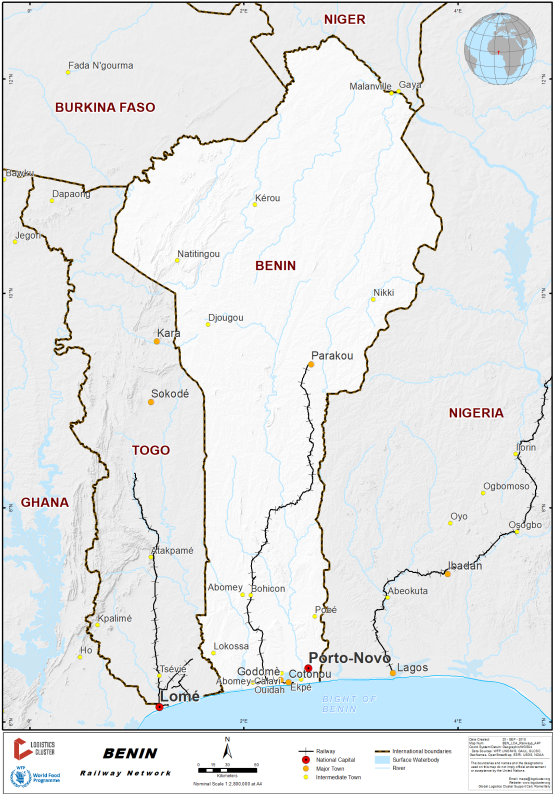


2.4 Benin Railway Assessment



Benin railway network was constructed between 1900 and 1936. It's structured around a single track, narrow gauge (1m) of 577 km in total and divided in three lines:

- 1. The Central line, from Cotonou to Parakou - 438km.
- 2. The West line, linked to the central line at Pahou (Pobè) - 32 km from Pahou to Segbohoulé via Ouidah.
- 3. The East line, from Cotonou to Pobe via Porto-Novo, 107 km.

For the moment, only the central line is being used and the last two lines have been put out of operation: Cotonou – Pobè and Cotonou – Sègbohoulé.

In November 2013, Benin and Niger signed a memorandum of understanding for the construction of a railway line linking Cotonou to Niamey, Niger. In addition to linking Parakou with Gaya, this project aimed to rehabilitate and modernize the Cotonou-Parakou railway line. The end of the work was originally scheduled for September 2015 but has been delayed.

The governments of Benin and Niger decided to launch the project AFRICARAIL together with Togo and Burkina Faso. The objective of the project is for the first phase to build 1,300 km of rails to connect to the partner countries.

For further information on contact details for railway companies please see the following links:

[4.1 Benin Government Contact List](#)

[4.9 Benin Railway Companies Contact List](#)

Travel Time Matrix

Travel Time from Capital City to Major Towns (Hours)			
	Cotonou	Abomey	Parakou
Cotonou	-	2h	9h
Abomey	2h	-	7h
Parakou	9h	7h	-

Railway Companies and Consortia

The former joint organization Benin Niger Railways and Transport Organisation (OCBN) was privatised in 2014 to become Benin Rail.

Key Route Information

Standard Route Information				
	Route A Cotonou -Parakou	Route B Cotonou - Abomey	Route C Cotonou - Pobè	Route D Cotonou - Sègbohoulé
Track gauge	1m	1m	1m	1m
Ruling gradient	•	•	•	•
Total track distance (single and/or double)	438km	144km	32km	357km
Type of rail (weight and if welded or not)	Single track, Welded	Single track, Welded	Single track, Welded	Single track, Welded
Type of sleeper and fastenings	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total track travel time	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Maintenance (Good, marginal, bad)	Marginal	Marginal	Marginal	Marginal
Companies-consortiums operating on line	None	None	None	None
Traffic frequency (monthly/weekly/daily)	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Security (Good, marginal, bad)	Marginal	Marginal	Marginal	Marginal
Main stations (Add details below)	Cotonou/Parakou	Cotonou	Cotonou	Cotonou

Key Stations

Key Station Information			
	Cotonou	Abomey	Parakou
Location	Cotonou	Abomey	Parakou
Contact Information	N/A	N/A	N/A
Connections with other transport means (road/waterways/air)	Road	Road	Road
Storage Capacity (square meters and cubic meters)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Handling Equipment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Handling Capacity: MT / Hour TEU / Hour	N/A	N/A	N/A