GRANIT
GROUPE RÉGIONAL D'ANALYSE INTERSECTORIELLE

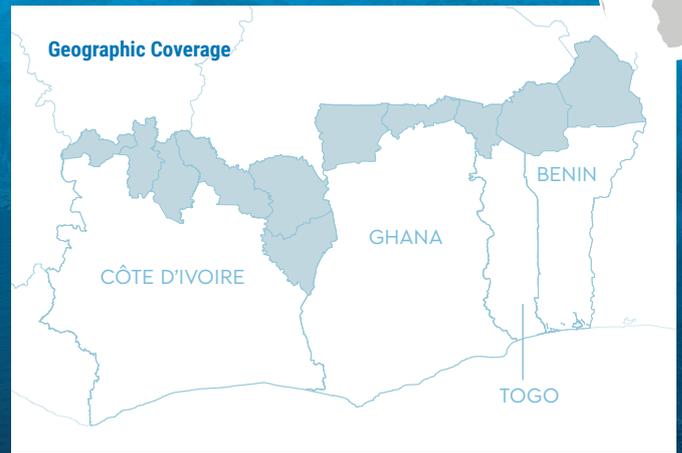# MULTI-HAZARD SURVEILLANCE TOOL FOR WEST AFRICAN COASTAL COUNTRIES

Benin - Côte d'Ivoire - Ghana - Togo
As of 30 November 2023

Geographic Coverage

BENIN

GHANA

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

TOGO

Key information on the changing context (October – November 2023)

With regard to the humanitarian situation, the months of October and November have always been characterized by climate-related events. This year, flooding in Ghana had an impact on the humanitarian ecosystem and presented access challenges.

Overall, the security situation remained stable in October and November. No significant increase in the number of security incidents was reported compared with the previous period.

— In October, heavy flooding hit the south-eastern part of **Ghana** after the Akosombo and Kpong dams opened their gates. The floods forced more than 39,000 people to leave their homes to seek refuge[1]. In addition, four security incidents were reported in the north of the country, mainly clashes between security forces and a self-defence militia.

— **Benin** continues to record the highest number of incidents, mainly with attacks on civilians and clashes between non-state armed groups and law enforcement entities.

— In **Togo**, clashes between non-state armed groups and security forces continue, with less frequency than in Benin.

— The reduction in the number of violent incidents noted in **Côte d'Ivoire** in recent months continues as no security incidents were recorded in October and November.

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1 *IOM Ghana | Rapid Needs Assessment in Volta Region: District of Central Tongu – South Tongu (Evaluation : 19-22 October 2023) - Ghana | ReliefWeb*

Administrative areas

Benin : Atacora, Alibori
Côte d'Ivoire : Folon, Bagoue, Poro, Tchologo, Bounkani, Gontougou
Ghana : Upper West, Upper East
Togo : Savanes

Key numbers* (january 2021 - november 2023)

	Benin	Côte d'Ivoire	Ghana	Togo
# Social unrest	134	21	17	14
# Violent Incidents	260	26	41	40
# of people at risk, out of total population	1.9M out of 11.9M (16%)	2.9M out of 22.9M (11%)	2.1M out of 29.3M (7%)	1.0M out of 7.9M (13%)

* Includes the following administrative regions: Alibori and Atacora in Benin; Savanes and Zanzan in Côte d'Ivoire; Upper East and Upper West in Ghana; Savanes in Togo.

Insecurity: Between January 2021 and November 2023, 553 incidents, including 186 instances of social unrest and 367 instances of violence, were reported in the northern regions of Benin, Togo, Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire.

Food Security: According to the latest Cadre Harmonisé update, around 517,000 people are currently (October to December 2023) food insecure in the areas of interest for the GRANIT analysis, i.e. the northern regions of Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo. This figure represents a slight increase of 4% on the same period last year.

Access to basic services: In Togo, in October and November, the 109 health facilities in the Savanes region operated without interruption and were free from attack. Nevertheless, the region faces challenges linked to the integration of refugees and other displaced persons, particularly in border areas. In northern Benin, the number of closed schools fell from 33 in the second quarter of 2023 (April to June) to 10 at the start of the 2023-2024 school year (September to December 2023).

Security Incidents: Trends[2]

Between January 2021 and November 2023, 553 incidents, including 186 instances of social unrest and 367 instances of violence, were reported in the northern regions of Benin, Togo, Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire.

In October and November, the number of violent incidents fell by one compared with August and September. Overall, the trend observed during the previous monitoring period persists.

Benin continues to record the highest number of incidents, with a predominance of attacks on civilians and clashes between non-state armed groups and law enforcement agencies.

In **Togo**, clashes between non-state armed groups and security forces continue, with less frequency than in Benin.
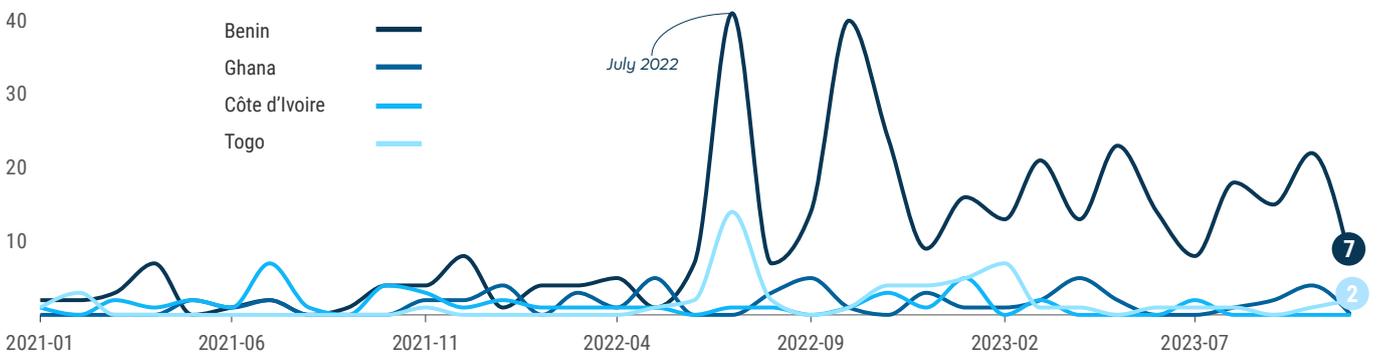
In **Côte d'Ivoire**, the reduction in incidents noted during the recent months continued.

In northern **Ghana**, the October to November period was marked by a series of clashes between security forces and a self-defence militia.
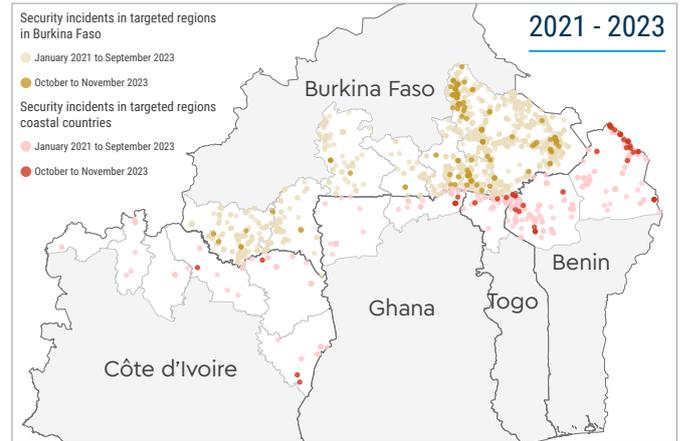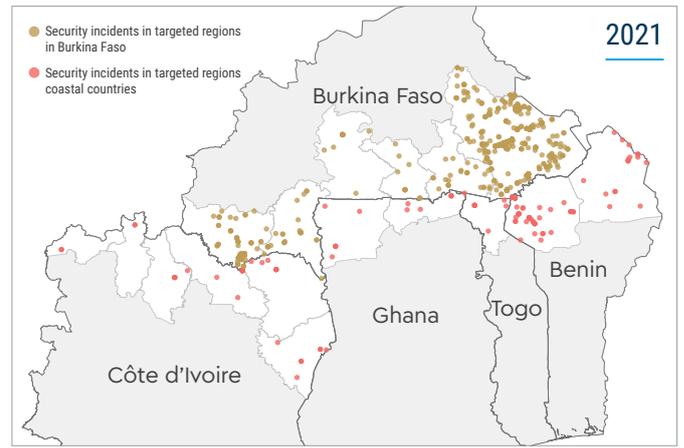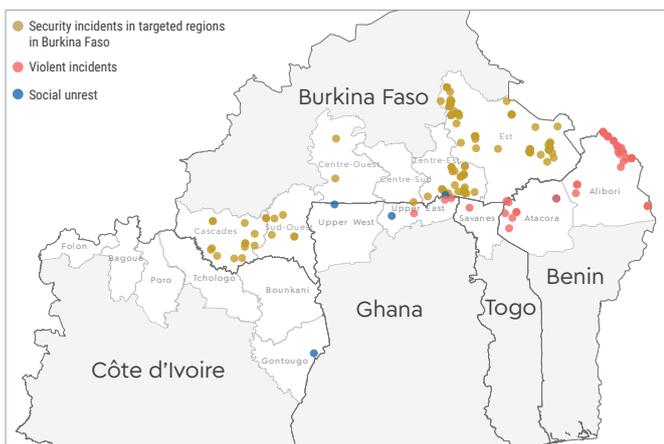
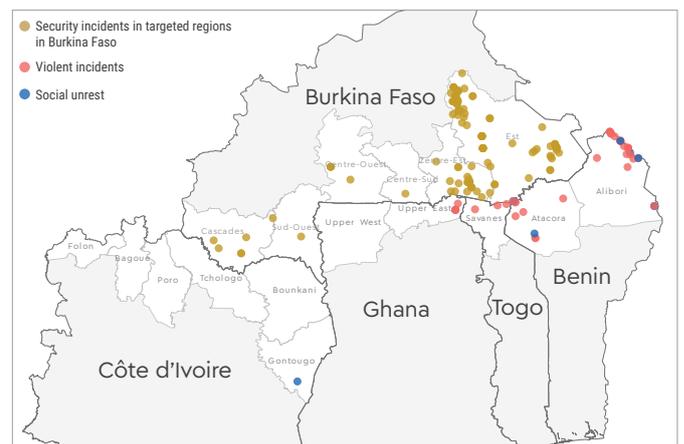*[2] Source of data on security incidents: ACLED. Analysis by ACAPS.*

Evolution of episodes of violence, by country

August and September 2023

October and November 2023

⚡👤 Security

This section examines the evolution of security incidents in coastal countries for the periods August to September and October to November 2023. The terms "social unrest" and "violent incidents" are used to differen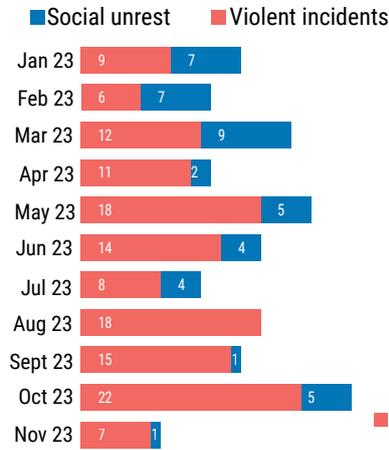tiate demonstrations, popular uprisings and incidents involving law enforcement, and societal challenges, from violent events such as attacks by armed groups, communal conflicts, or kidnappings.

🏳️ Benin

Over the October and November period, 29 violent incidents were reported in northern Benin, compared with 33 in August to September. This decrease falls within the fluctuations observed since January 2021. The incidents reported mostly take the form of attacks by non-state armed groups on security forces, kidnappings and attacks on civilians.

As in the August and September period, Alibori is the most affected region, with 72% of all incidents reported in October and November.

Trends in security incidents

■ Social unrest   ■ Violent incidents

Month	Violent incidents	Social unrest
Jan 23	9	7
Feb 23	6	7
Mar 23	12	9
Apr 23	11	2
May 23	18	5
Jun 23	14	4
Jul 23	8	4
Aug 23	18	
Sept 23	15	1
Oct 23	22	5
Nov 23	7	1

Types of violent incidents

(october and november)

29 Violent incidents

8 · 8 · 13 · 8

■ Armed clashes
■ Attack
■ Abduction/forced disappearance

🏳️ Côte d'Ivoire

The reduction in the number of violent incidents noted in recent months continues in northeastern Côte d'Ivoire, where no security incidents were recorded in October and November.
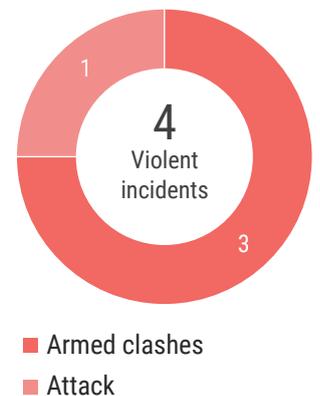
■ Social unrest   ■ Violent incidents

Month	Violent incidents	Social unrest
Jan 23	2	3
Feb 23		
Mar 23	2	
Apr 23		
May 23		
Jun 23		
Jul 23	2	
Aug 23		
Sept 23		1
Oct 23		1
Nov 23		1

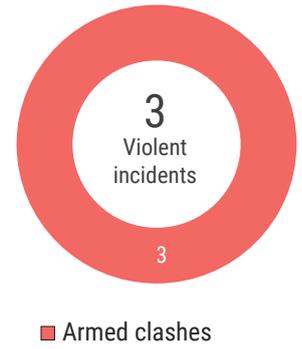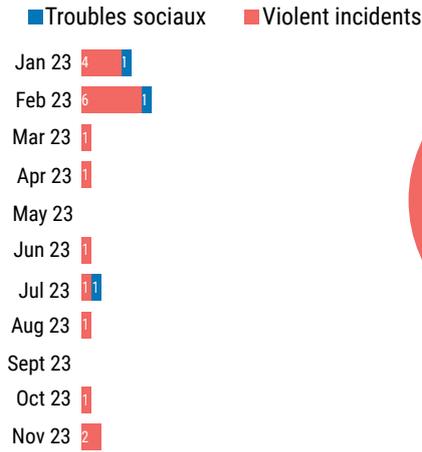No violent incidents

🏳️ Ghana

In October and November, four violent incidents were reported in northern Ghana, mainly in the Upper East region. These involved a series of clashes between security forces and a self-defence militia. These events do not appear to be linked to the three incidents reported in August and September.

■ Social unrest   ■ Violent incidents

Month	Violent incidents	Social unrest
Jan 23	1	
Feb 23	1	
Mar 23	1	1
Apr 23	5	
May 23		2
Jun 23		
Jul 23		
Aug 23		1 2
Sept 23	2	1
Oct 23	4	
Nov 23		1

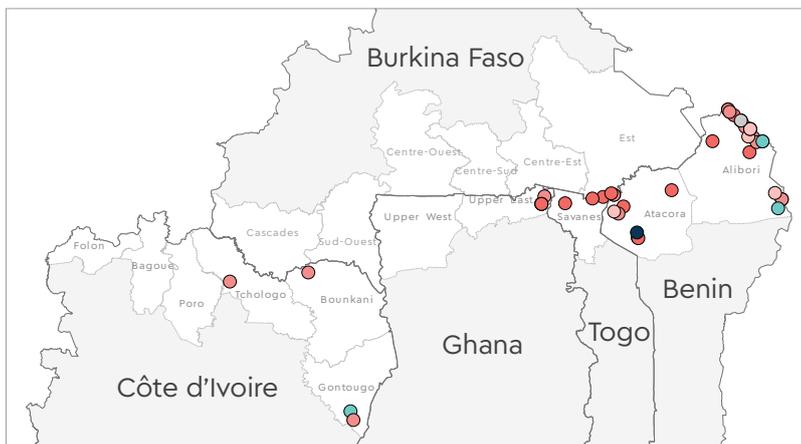

4 Violent incidents

1 · 3

■ Armed clashes
■ Attack

🇹🇬 Togo

In October and November, Togo witnessed three violent incidents in its northern region, compared to just one in August and September. These were clashes between security forces and the main non-state armed group present in the Savanes region.

■ Troubles sociaux ■ Violent incidents

Jan 23 — 4 | 1
Feb 23 — 6 | 1
Mar 23 — 1
Apr 23 — 1
May 23
Jun 23 — 1
Jul 23 — 1 | 1
Aug 23 — 1
Sept 23
Oct 23 — 1
Nov 23 — 2

3
Violent incidents

3

■ Armed clashes

## Security incidents by type between October and November 2023

● Armed clash
● Attack
● Abduction/forced disappearance
● Peaceful protest
● Looting/destruction of property
● Others
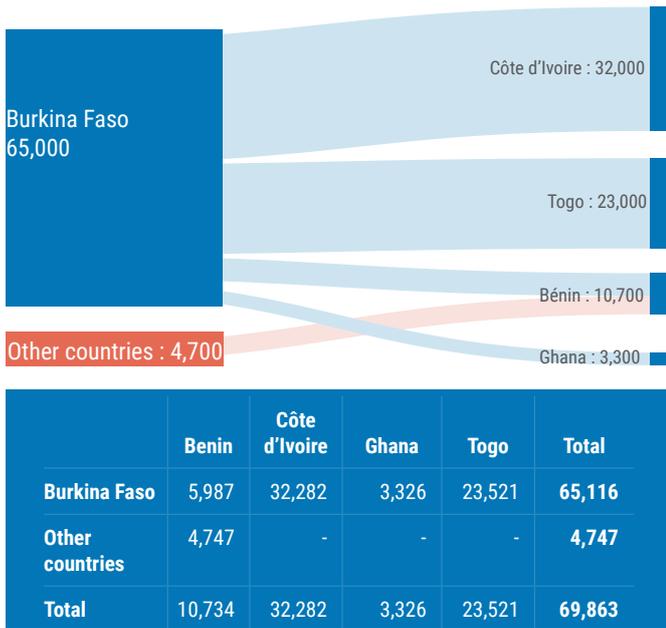
🏃 Displacement Dynamics

Refugees[3]

Data for October and November show an increase in the number of refugees and asylum seekers registered in the northern coastal countries. As of 30 November 2023, the total number of registered refugees and asylum seekers was 69,863 compared to 66,915 on 30 September. While the number of Burkinabè refugees and asylum seekers registered in Togo and Ghana remained unchanged during the reporting period, Côte d'Ivoire continued to see a significant increase in the number of asylum seekers, from 26,569 people at the end of September to 32,282 at the end of November. On the other hand, the number of refugees and asylum seekers registered in Benin fell during the period under review, partly as a result of the deployment of the biometric registration system and the temporary suspension of registration at the end of November.

Refugees from Burkina Faso by country

■ August and September ■ October and November

Benin: 5,900
Côte d'ivoire: 32,000
Ghana: 3,300
Togo: 23,000
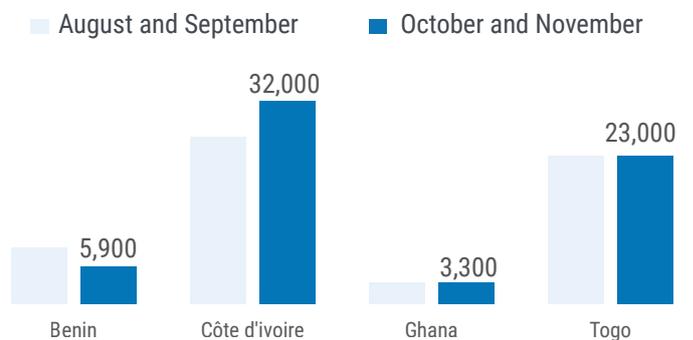
[3] *Analysis and reference data provided by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR)*

Origin of refugees and asylum seekers[4]

Burkina Faso 65,000

Côte d'Ivoire : 32,000

Togo : 23,000

Bénin : 10,700

Ghana : 3,300

Other countries : 4,700

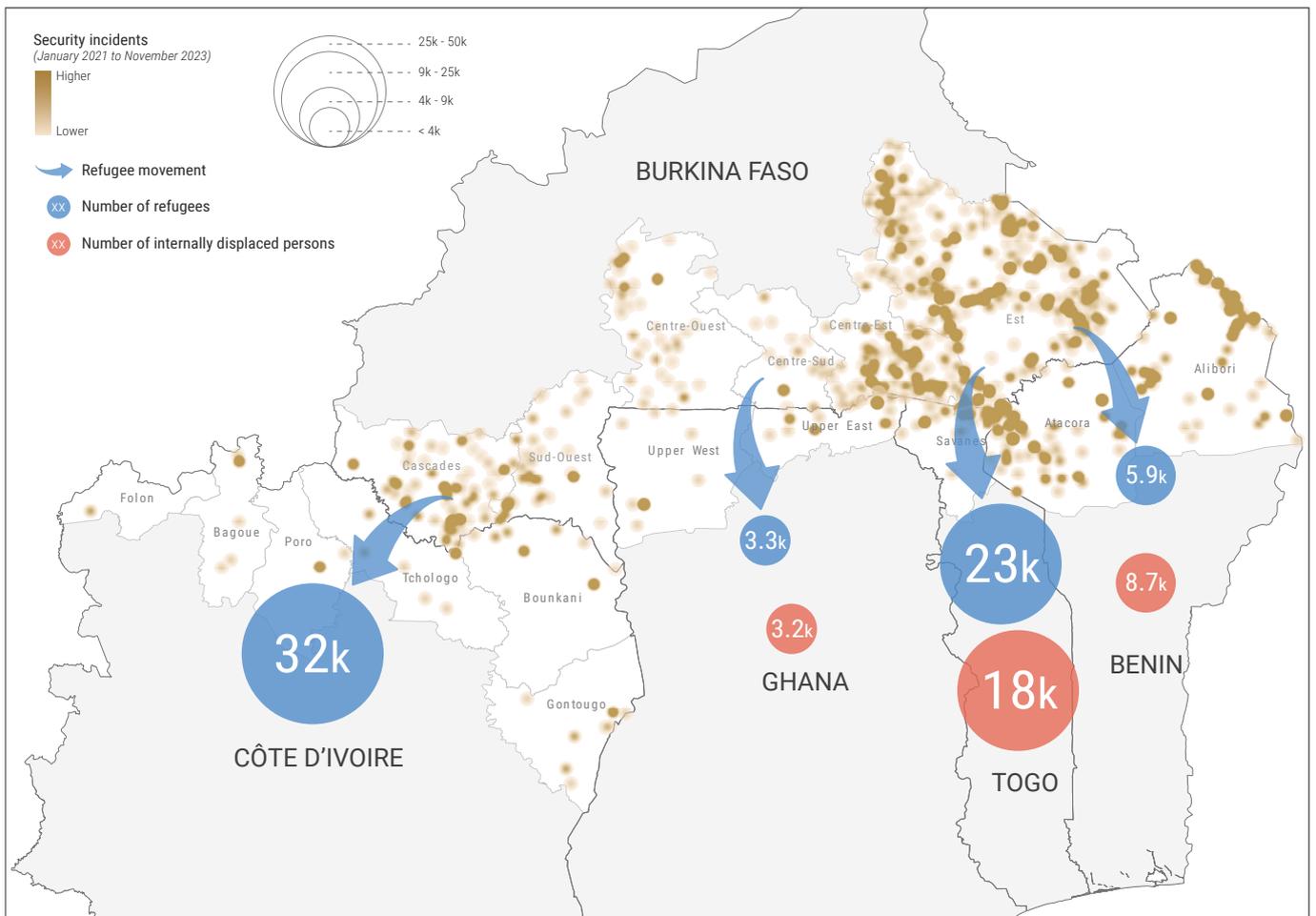|	Benin	Côte d'Ivoire	Ghana	Togo	Total
Burkina Faso	5,987	32,282	3,326	23,521	**65,116**
Other countries	4,747	-	-	-	**4,747**
Total	10,734	32,282	3,326	23,521	**69,863**

Internal Displacement [5]

The International Organization for Migration's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) reported 18,429 internally displaced people in Togo's Savanes region following data collection in June and July 2023. This corresponds to an estimated 4,206 displaced households. In Benin, according to a joint harmonization exercise carried out by the Agence Nationale de la Protection Civile, the DTM and national and local governmental and humanitarian partners in November 2023, a total of 8,785 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were identified for July 2023, with the communes of Banikoara, Matéri and Karimama hosting the most people, with 3,671, 2,892 and 1,540 IDPs respectively.

On 21 April 2023, 3,158 IDPs were reported by the Ghana Immigration Service, with populations in the Zebilla (802 IDPs), Pulmakom (255 IDPs) and Bawku/Missiga (2,131 IDPs) regions in the north of the country.

As of 30 November 2023, in Côte d'Ivoire, no internal population displacements have been officially recorded by local authorities.

Benin	Côte d'Ivoire	Ghana	Togo	Total
8,785	0	3,158	18,429	**30,372**

Breakdown of refugees from Burkina Faso and IDPs in coastal countries
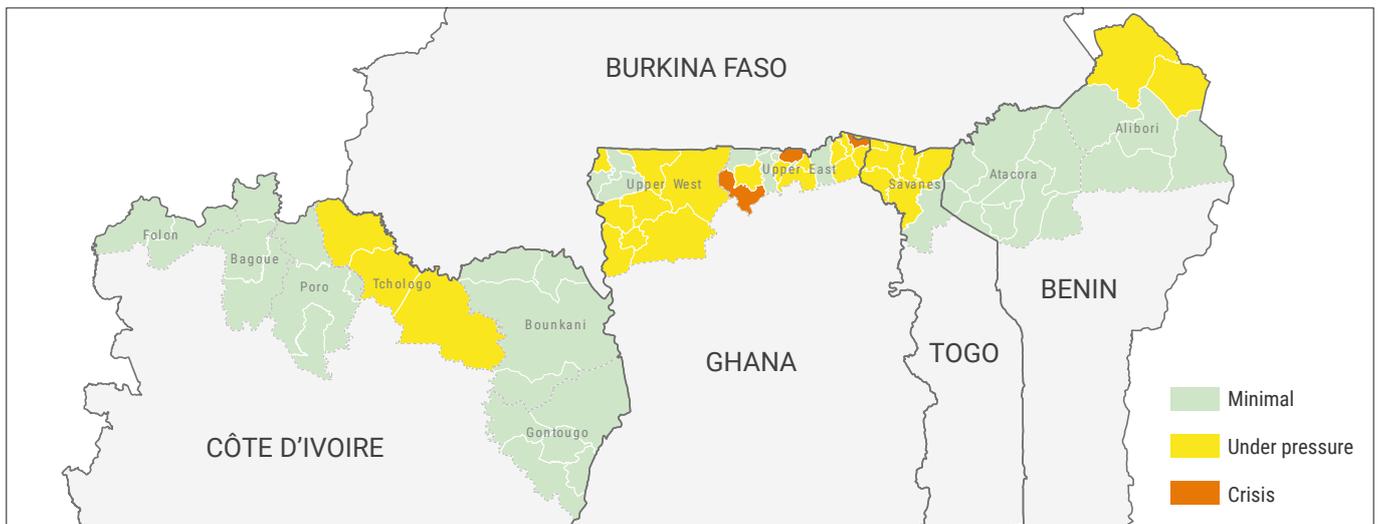

🥣 Food security[6]

Cadre Harmonisé (CH) results

— Around 517,000 people are currently (October and December 2023) food insecure in the areas of interest for the GRANIT analysis, i.e. the northern regions of Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo. This figure represents a slight increase on the same period last year (+4%). This figure includes 59,000 food-insecure people (CH Phase 3+) in Benin, 112,000 in Côte d'Ivoire, 226,000 in Ghana and 120,000 in Togo.

— The June to August 2024 projection indicates that nearly 713,000 people will be food insecure during the next lean season, an increase of 7% compared to the June to August 2023 period. This includes around 101,000 food-insecure people in Benin, 114,000 in Côte d'Ivoire, 253,000 in Ghana and 245,000 in Togo.

— CH estimates include around 26,500 people classified in phase 4 (emergency) during the current period in Ghana. This figure is expected to rise to 29,000 for the period of June to August 2024. This is a significant drop (-63%) on the June to August 2023 period, when almost 78,000 people in Benin (3,000), Ghana (35,000) and Togo (40,000) were estimated to be in phase 4.

Côte d'Ivoire: 3.8M people — 112,000 (3%), 12%, 85%
Ghana: 2.2M people — 226,000 (10%), 19%, 71%
Benin: 2.1M people — 59,000 (3%), 12%, 85%
Togo: 1.2M people — 120,000 (10%), 20%, 70%

Minimal   Under pressure   Crisis (food insecure)
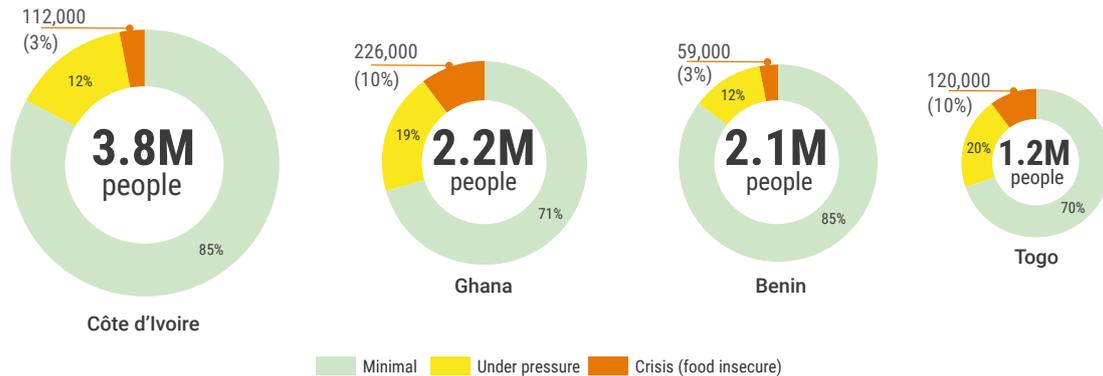
Current food and nutrition situation (October to December 2023)

Minimal   Under pressure   Crisis

Market prices

— In **Benin**, in November 2023, prices of certain staple foods remained high; in Alibori, prices were higher than last year: black beans (+140%), wheat (+91%), imported rice (+25%), sorghum (+22%), white corn (+19%). In Atakora, a similar trend was observed, but to a lesser degree: higher prices for palm oil (+44%), sorghum (+42%), corn (+28%) and millet (+13%) compared to last year.

— In **Ghana**, food inflation was consistently high for most of 2023, averaging around 50% between January and October. Although it fell towards the end of the year, it remained high at around 29% in December. Although the Ghanaian cedi stabilized in 2023 compared with 2022, the currency depreciated by around 30% against the US dollar. The country is going through its worst economic crisis in decades, with public debt almost as high as its GDP.

[6] *Analysis and reference data provided by the World Food Programme (WFP).*

💲 Access to health services[7]

🇹🇬 Togo

In October and November 2023, the 109 health facilities in the Savanes region operated without interruption and were not attacked. Nevertheless, the region faces challenges linked to the integration of refugees and displaced people, particularly in border areas and at the Dapaong regional hospital, which has seen an increase in social cases and destitute people. The geographic spread of refugees and displaced persons make the provision of appropriate health services more complex, and there is limited medical and psychological care capacity for these populations. A lack of food and non-food assistance has also been reported. More precise data are expected following a census to improve the effectiveness of the humanitarian response.

📘 Access to education[8]

🇧🇯 Bénin

In northern Benin, the number of closed schools has fallen from 33 in the second quarter (April to June 2023) to 10 at the start of the 2023-2024 school year (September to December 2023). These include 6 schools closed in the Alibori department (compared with 22 in April to June), and 4 schools closed in the Atacora department (compared with 11 in April to June). The school closures are due to the forced displacement of people from villages where there have been cases of armed violence and/or threats.

🌿 Gender-based violence (GBV)[9]

In a context weakened by security instability, the monitoring of protection-related factors remains a priority to ensure the completeness of multi-risk monitoring.

🇧🇯 Benin

The country is home to 8,274 displaced persons and around 22,876 asylum seekers and refugees, including 5,074 women of childbearing age, of whom 808 are pregnant. Unmet basic needs for shelter, food, health, clothing, education, water, etc., increase the GBV risk for vulnerable populations, including sexual abuse and exploitation, survival sex, child marriage, rape, sexual assault, psychological violence, trafficking and the use of negative coping mechanisms by the most vulnerable families. Based on data provided by Benin's Ministry of Social Affairs, 3,192 GBV survivors were assisted in October and November 2023. In November, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) in Benin organized a regional training of trainers on the minimum initial service package (MISP), which welcomed 32 participants from seven countries. UNFPA continues to support displaced people in the Nord region by providing integrated GBV and sexual and reproductive health services through mobile clinics in the municipalities of Cobly, Matéri and Tanguiéta, in the Atacora department.

🇹🇬 Togo

Insecurity in the Savanes region is hampering support for some 39,526 refugees, 32,000 displaced persons and 1.1 million members of host communities affected by violence in the north of the country. Women and girls need sexual and reproductive health services and protection against GBV. In the region, protection services are limited. There are three listening centres for GBV survivors to receive government-supported psychosocial assistance. Given the focus on access to specialized GBV services, 315 survivors were cared for from August to the end of October 2023 within UNFPA-supported listening centres and one-stop centres. Medical consultations and prescriptions have to be paid for by refugees and displaced persons, which limits access, particularly for those with no financial income. Five Togolese stakeholders took part in the MISP meeting organized by UNFPA in Cotonou, Benin, in November, to strengthen humanitarian emergency preparedness and response capacities.

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[7] *Analysis and reference data provided by the World Health Organization (WHO).*

[8] *Analysis and reference data provided by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).*

[9] *Analysis and reference data provided by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).*
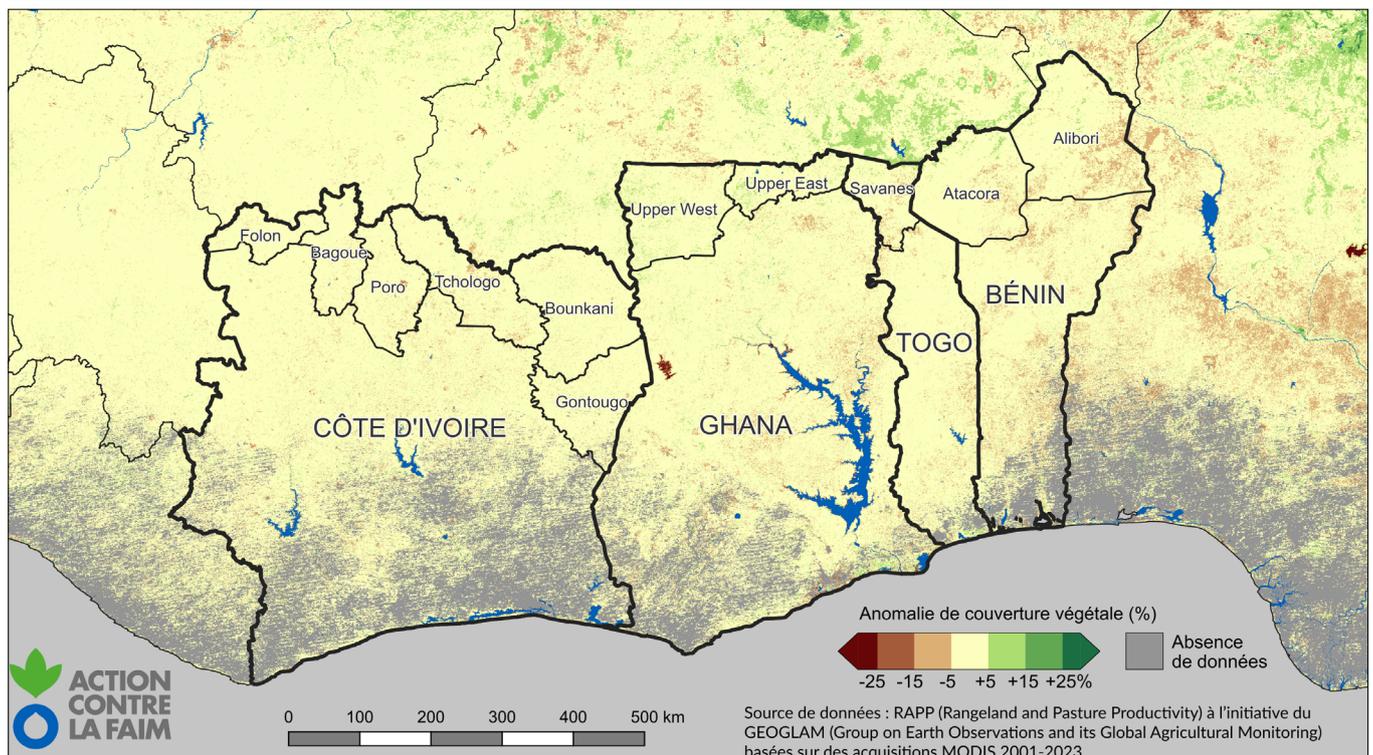
🌱 Biomass production anomalies[10]

The period from October to November 2023 coincides with the end of the rainy season in all Gulf of Guinea countries. Anomalies in the vegetation cover, including green and dry vegetation, compared with the average over the last 22 years, is normal to slightly deficient.

At administrative unit level, a few special cases stand out, notably Alibori (-2.13%) and Atacora (-1.57%) in Benin, with moderate deficits. Only Upper West in Ghana had a slightly positive anomaly with +0.13%.

These negative anomalies are set to worsen in the coming years as a result of climate change and the exploitation of this zone's forestry potential. Low biomass production in Sahelian countries, coupled with insecurity, has had an impact on transhumance movements to coastal countries, increasing pressure on the forage potential of these so-called host areas.

Full details of the analysis are available at: sigsahel.info

Vegetation cover anomalies measured for the month of October 2023 in target regions.

Anomalie de couverture végétale (%)

-25 -15 -5 +5 +15 +25%

Absence de données

Source de données : RAPP (Rangeland and Pasture Productivity) à l'initiative du GEOGLAM (Group on Earth Observations and its Global Agricultural Monitoring) basées sur des acquisitions MODIS 2001-2023

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[10]   *Analysis and reference data provided by Action Contre la Faim (ACF).*

GRANIT

GROUPE RÉGIONAL D'ANALYSE INTERSECTORIELLE

GRANIT was conceived in 2021 in Dakar on the initiative of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), IOM and REACH, with the support of regional sectoral working groups, UN agencies and non-governmental organizations.

GRANIT seeks to create a forum of technical experts and information managers to pave the way for a regional, holistic and cross-sectoral analytical approach to inform the crisis preparedness and response phases.

Methodology

The aim of the monitoring tool is to track developments in targeted countries, using a multi-hazard approach.

To this end, 15 indicators have been selected by the regional group of experts in emergency preparedness and response and GRANIT members.

Context assessment is drawn up by the group of experts working with GRANIT.

The quality of the analysis is influenced by available data/information.

It is updated every two months. Border areas (Alibori, Atacora in Benin; Savanes, Zanzan in Côte d'Ivoire; Upper East, Upper West in Ghana; Savanes in Togo) have been broken down to reduce the study area.

Possible further analysis

i. Regularly monitoring developments in the security context in the southern areas of Burkina Faso and the northern areas of the coastal countries, all along the border.

ii. Improve the analysis and disaggregation of security incidents, gain a better understanding of internal dynamics in coastal countries and better guide monitoring activities and decisions on emergency preparedness and response.

iii. Analyze the links between negative biomass anomalies in central Sahelian countries and the frequency of conflicts/land disputes in coastal countries.

iv. Monitor regularly population movements in targeted countries.

v. Complete data collection to inform the other indicators selected for the multi-risk monitoring tool, in order to have better visibility of changes in the context.

Indicators

These indicators refer to the monitoring methodology developed by sector experts and GRANIT members. Only three of the 15 indicators presented below are taken into account in this report. The GRANIT's ambition is to be able to include an analysis based on all the indicators in future reports, depending on the availability of data.

Refugees

Thematic: 1.a Population movements
Source: UNHCR Data portal
Available countries: Côte d'Ivoire; Benin; Togo; Ghana
Variables to monitor : All refugees

Internally displaced persons (IDPs)

Thematic: 1.a Population movements
Secteur: Protection
Equivalent indicator: Humanitarian Indicator Registry
Equivalent indicator code : P5

Social unrest

Thematic: 2. Security incidents

Sector: Protection

Source: ACLED

Available countries: Côte d'Ivoire; Benin; Togo; Ghana

Variables to monitor: Arrests; Excessive force against demonstrators; Popular violence; Demonstration with intervention by the forces of law and order; Violent demonstration

Note : Internal tensions/violence

Violent incidents

Thematic: 2. Security incidents

Sector: Protection

Source: ACLED

Available countries: Côte d'Ivoire; Benin; Togo; Ghana

Variables to monitor: Abduction/forced disappearance; Air strike/drone strike; Armed confrontation; Attack; Disrupted use of weapons; Grenade; Remote explosive/landmine/IED; Shell/artillery/missile attack; Wartime sexual violence; Suicide attack; Looting/destruction of property

Note: External violence

medical centres under attack

Themactic : 3.a Availability/accessibility of basic social services

Sector: Health

Source: National health services

Equivalent indicator: Humanitarian Indicator Registry

Equivalent indicator code: P2

Note : For this indicator, we are interested in the number of centres that have been targeted, in order to gain a better understanding of trends in violence.

# of medical centres affected

Thematic: 3.a Availability/accessibility of basic social services

Sector: Health

Source: National health services

Note: For this indicator, we would like to have an idea of the number of centres that have seen a reduction in their activity due to problems linked to the conflict (i.e. centres where staff have stopped going; lack of medication; etc).

schools (not) operational due to insecurity

Thematic: 3.a Availability/accessibility of basic social services

Secteur: Education

Source: National BoDs / EiE evaluations

MULTI-HAZARD SURVEILLANCE TOOL FOR WEST AFRICAN COASTAL COUNTRIES

Benin - Côte d'Ivoire - Ghana - Togo
As of 30 November 2023

Please scan for the latest updates