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# Using species distribution models to optimize vector control in the framework of the tsetse eradication campaign in Senegal

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Tsetse flies are vectors of human and animal trypanosomoses in sub-Saharan Africa and are the target of the Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC). *Glossina palpalis gambiensis* (Diptera: Glossinidae) is a riverine species that is still present as an isolated metapopulation in the Niayes area of Senegal. It is targeted by a national eradication campaign combining a population reduction phase based on insecticide-treated targets (ITTs) and cattle and an eradication phase based on the sterile insect technique. In this study, we used species distribution models to optimize control operations. We compared the probability of the presence of *G. p. gambiensis* and habitat suitability using a regularized logistic regression and Maxent, respectively. Both models performed well, with an area under the curve of 0.89 and 0.92, respectively. Only the Maxent model predicted an expert-based classification of landscapes correctly. Maxent predictions were therefore used throughout the eradication campaign in the Niayes to make control operations more efficient in terms of deployment of ITTs, release density of sterile males, and location of monitoring traps used to assess program progress. We discuss how the models' results informed about the particular ecology of tsetse in the target area. Maxent predictions allowed optimizing efficiency and cost within our project, and might be useful for other tsetse control campaigns in the framework of the PATTEC and, more generally, other vector or insect pest control programs.

area-wide integrated pest management | genetic control | aerial release | chilled adult technique

Tsetse are vectors of human African trypanosomosis, a major neglected tropical disease (1), and African animal trypanosomosis (AAT), one of the most important pathological constraints to livestock development in 38 infested African countries (2). The Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign is a political initiative started in 2001 that calls for intensified efforts to reduce the tsetse and trypanosomosis problem (3). As part of this global effort, the government of Senegal embarked in 2007 on a tsetse eradication campaign in a 1,000-km<sup>2</sup> target area of the Niayes region, neighboring the capital Dakar. In this area, the limits of the distribution of the tsetse target populations were assessed using a stratified entomological sampling frame based on remote sensing indicators (4). The only tsetse species present was *Glossina palpalis gambiensis* Vanderplank, and it was responsible for the cyclical transmission of three trypanosome species, namely *Trypanosoma vivax*, *T. congolense*, and *T. brucei brucei*, listed in order of importance (5). The high prevalence of animal trypanosomosis in the Niayes (serological prevalence of 28.7% for *T. vivax*) hampered

peri-urban intensification of cattle production (particularly dairy cattle). A population genetics study demonstrated that the *G. p. gambiensis* population of the Niayes was completely isolated from the main tsetse belt in the southeastern part of Senegal (6). This comprehensive set of entomological, veterinary, genetic, and other baseline data confirmed the isolated nature of the *G. p. gambiensis* population in the Niayes, which prompted the government of Senegal to select an eradication strategy using area-wide integrated pest management (AW-IPM) principles (7).

The successful implementation of an AW-IPM strategy requires a thorough understanding of the ecology of the target population, particularly its spatial distribution, a study which was undertaken in the Niayes from 2007 to 2011 before the start of the operational eradication efforts. The selected strategy integrates insecticide-treated targets (ITTs) and cattle with the release of sterile insects. As the habitat of *G. p. gambiensis* is very fragmented (4), the targeting of suitable habitats for deployment of the ITTs is crucial to optimize cost efficiency (8) but also to enable the selection of appropriate sites for deployment of the

## Significance

Tsetse flies transmit human and animal trypanosomoses in sub-Saharan Africa, respectively a major neglected disease and the most important constraint to cattle production in infested countries. They are the target of the Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC). Here we show how distribution models can be used to optimize a tsetse eradication campaign in Senegal. Our results allow a better understanding of the relationships between tsetse presence and various environmental parameters measured by remote sensing. Furthermore, we argue that the methodology developed should be integrated into future tsetse control efforts that are planned under the umbrella of the PATTEC initiative. The results have a generic value for vector and pest control campaigns, especially when eradication is contemplated.

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The authors declare no conflict of interest.

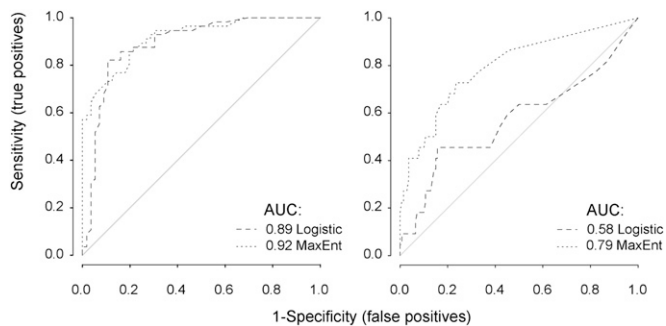
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**Fig. 2.** ROC curves and AUCs of the regularized logistic regression and Maxent models. These results were obtained using the presence-absence validation dataset (*Left*) and the expert-based landscape classification from aerial images (*Right*).

Marginal response curves for the different predictors (Fig. S3) showed that the percentage of the area covered by forest was positively correlated with habitat suitability, with a sharp increase after 5% of forests and a plateau after 20%. With respect to average day LST, habitat suitability was stable between 20 and 35 °C and then sharply decreased; whereas average day LST was not low enough in the study area to limit the presence of *G. p. gambiensis*, high temperatures were unsuitable. The correlation between minimum day LST and habitat suitability was bell-shaped, with a maximum between 20 and 25 °C. This could be related to the buffering effect of dense tree cover on temperature drops at night. Indeed, night temperature drops faster in open environments than in the forest. Habitat suitability dropped sharply, with minimum temperatures exceeding 25 °C. The correlation between mean NDVI and habitat suitability was a sigmoid curve that increased sharply after 0.2. Regarding NDVI range, a plateau of habitat suitability was observed until 0.5 and sharply decreased after this threshold, thus illustrating the importance of perennial tree vegetation for this tsetse species. The relationship with habitat suitability was similar for MIR SD, related to the strong negative correlation between NDVI and MIR.

**Use of Maxent Predictions in the Tsetse Eradication Project.** Before the availability of the Maxent model in the Senegal project, operational choices such as selection of trap sites were made using a vegetation classification obtained from a Landsat 7 Enhanced Thematic Mapper Plus (ETM+) image of April 2001. Suitable habitat for *G. p. gambiensis* was mapped from this classification with high sensitivity but low specificity (4). The availability of the Maxent predictions was used in four ways to optimize the implementation of the eradication effort.

First, boundaries of the target eradication area, shown as black grid cells in Fig. 3, were validated by the model. All of the new suitable habitat areas identified by the Maxent model within a range of 5 km around sites where wild *G. p. gambiensis* had been trapped (at any occasion) were already included in the control strategy (*Discussion*). The target area was subdivided into four operational blocks, which are being sequentially addressed during the operational program (Fig. 4). Each block was subjected to a 1-y tsetse-density reduction phase, followed by an 18-mo eradication period using the sterile insect technique.

Second, the spatial distribution of the monitoring traps deployed since January 2012 in block 1 and since October 2012 in block 2 was modified through relocating 22 of the 97 monitoring traps (23%) to more suitable sites according to habitat suitability as predicted by the Maxent model (Fig. S4). In block 3, where monitoring had not started yet at the time of writing, the monitoring traps will also be deployed in sites that have a high (predicted) suitability value as indicated by the model.

Third, 1,347 insecticide-impregnated traps used for tsetse-density reduction were deployed in block 2 according to predictions of

Maxent during the period December 2012 to February 2013, from which 661 were renewed during the period January to February 2014. The total surface area covered by block 2 is close to 500 km<sup>2</sup> but contains only 80.6 km<sup>2</sup> of predicted suitable habitat, thus giving a final trap density of 16.7 traps per km<sup>2</sup> of suitable habitat (Fig. 4).

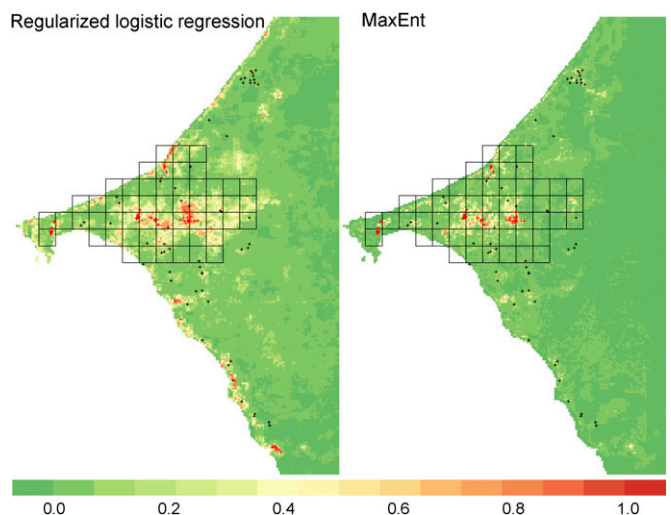
Fourth, predicted suitable habitats were also used to optimize aerial releases of sterile male *G. p. gambiensis*. Polygons with similar surface areas of suitable patches were identified (RL1 and RL2 in block 1, for example; Fig. 4) and the density of released sterile males was adjusted proportionally to the area of suitable habitat in these polygons (0.24 and 0.11 flies per ha in RL1 and RL2, respectively).

#### Optimization of Tsetse Suppression and Eradication by the Model.

In the first block, the apparent density of *G. p. gambiensis* dropped from an average of 0.42 (SD 0.39) flies per trap per d before control to an average of 0.04 (SD 0.11) flies per trap per d and 0.003 (SD 0.01) flies per trap per d during the suppression and eradication phases, respectively (Fig. 5). In the second block, the apparent density dropped from an average of 1.24 (SD 1.23) flies per trap per d before control to an average of 0.005 (SD 0.017) flies per trap per d during the suppression phase.

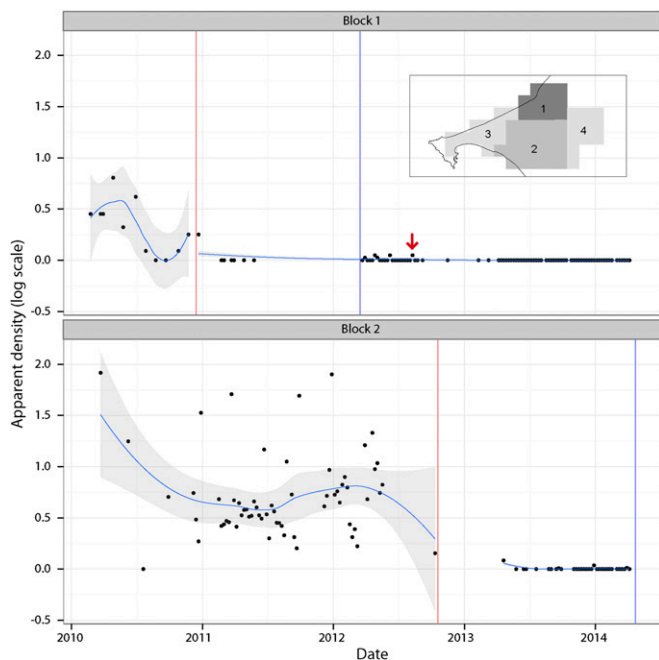
Apparent fly density in block 2 was higher than in block 1 (generalized linear mixed model,  $P = 0.009$ ; *SI Methods*) before the start of the suppression, which initially sharply reduced tsetse densities ( $P = 0.001$ ). This effect was limited in time (6 mo), and tsetse density remained stable and even increased with time thereafter ( $P < 10^{-3}$ ), although remaining at a very low level ( $< 0.04$  fly per trap per d) until the eradication phase started. The cumulated reduction of densities with time was higher in block 2 (reduction of 99.6%) than in block 1 (reduction of 90.4%) ( $P < 10^{-3}$ ).

In block 1, the last wild fly was captured on August 9, 2012, ~6 mo after the start of sterile male releases. It was an old female (more than 40 d old) in its fourth larviposition cycle with an empty uterus, and the next follicle was immature and small, indicating an abortion. This female showed a copulation scar and its spermatheca was 85% filled, indicating that its sterility was probably induced by a mate with one sterile male. From the beginning of the eradication phase in block 1 (March 16, 2012) to the date corresponding to the last capture, only three other wild



**Fig. 3.** Predictions of the regularized logistic regression and Maxent models. In the case of the logistic model, the predictions correspond to probabilities of presence, whereas in the case of the Maxent model, they correspond to a rescaled suitability index (logistic output). The black cells correspond to the target area. Black and red crosses represent absence and presence data, respectively.





**Fig. 5.** Impact of the control operations on tsetse apparent densities per trap per d. The red vertical lines represent the start of the suppression phase (insecticide targets) in each block, whereas the blue vertical lines represent the start of the eradication phase (release of sterile males). Densities are presented in natural log scale [ $\log(\text{catch} + 1)$ ]. The regression curves correspond to a nonparametric loess curve with associated 95% confidence interval. The map presents the location of the blocks that are targeted sequentially following a rolling carpet approach. The vertical red arrow shows the capture of the last indigenous fly in block 1.

consisting of the grid cells contiguous to these infested cells. This strategy was validated by the Maxent predictions using this sensitivity threshold and confirmed that the target area was spatially isolated from any other suitable area for *G. p. gambiensis*. The area selected for model predictions did not include the populations of northern Sine Saloum (4) because they represent a different ecotype, genetically isolated from the Niayes metapopulation. We however included the “small coast” area of Senegal, again to avoid leaving tsetse-infested pockets south of the target area (6).

Interestingly, the Maxent model predicted some suitable habitat north of the target area (Fig. 3), which was infested by *G. p. gambiensis* in the 1970s and was subjected to a control program using residual spraying of dieldrin and trapping (4). This former control program probably eliminated some pockets of *G. p. gambiensis* that were completely isolated from the main infested area by sand dunes. Actually, no *G. p. gambiensis* flies were captured in these sites despite intensive sampling for several months and using numerous traps (4), despite these sites appearing fully suitable for this species based on phytosociological criteria.

The improvement provided by the Maxent model, in comparison with the maps of suitable habitats (forests) based on the supervised classification of Landsat ETM+ images, is mainly related to specificity: 0.43 with this classification vs. 0.57 with Maxent. Sensitivity was already 0.96 with the supervised classification. Maxent selected those permanent tree habitats where climatic conditions (particularly temperature) allowed tsetse survival. Even if MODIS data mainly provide information on the macroclimate, they also allow making inferences on tree cover (particularly using night LST) and therefore on the buffering effect of permanent vegetation on macroclimatic conditions. Maxent models thus allowed increasing the sensitivity of the monitoring system, because traps previously set in unsuitable habitats have been moved based on suitability predictions (Fig. S4).

Regarding the suppression strategy, the use of the vegetation classification in block 1 (Maxent predictions were not available then) already represented a great improvement in comparison with previous tsetse control programs; 269 targets were set in block 1 from December 2010 to February 2011 using this classification (corresponding to 19.4 targets per  $\text{km}^2$  of suitable habitat). They allowed a good suppression of the flies, whereas in the absence of a model of suitable habitat, densities of 60 targets per  $\text{km}^2$  were required in Guinea against the same subspecies: Recently, on Fotoba Island, 30 targets per  $\text{km}^2$  could only reduce the apparent fly density by 62% (8). In block 2, Maxent further improved the results, and a significantly higher reduction rate (99.6%) than in block 1 was obtained with a lower target density of 16.7 targets per  $\text{km}^2$  of suitable habitat (and 2.7 targets per  $\text{km}^2$  of the target area only). Considering a target cost of €3 in our project and a deployment cost of €6 per trap (19), the total reduction of the costs can be estimated at ~€43,700 for 1,000  $\text{km}^2$ .

Moreover, Maxent predictions allowed concentrating the release of sterile flies onto suitable habitats in block 1: With only 16.5 (SD 7.0) sterile flies released weekly per  $\text{km}^2$ , a sterile-to-wild male ratio of 130 was obtained, inducing 100% sterility in females and thus driving the population to extinction. The minimal weekly release rate was set at 10 and 100 flies per  $\text{km}^2$  of unsuitable and suitable habitat, respectively. Initially, sterile males were released from the air using carton boxes dropped from a gyrocopter, but since February 2014 a more advanced automatic chilled adult release machine was used (Mubarqui smart release machine; Fig. 4) that can be parameterized daily considering these parameters and the amount of flies available at the emergence center (Senegalese Institute for Agricultural Research) (20, 21). Within this machine, the vibratory feeders can be adjusted to release rates between 10 and 100 flies per  $\text{km}^2$ , with a gyrocopter flying at a speed of 110 km/h. In the absence of the Maxent models, it would have been necessary to release at least 100 flies per  $\text{km}^2$  everywhere in the target area [in Zanzibar, up to 300 flies per  $\text{km}^2$  were even released in the forest section to eradicate *G. austeni* (22)]. With a mean cost of €0.2 per pupa [including production costs at Centre International de Recherche-Développement sur l'Élevage en zone Subhumide (CIRDES), Burkina Faso and the Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS) and €0.04 transport cost per pupa], this represents major savings of ~€590,000 for our project, taking into account that 70% of received pupae provide for operational sterile flies, when taking into account the emergence rate and mortality rate at the insectarium before release. Moreover, the total number of sterile male *G. p. gambiensis* pupae produced by the CIRDES and the SAS is currently limited to 25,000 pupae per wk, and treating the full area would not have been possible without adjusting release densities to the availability of suitable habitat.

The same methodology will be applied in the two remaining blocks following the rolling carpet approach: When eradication is started in a given block, suppression is started in the contiguous block to avoid any risk of reinvasion. Based on this strategy, the full target area is planned to be cleared from tsetse by the end of 2016.

The same approach might be used to optimize any vector or insect pest control program, especially when eradication is the selected strategy (23).

## Methods

**Site Description.** The study area had a total surface of 7,150  $\text{km}^2$ , located in the Niayes region of Senegal (14.1° to 15.3° N and 16.6° to 17.5° W). At the time of the study, it was the target of an eradication campaign against an isolated *G. p. gambiensis* population (4) (Fig. 4). The climate is hot and dry from April to June, whereas the rainy season occurs from July to October and the cold dry season from November to March.

**Response Data. Learning dataset.** A cross-sectional survey was implemented from December 2007 to March 2008 (dry season) to collect baseline data for the eradication campaign using 683 unbaited Vavoua traps (4). Traps were

removed as soon as a tsetse fly was caught (minimum 1 d). In the absence of capture, the traps were retrieved after a maximum of 42 d.

To homogenize data quality and avoid pseudoreplication (data points in the same pixel), the dataset was simplified in two ways. First, the study area was rasterized into square pixels with a 250-m resolution to match the model predictors (*SI Methods*).

For the presence data, all trap positions located within the same pixel were aggregated and concentrated in the pixel center. Presence data were observed in 68 pixels from 91 presence points (*Fig. S5*).

For the absence data, all trap positions located within a buffer of 500 m around a presence point were removed (to account for tsetse dispersal capacity). Furthermore, we removed absence pixels with  $P > 0.01$  that the flies were present despite the absence of trapping using the model described (24) (*SI Methods*). From the initial 592 absence data, 333 were finally retained (*Fig. S5*), 56 of which were used in the validation dataset. Therefore, the training dataset was composed of 68 presence and 269 absence data.

**Validation datasets.** Trap data were collected independent of the training dataset from April 2009 to February 2013 during different surveys (tsetse dispersal and competitiveness studies, longitudinal monitoring of the demographic structure of tsetse populations, etc.). This dataset included 92 presence and 64 absence data. It was processed as described above, resulting in a dataset of 64 presence and 1 absence data (trapping times were not long enough to ascertain tsetse absence). A subset of 56 absence data was extracted from the 333 absence data described above.

A second validation dataset was created using 182 aerial photos taken from a gyrocopter at an altitude ranging from 100 to 300 m. The environment identified from these pictures was subsequently categorized as suitable or unsuitable for tsetse habitat (4). Picture coordinates were corrected using Google Earth to take the angle and deviation from the ground into account. Overall, 23 suitable and 159 unsuitable habitats were identified, thereafter called “expert-based habitats” (*Fig. S6*).

**Predictors Used for Tsetse Suitable Habitat.** Climatic and environmental data were derived from a time series of MODIS (version V005). Composite day and night land surface temperature (MOD11A2; 8-d averages), middle infrared (MOD13Q1; 16-d averages), and normalized difference vegetation index (MOD13Q1; 16-d averages) were selected for the analysis (25). Spatial resolution of pixels was 250 × 250 m (*SI Methods*).

A supervised classification of the vegetation was achieved using Landsat 5 Thematic Mapper satellite images with a spatial resolution of 30 × 30 m (*SI Methods*). Four cloud-free and haze-free satellite images were used, from

October 2009, April 2010, June 2010, and December 2010, to take into account the seasonal dynamics of these habitats, named “forests” in the manuscript.

**Models.** Ecological niche factor analysis was used to characterize the habitat of *G. p. gambiensis* in the target area (*SI Methods*).

**Regularized logistic model was used to predict tsetse presence probability.** Maxent analysis was used to predict habitat suitability. Approximately 10,000 pixels were sampled from the environmental variables (background) to calibrate the model. Because of the small sample size for presence data (56 points), only linear and quadratic transformations of environmental variables were used.

Model performance and comparison were assessed using the two validation sets (26). Model performance metrics were computed for each predictive model (27). The metrics used were the area under the receiver operating curve, called the area under the curve (28), the percentage of consonants correct (PCC), the specificity, and the sensibility (*SI Methods*).

**Regularized gain is an additional metric for Maxent models.** Marginal response curves were also computed to assess the relationship between the predicted suitability index and a given environmental datum. These curves were obtained by varying this variable while keeping all others at their average value.

Predicted values from regularized logistic regression and Maxent models were compared using Spearman’s rank correlation coefficient.

**Impact of Control Operations.** We used a generalized linear mixed model (29) to measure the impact of the suppression on tsetse apparent densities. The response data were tsetse counts in the traps. Time (measured in weeks), treatment (suppression or not), and the block (1 or 2) and their interactions were used as fixed effects, whereas the trap locations were used as random effects (*SI Methods*). Raw data are presented in *Dataset S1*.

The probability that eradication was effective in block 1 was estimated using the same model used to clean the absence dataset (24) (*SI Methods*), considering that at least a couple of flies were necessary to maintain the population.

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# Supporting Information

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## SI Text

**Existing Tsetse Distribution Models.** Several scientists have tried to model the distribution of tsetse populations to inform stakeholders on the risk of African animal trypanosomosis. Rogers and Randolph showed that the abundance and mortality of tsetse were negatively correlated with temperature-related indicators derived from meteorological satellites (1). Images from advanced very high resolution radiometers (AVHRRs) that are on-board satellites of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and in particular the normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI), a measure of the photosynthetic activity of vegetation, were used to predict the distribution of *Glossina morsitans* and *G. pallidipes* in Kenya and Tanzania with a predictive power of around 80% (percentage of correctly classified sites) (2). The same methodology using satellite-derived data (NDVI, ground temperature, and rainfall) subjected to temporal Fourier analysis was applied to eight species of tsetse flies in West Africa with an average predictive power of 82% (3). Discriminant analysis and logistic regression were used to produce probability maps of presence at a spatial resolution of 8 km and indicated that thermal data played a more important role in predicting tsetse presence than vegetation indices. This methodology is the basis of the maps still used by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (4).

**Discriminant Analysis and Vegetation Classification.** Robinson et al. proposed a methodology based on a sequence of discriminant analysis, maximum-likelihood image classification, and principal components analysis of AVHRR data (1.1-km resolution) to determine the distribution of four species of tsetse in southern Africa (5). The remotely sensed variables were the NDVI, soil temperature, and elevation, and predictive powers up to 92% were obtained for some species. Hendrickx et al. used unsupervised classifications of AVHRR (8-km resolution) and METEOSAT (5-km resolution) satellites to develop distribution and abundance maps of tsetse (6). More recently, vegetation units at different spatial resolutions of a land cover classification system (resolution of 1 km) were used to map suitable habitats of several tsetse species in Africa. However, the correlation between tsetse presence and vegetation classes/units was low for the *Palpalis* group (47%) (7). Fragmentation analyses were also used to map tsetse densities in Burkina Faso and Zambia (8, 9).

## SI Methods

**Response Data. Learning dataset.** A 250-m resolution was adopted according to ecological features of *Glossina palpalis gambiensis*; that is, the visual attraction of riverine tsetse flies to Vavoua traps is estimated at 50–100 m (10). During a release–recapture experiment implemented in this area ( $n = 150,000$  tsetse sterile males), the estimated mean daily dispersal distance was 510 m in the control area (data not presented).

For the cleaning of the absence dataset, trap efficiency of Vavoua traps for *G. p. gambiensis* in the study area was estimated at 0.003 per d per km<sup>2</sup>. To detect tsetse-free pixels (absence data), we used a probability model based on trap efficiency ( $\sigma$ ), number of traps set within a given pixel ( $S$ ), and trapping duration ( $t$ ) to calculate the probability of presence ( $p$ ) of tsetse within a pixel (11). With this model, the probability of observing a sequence of zero catches, given the actual presence of flies in the sampled area, is given by  $P = \exp(-S\sigma\lambda)$ , where  $\lambda$  is the population density (number of insects per area sampled). This probability was calculated for each pixel using the specific

number of traps, the duration of trapping, and the pixel surface (0.0625 km<sup>2</sup>). In the absence of any control effort, the minimal number of flies to be detected in a pixel was set to 10, considering this number was lower than any observed tsetse density for a resident population in the absence of control effort (12). We removed absence pixels with  $P > 0.01$ .

**Predictors used for tsetse suitable habitat.** The spatial resolution of pixels was 250 × 250 m for all data except for the land surface temperature (LST) products (1 × 1 km). Data were projected into universal transverse mercator-projected coordinate system 28N/WGS84. LST data were resampled to match the finest spatial resolution of 250 × 250 m, using the nearest-neighbor method (13). Summary statistics (average, minimal and maximal values, range, and SDs) were calculated for the period 2007–2009. These steps were performed using the R package raster (14), the GRASS geographical information system (15), and the MODIS reprojection tool ([https://lpdaac.usgs.gov/tools/modis\\_reprojection\\_tool](https://lpdaac.usgs.gov/tools/modis_reprojection_tool)).

For the supervised classification of vegetation based on Landsat 5 Thematic Mapper (TM) satellite images, radiometric corrections were done converting the numeric values into reflectance values. Maximum-likelihood classifications were used with the three-channel composition TM4, TM3, and TM2 (9, 16). Classification was supervised with 298 georeferenced field observations (17), which were used to define regions of interest (ENVI software version 5; [www.exelisvis.com](http://www.exelisvis.com)). Validation was achieved using 317 field records with a detailed description of the vegetation. Areas with high chlorophyll activity, corresponding to suitable habitats for *G. p. gambiensis* (riverine thickets, tree plantations, swampy forests, and Euphorbia hedges), were thus identified at each date. Confusion matrixes and Kappa coefficients were calculated to check the accuracy of classifications ( $K = 0.74$  for October 2009; 0.84 for April 2010; 0.82 for June 2010; 0.76 for December 2010).

**Models.** Ecological niche factor analysis (ENFA) is a variant of factor analysis used to explore and model species ecological niches. The environmental space actually used by the species is compared with the available environmental space using two indicators: marginality and specialization (18). Marginality is a measure of central position. It captures the dimension in the ecological space in which the average conditions where the species lives differ from the global conditions. A large marginality value implies that the conditions where the species is found are far from the global environmental conditions. In contrast, specialization measures the spread and use of the ecological space along dimensions of niche use. The higher this value, the narrower the space used by the species. Consequently, the species niche can be summarized by an index for marginality and another for specialization, represented on a factor map within the biplot framework (19). Computation was done using the R package adehabitatHS (20).

For the predictive models (regularized logistic regression and Maxent), we fitted each model in a linear and quadratic combination of environmental variables. In a similar way as marginality and specificity account for tendency and spread in an ENFA, linear combination accounts for centrality and habitat preference, and quadratic transformations of the features reflect species tolerance to that dimension. For each model, variable selection was done automatically through the use of optimal regularization parameters. These optimal parameters were obtained using a 10-fold cross-validation on the training set. We finally selected submodels (associated with specific regularization parame-



ters) with the highest predictive performance as assessed by the capped binomial deviance indicator.

For the regularized logistic regression model, specific tuning parameters (regularization coefficients) were obtained using a double cross-validation (one for each of the two regularization coefficients). We used the `glmnet` R package (21) to conduct analysis.

For Maxent, the beta multipliers that account for the magnitude of the regularization coefficient of each variable were obtained through a 10-fold cross-validation. The final models were replicated 50 times to estimate nonparametric confidence intervals for performance metrics, marginal curves, and so forth. We used Maxent software version 3.3.3k ([www.cs.princeton.edu/schapiro/maxent](http://www.cs.princeton.edu/schapiro/maxent)) through the R package `dismo` version 0.8.17 (14).

Regarding the model evaluation metrics, the area under the receiver operating curve (ROC) ranges from 0.5 to 1. A score of 1 indicates a perfect discrimination, whereas a score of 0.5 characterizes a random model. This statistic does not depend on the threshold. Moreover, optimal thresholds were computed to maximize the following metrics (22): the percentage of consonants correct (PCC); the specificity (Sp), that is, the probability of a negative result given that the individual is negative (probability of true negative); and the sensitivity (Se), that is, the

probability of having a positive result given that the individual is positive (probability of true positive). The ROC curve is a graphical representation of Se against false positives ( $1 - Sp$ ).

The regularized gain indicates how good the Maxent model fits the data, compared with a uniform distribution. The exponential of regularized gain measures how many times the likelihood of the Maxent model is higher compared with this random uniform distribution. This metric was used to compare variables and their contribution to the goodness of the model.

To assess the impact of the Maxent models on tsetse suppression and eradication, we used a generalized linear mixed model. The generalized linear mixed model was fit by maximum likelihood using a Poisson distribution. A log link was used for the response variable (tsetse catches), and the observations were weighted with the inverse of trapping duration. Simpler models, as well as models without weighted observations, were compared with the complete model using the corrected Akaike information criterion (AICc) (23, 24). The best model (the most complete in this case, presented with the raw data in [Dataset S1](#)), was considered as the one with the lowest AICc. R software (25) was used for this analysis, together with the `lme4` and `MuMIn` packages (23, 26).

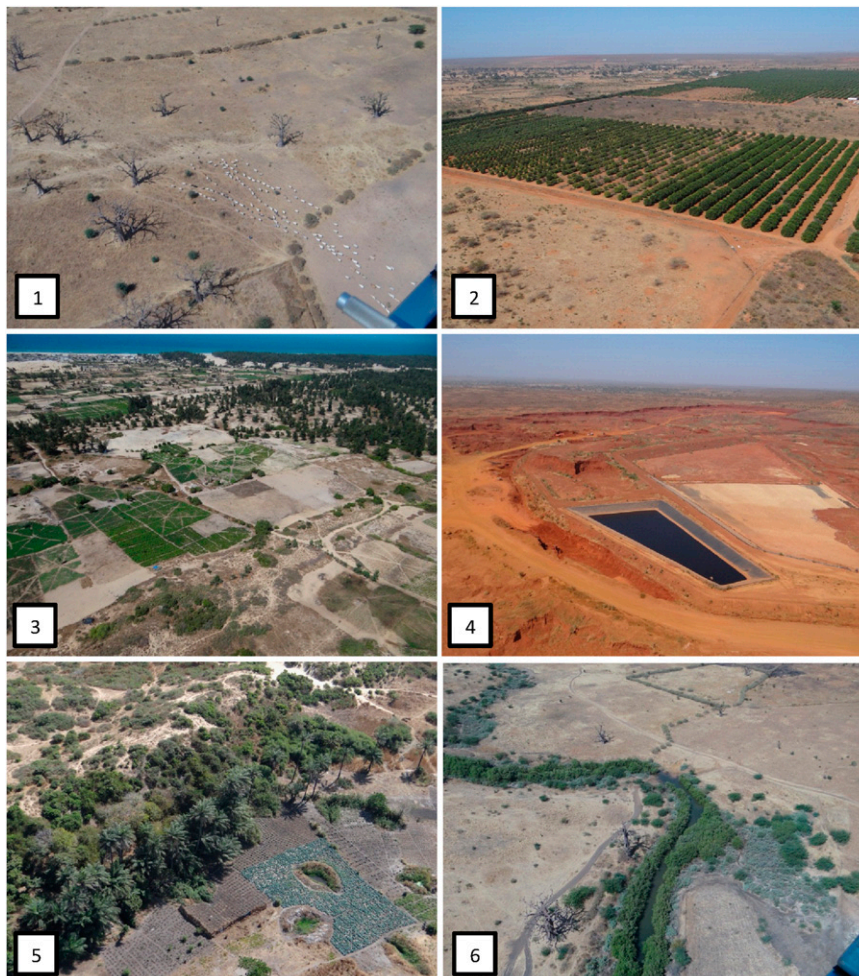
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**Fig. S5.** Cleaning of the presence–absence dataset. Full learning dataset (*Left*), cleaned learning dataset (*Center*), and independent validation dataset (*Right*). Black and red crosses represent absence and presence data, respectively.



**Fig. S6.** Expert-based classification of tsetse habitats. 1–4: Unsuitable habitats for *G. p. gambiensis* (cattle herd in a Baobab forest near Ngekhor, industrial mango tree plantation near Cindia, food crops on sandy ground near Kayar, and water reservoir near Thiès). 5–6: Suitable habitats for *G. p. gambiensis* (palm tree forest near Kayar and riparian thicket near Bandia).

## Other Supporting Information Files

[Dataset S1 \(XLS\)](#)