



SEVENTH MEETING OF THE UN-GGIM: AFRICA REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Common geographies in a national context

Presentation of TOGO

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Summary :

- 1- Presentation of Togo and its geospatial data infrastructure
- 2- Evolution of the administrative boundaries of Togo
- 3- Production of statistical data
- 4- Conclusion



1. Presentation of Togo and its Geospatial Data Infrastructure

Togo is a coastal country in West Africa, bordered at the north by Burkina Faso, to the south by the Atlantic Ocean, at the east by Benin and to the west by Ghana. Covering an area of 56,600 km², its population is 8,285,000 inhabitants in 2021, against 7 million inhabitants in November 2010. Administratively, it has five regions with a total of 39 prefectures and 117 municipalities.



In Togo, the national infrastructure for the production and dissemination of geographic data known as the General Directorate of Geographic Information and Cartography (DGIGC), is placed under the supervision of the Ministry of Urban Planning, Housing and Land Reform (MUHRF).



2- Evolution of the administrative boundaries of Togo

In 1960 Togo had 4 administrative regions

2.1- On January 1, 1990, Togo had five (5) administrative regions:

- a- Maritime region
- b- Plateaux region
- c- Central region
- d- Kara region



2.2- on January 1, 2001, Togo had 30 prefectures for the five administrative regions

2.3- on December 3, 2009, Togo had 35 prefectures for the five administrative regions

2.4- on May 27, 2016, Togo had 39 prefectures for the five administrative regions

2.5- on June 29, 2017, Togo had 117 municipalities for the five administrative regions



2.6- Since 2017 Togo has 116 new municipalities. The regions are still 5 in number and the prefectures are 39 in total. Each prefecture now has at least 2 municipalities. New prefectures were born by scission of old prefectures,

The municipalities are groupings of cantons except in Lomé where a canton has been split into three municipalities.



For an adequate management of the capital state, Lomé, the prefectures of the Gulf and Agoènyivé will be grouped together to form the district of Grand Lomé. This entity is in the process of becoming the 6th administrative region created by splitting from the Maritime Region (because of its high population density).



It is the Ministry of Territorial Administration which drafts the texts fixing the territorial jurisdictions of the administrative divisions (canton, municipality, prefecture and region). The General Directorate of Geographic Information and Cartography (DGIGC) uses these texts to produce the maps accordingly.



Since 2017, the DGIGC has initiated a project to densify the geodetic reference and leveling network over the entire national territory.

The first phase of this project consisted of drawing up an inventory of the existing situation. Speaking of this existing, it was in 1986 that 11 first-order points and 66 second-order points were installed throughout the national territory.



Unfortunately, densification could not be carried out due to socio-political unrest which had invaded the whole country in the 90s.

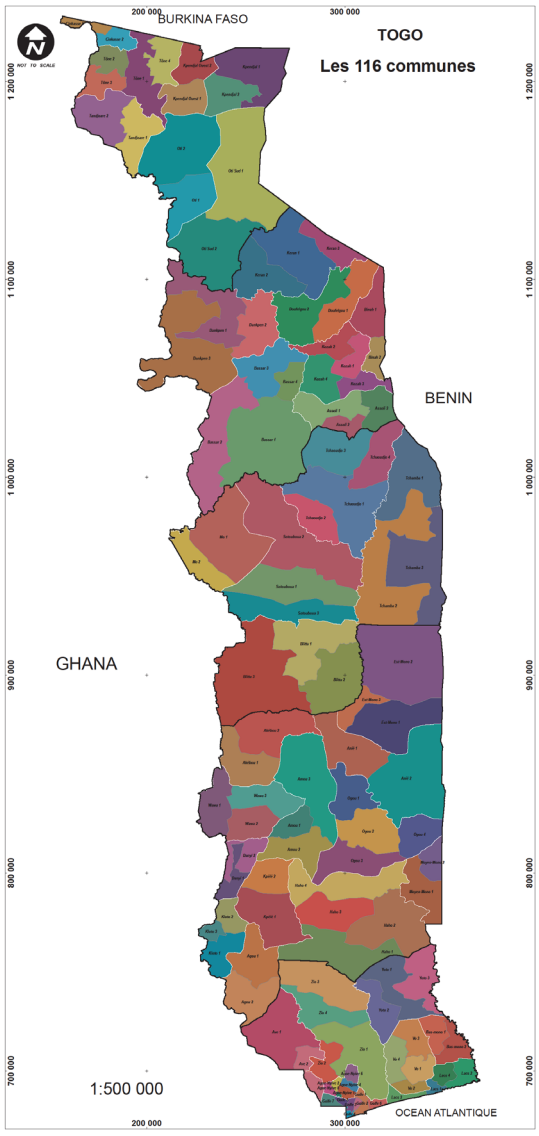
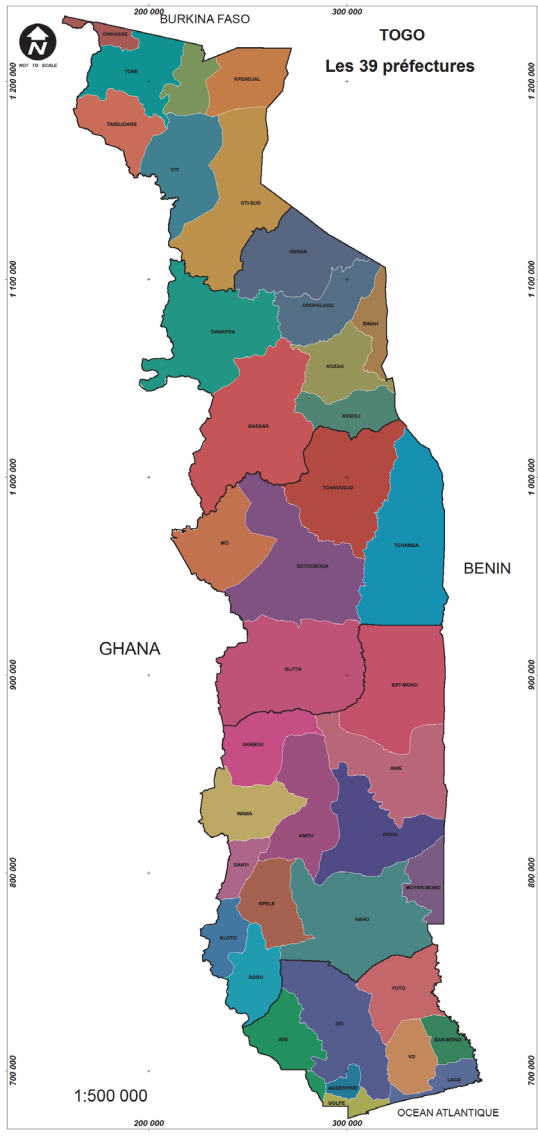
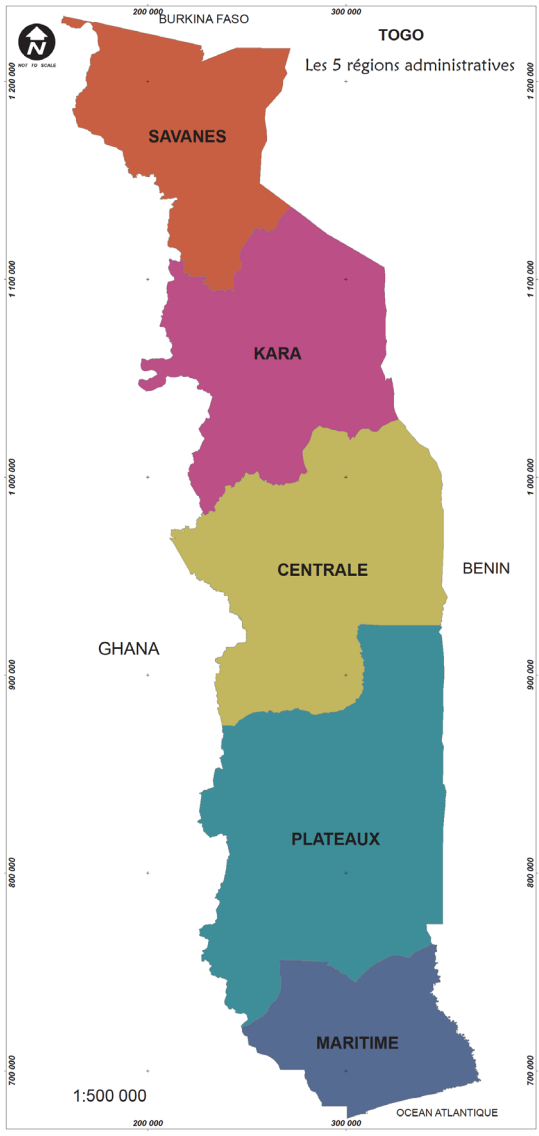
After the inventory phase, we began the construction phase of new third-order terminals.



Until the end of 2022, we will have completed the installation and observations of the 573 new terminals built. After this densification, therefore, we would be able to easily draw up maps of the new administrative divisions (cantons, municipalities, prefectures and regions).



2.7- Regarding statistical data, they are produced by the National Institute for Economic Statistics and Demographic Studies (INSEED), under the supervision of the Ministry of the Economy and Finance. A new general population and housing census is being organized throughout the national territory.





All of this work is being done against the backdrop of a critical lack of technical personnel and state-of-the-art cartographic equipment. This situation is due to the fact that our service is still not financially autonomous. We do not yet have the status of a national geographical institute as is the case in all countries today.

Thank you for your kind attention !

