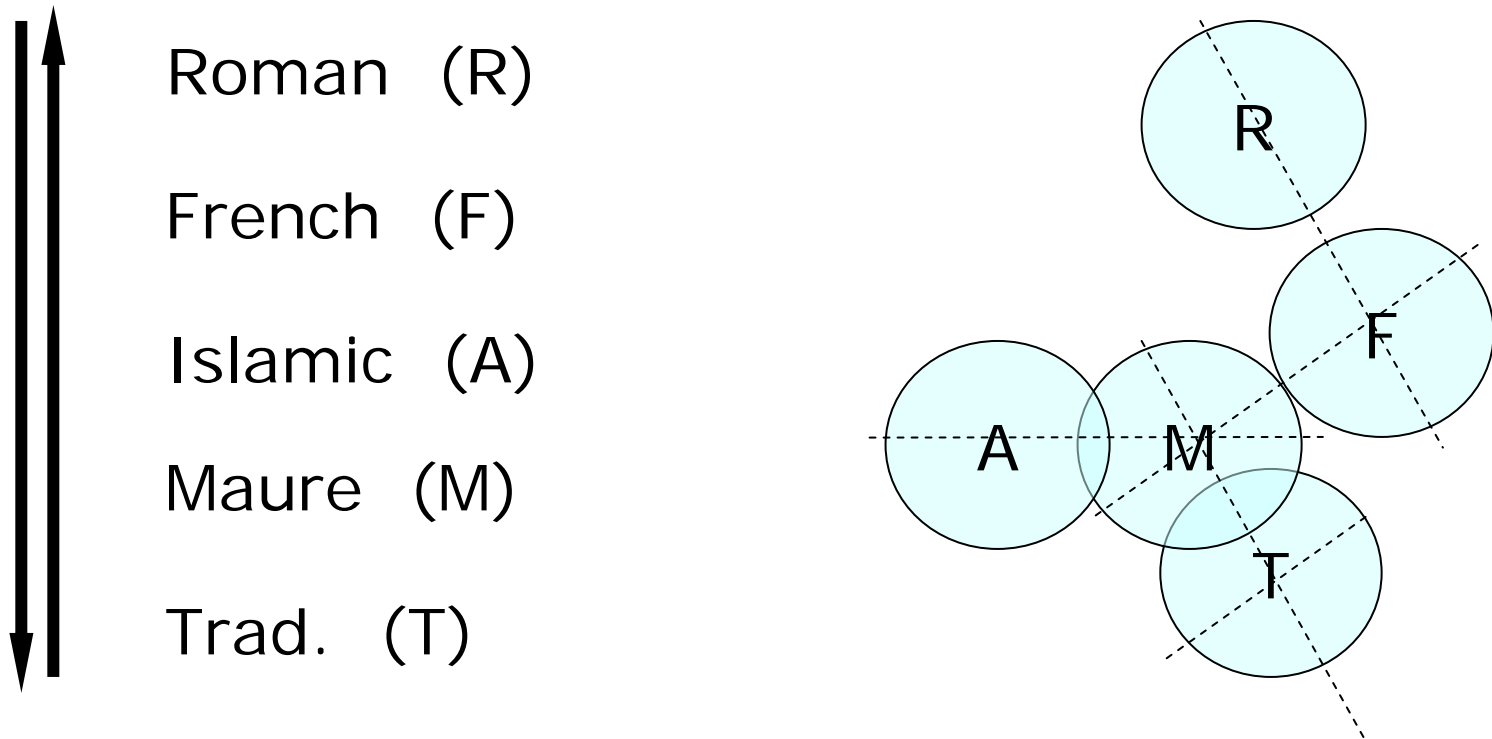
- Ethics - knowledge be used by whom and for what?
- Consensus-building, Consultation, Governance, Involvement, Participation, Transparency, etc.
- Trad. knowledge as means and goal
- Scaling of knowledge bottoms-up approach

Institutions and institutional analysis

- Understood both as organizations and in the sense of institutional economics
- Facilitates and constrains the flow of knowledge and data between scales
- Important for understanding and assessing power and empowerment

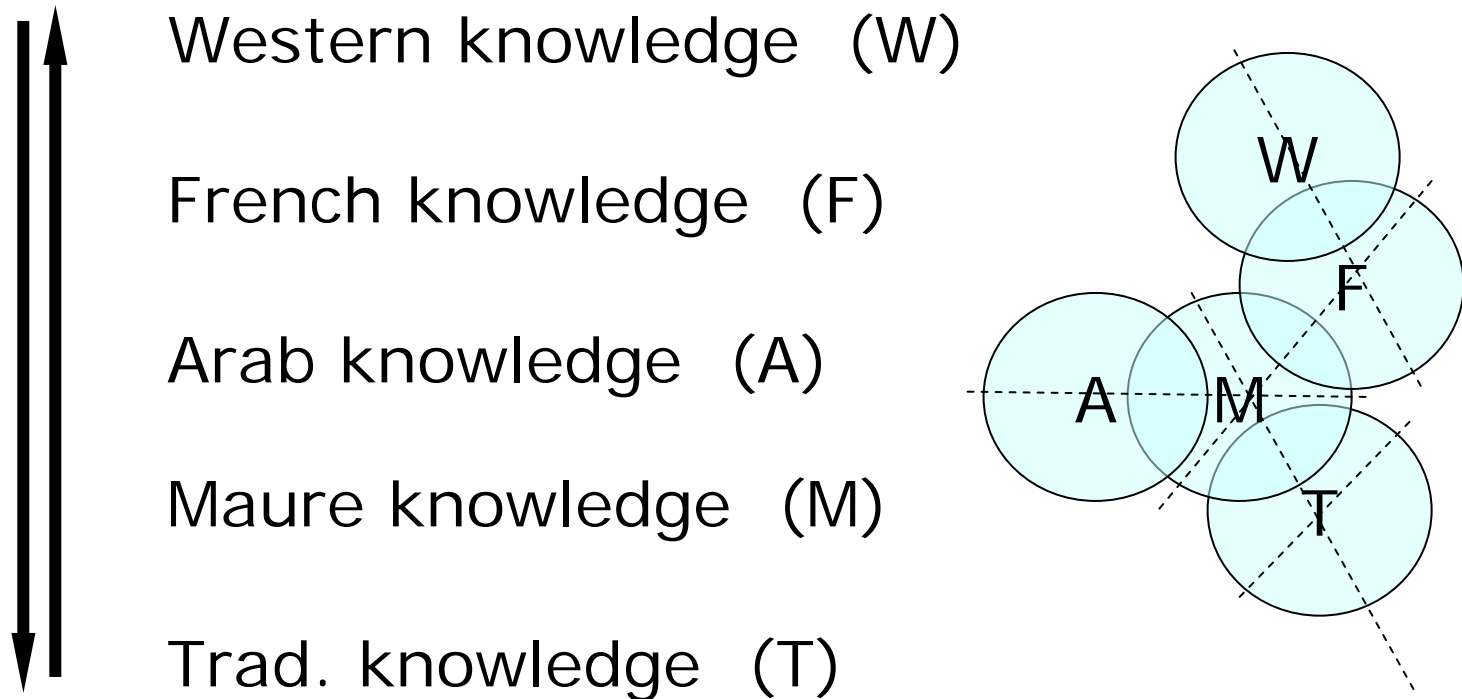
Legal paradigms in Mauritania

Legal paradigms and relations:



Knowledge systems in Mauritania

Knowledge systems and relations:



What is knowledge?

- Sum total of a culture's accumulated experience, incl. transfer, views on itself, the environment, and relationships with the environment
- Knowledge and culture
 - Knowledge is part and parcel of culture

Knowledge management

Aspects of managing knowledge within
and between scales:

- Dimensions
 - With whom to share, what to share, how to share
- Tasks
 - Collection, evaluation, categorization, storage, retrieval, dissemination, as well as production of new knowledge

3. Drivers and trends

Drivers:

- Population increase
- Desertification

Trends, I

These trends are partly overlapping, and the causalities are complex:

- Ecological system under stress
- Deforestation
- Decentralization and role of the State
- Diminishing role of traditional law
- Privatization
 - Of land (fencing)
 - Of water (dams, access to wells)

Trends, II

- Change in production systems
- Absentee pastoralism/agriculture
- Sedentarization
- Valuation of land
- Infrastructure developments
- Increase in conflicts
- Increased focus on biodiversity
 - RAMSAR

4. Property and use rights

The property rights system has to be understood through the role of pastoralism in history:

- Reciprocal adaptation between pastoralism and environment
- Immigration, wars and rulers
- The French colonial legacy

Characteristics

- A system well adapted to the specific characteristic of the local ecosystems
- Emphasis on making resources available to those that need it
- A non-equilibrium system
 - Availability of water – when, where, how long, and how much determine the operation and productivity of the system

Systemic changes

- The trad. property rights system was a common property system for the original users, members of the Maure tribe Ould Nacer, Faction Abdel Wahab
- Lack of a fit between the trad. system and today's situation is growing
- Today's situation can be characterized as open access

5. Methodology, Overview

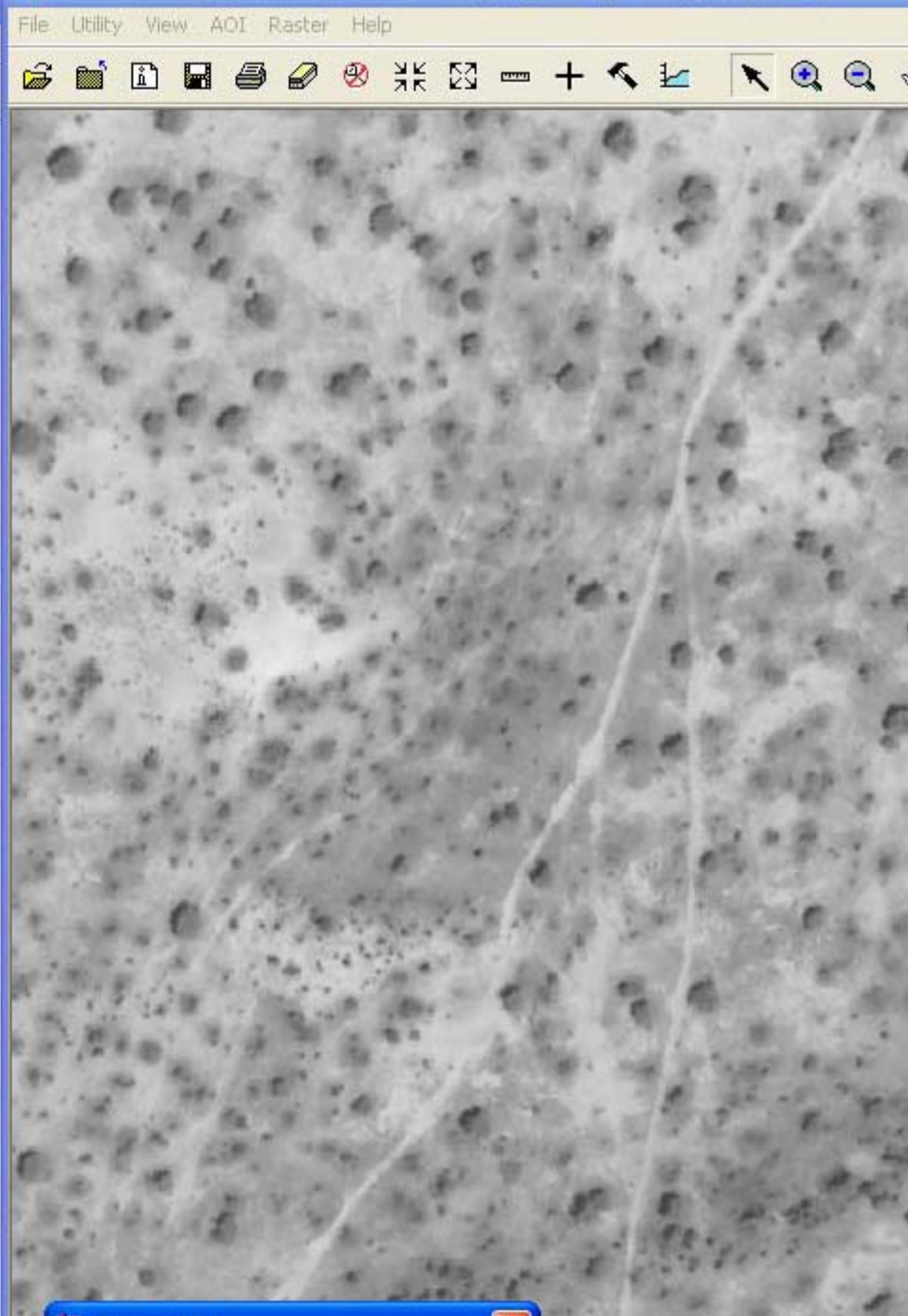
- Character of operation determines the methodological approach, the bundle of methods used, and their sequencing
- Adapted to purpose and location

Methodology

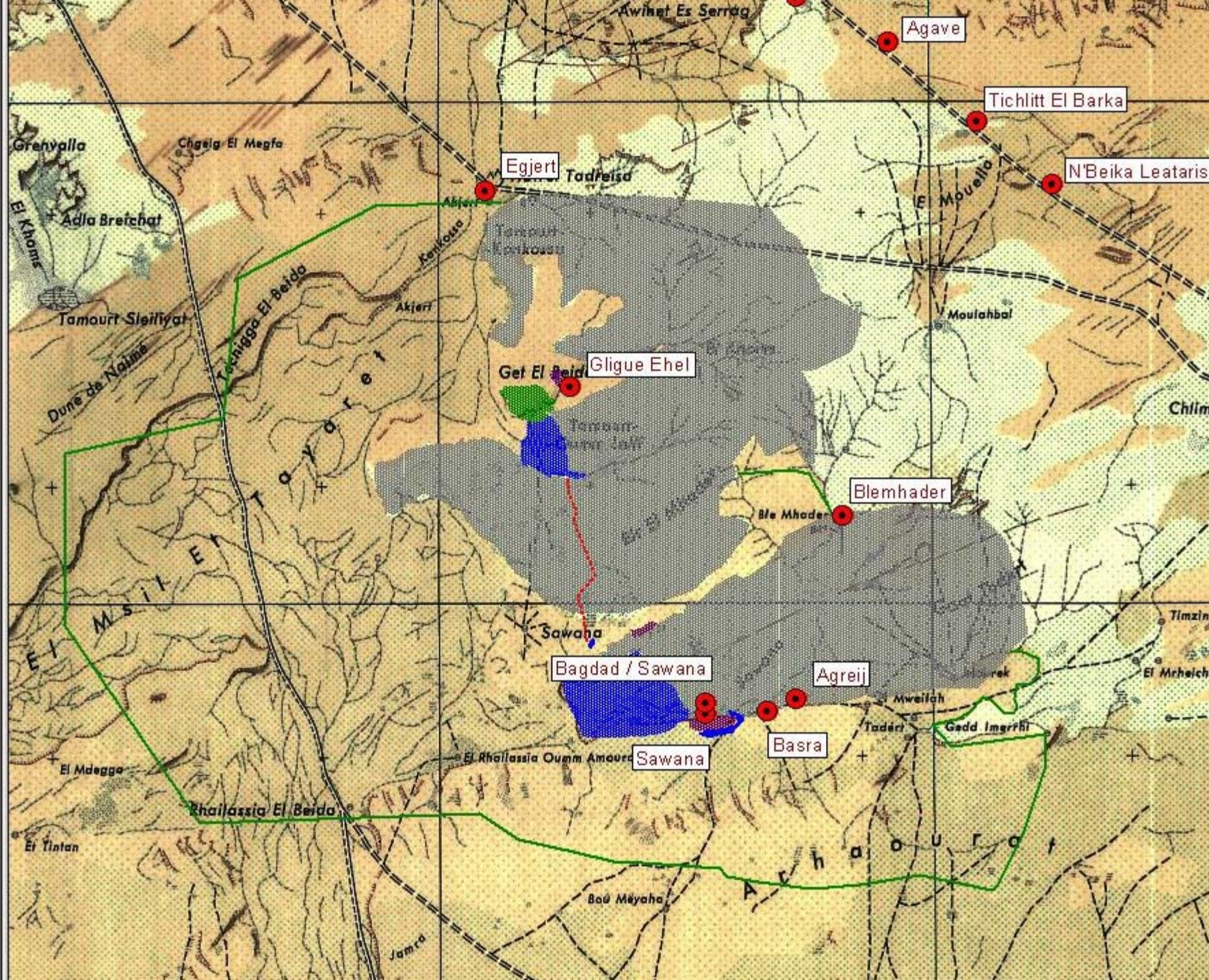
- Mix of qual and quant
 - Focus groups, interviews, surveys, ICTs, GIS/GPS, satellite imagery
- Participatory Research Mapping (PRM)
 - Local people help identify research issues and collect data
 - Elements: (1) socio-economic survey, (2) toponymy survey, (3) resource use survey, (4) property and use rights

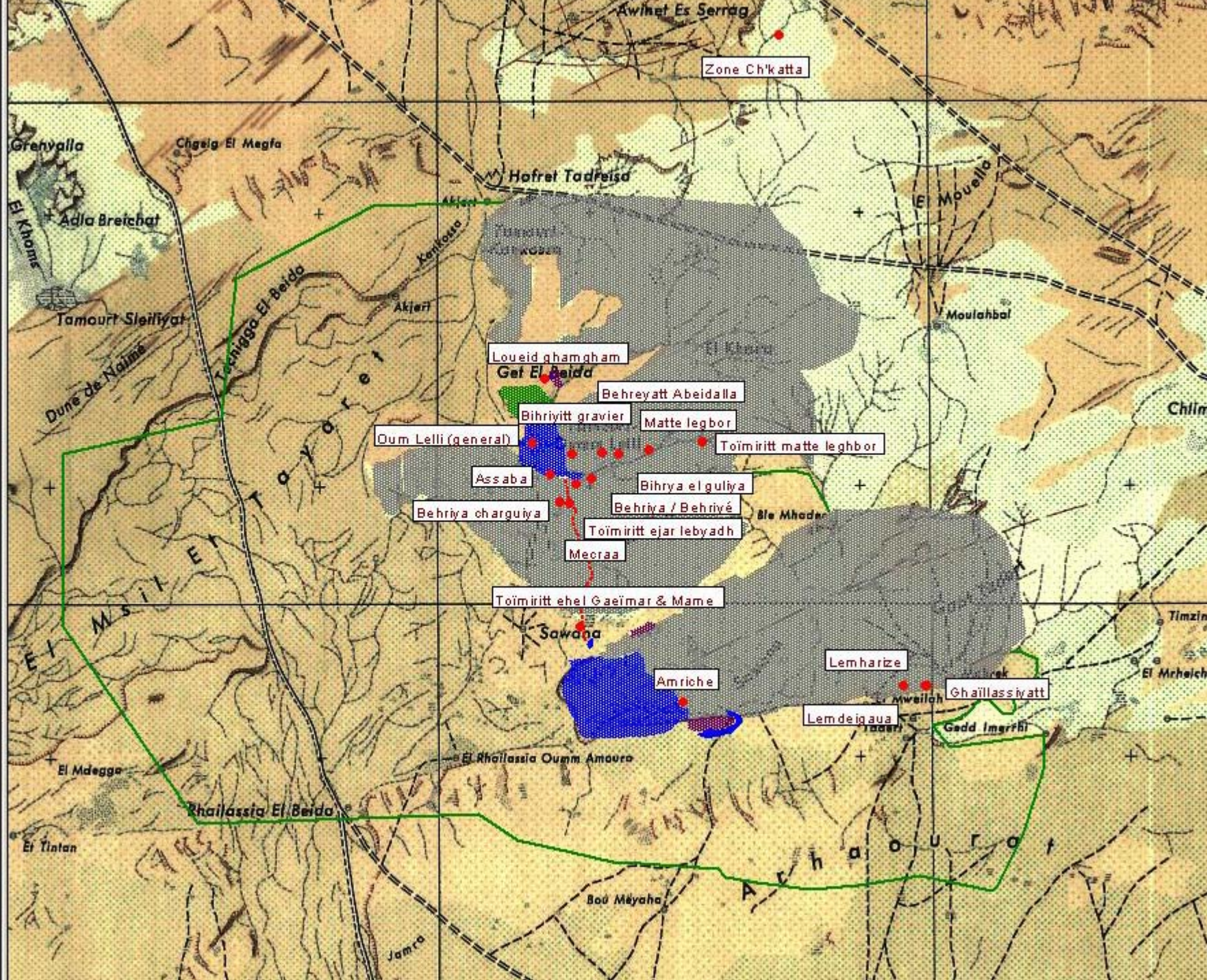
6. Data, Overview

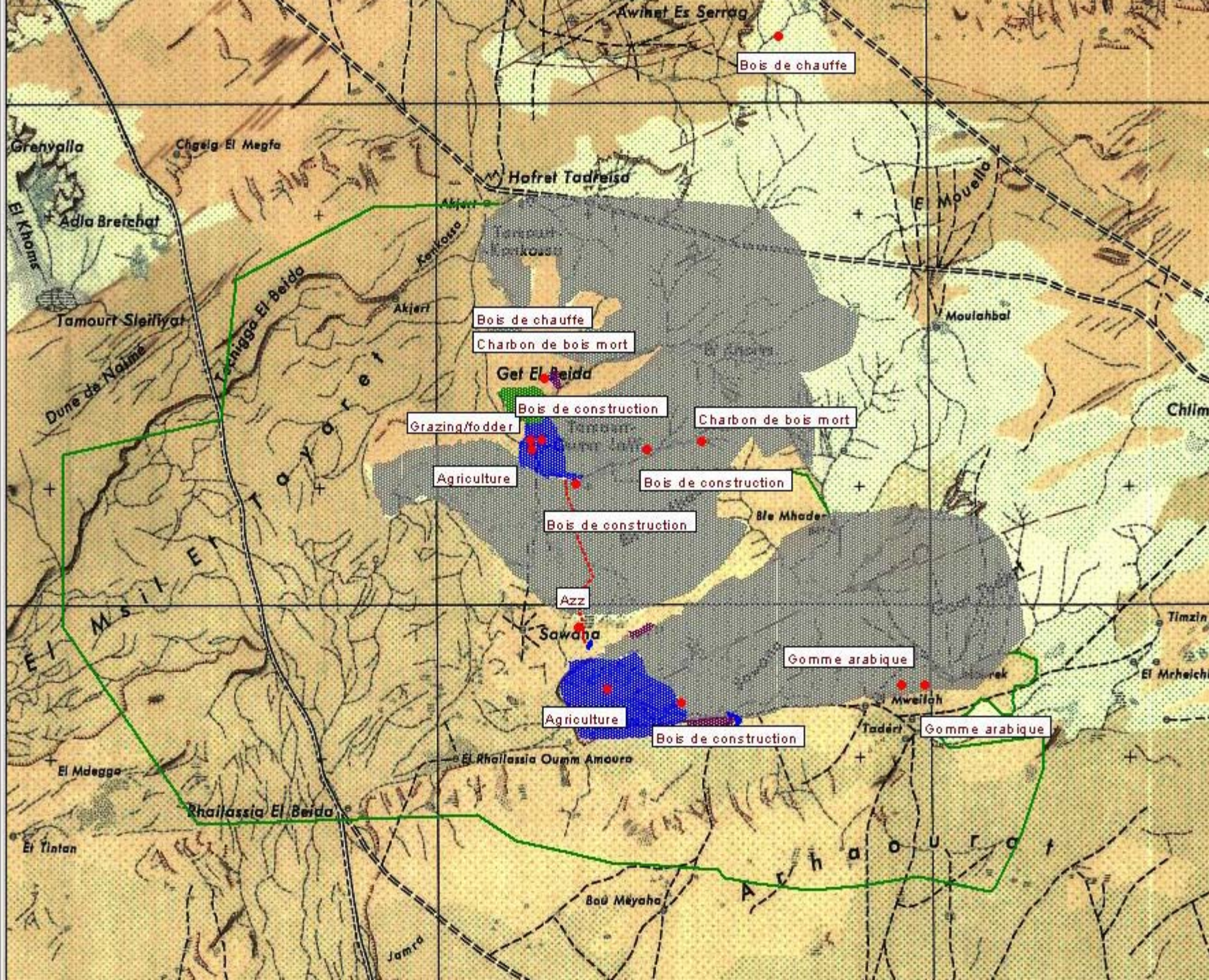
- PRM ongoing since May 2004
- Focus on two wetlands (Oum Lelli and Sawana) and one village (H. Tadreissa)
- Satellite imagery
- Toponymy and resource use
- Agricultural and gathering production











Bois de chauffe

Bois de chauffe

Charbon de bois mort

Get El Beida

Bois de construction

Grazing/fooder

Charbon de bois mort

Agriculture

Bois de construction

Bois de construction

Azz

Sawana

Gomme arabique

Agriculture

Bois de construction

Gomme arabique

Ghelassia El Beida

Bou M'ayaha

Agricultural produce: quantities

	Produit 1 [076] Sorgho (mil)	Produit 2 [077] Petit mil	Produit 3 [078] Haricots	Produit 4 [079] Pastèque	Produit 5 [080] maïs	Produit 6 [081] autre (<i>spécifiez</i>) R'haya
Quantité totale (<i>kg</i>)	12.854	3480	3037	1275 ,5	0	3500
Quantité vendue (<i>kg; argent famille</i>)	3040	1230	742	101	0	960
Quantité vendue (<i>kg; argent exclusivement femme</i>)	360	240	160	100	0	320
Quantité consommée (<i>kg</i>)	3717	700	562	682	0	581
Quantité conservées (<i>kg</i>)	4639	1063	1490	292,5	0	1394
Quantité donnée en aumône (<i>kg</i>)	419	90	78	100	0	235
Quantité donnée en zakat (<i>kg</i>)	679	157	45	0	0	50
Autre (<i>kg; spcifiez</i>)						

Gathering of forest products: quantities

	Quantité collectée par année	Quantité vendue	Produit forestier	Quantité collectée par année	Quantité vendue
Jibjib (kg) [084]	2670,5	1062,5	Maru riz Mauritanie (kg) [090]	0	0
Azz (kg) [085]	1270	100	Plantes médicinaux (kg) [091]	1782	1105
Bois de chauffe (m ³) [086]	6050	3800	Salaha (kg) [092]	1036	815
Bois de construction (m) [087]	778	550	Tilba ndiri (kg) [093]	16	0
Charbon (kg) [088]	46500	33100	Autre (spécifiez) [094] Touga	540	415
Gomme arabique (kg) [089]	1999	1747	Autre (spécifiez) [095] Togba	Brique en banco : 2024 togba : 52	Brique en banco : 400 togba : 42

7. Conclusions

Code Pastoral

An example of modern law-making:

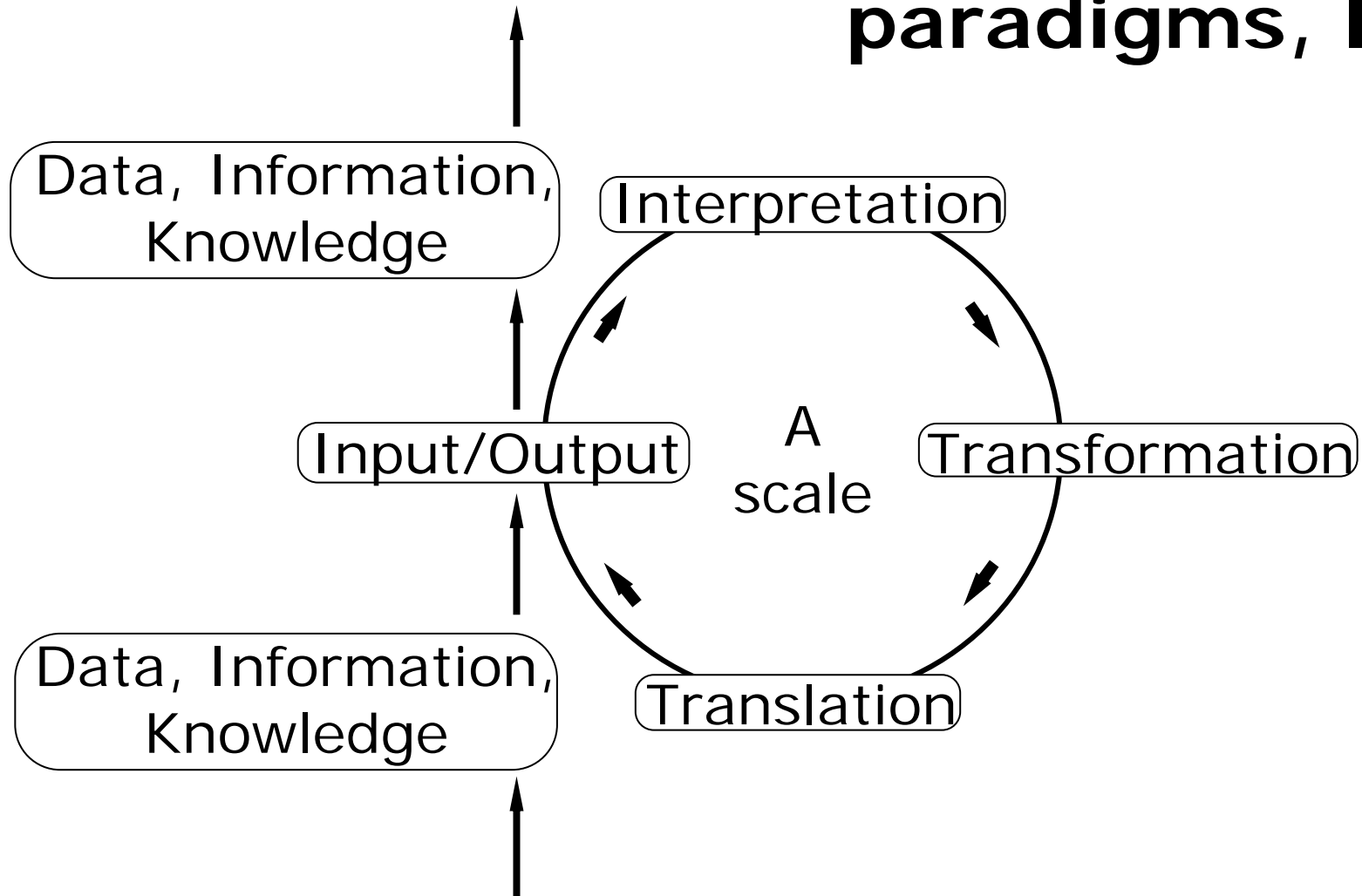
- National law on nomadism/herders, initiated by local NGOs, supported by GTZ/World Bank
- Characteristics: Participatory process followed, Based on Sharia/trad. law, Good language that is easily understood, Conflict resolution mechanism
- TFT aims to implement it in its project area, and emulate its drafting methodology

Scaling legal paradigms, I

On each scale three operations are involved in dealing with knowledge:

- Interpretation
 - Analysis of incoming knowledge/data
- Transformation
 - Adaptation to present scale
- Translation
 - Enabling transfer to next scale

Scaling legal paradigms, II



Next steps

- Data collection continues
 - Quant - extend to Chlim
 - Qual – on conflict: causes and implications
- Prepare maps
- Build collaboration, locally and internationally
- Extend partnerships, international