



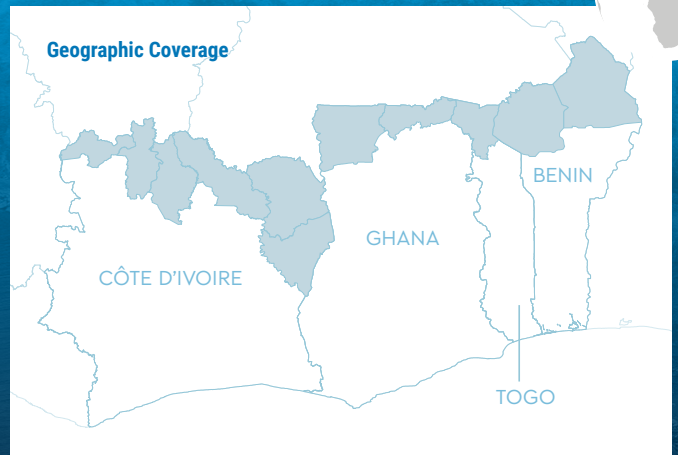
MULTI-HAZARD SURVEILLANCE TOOL FOR WEST AFRICAN COASTAL COUNTRIES

Benin - Côte d'Ivoire - Ghana - Togo
As of 31 march 2024

Key information on the changing context (February – March 2024)

WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR and IOM launched the Gulf of Guinea Joint Response Plan during the reporting period, designed to assist refugees, asylum seekers, displaced people and host communities in the northern regions of Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo. The Plan aims to help national authorities bridge the gap between humanitarian and development interventions¹.

- In **Benin**, the Assembly has voted to amend the Electoral Code, modifying the conditions for participation in the presidential election scheduled for 2026. These amendments are the subject of much debate among the general public and political parties². Despite the lifting of sanctions against Niger by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on 24 February 2024, the border remained closed on the Niger side during the period under review.
- In **Togo**, legislators adopted a new constitution on 25 March 2024, moving the country from a presidential to a parliamentary system ahead of legislative and regional elections on 20 April 2024. Parliament also voted on 12 March to extend the state of emergency in the Savanes region for a further 12 months, due to recurrent incursions by non-state armed groups in the region.
- The Regional Dialogue on National Security and Refugee Protection was held in Lomé on 21 and 22 March. Organised jointly by the Togolese government and UNHCR, the aim of the dialogue was to promote intergovernmental exchanges on how states meet their international obligations to protect refugees, while addressing national security concerns.
- In **Côte d'Ivoire**, on 27 March, the Ivorian army arrested a Burkinabè soldier and a volunteer for the defence of the homeland, a civilian auxiliary, in the border village of Dantou, in Ivorian territory. This incident is a further sign of the sensitive situation around the border between Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso³.
- On 28 February, **Ghana's** parliament passed a new law providing for up to three years' imprisonment for people recognised as belonging to the LGBTQ community, and up to five years' imprisonment for anyone who supports these communities, provoking criticism from a number of organisations⁴.



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 - March 2024)

	Bénin	Côte d'Ivoire	Ghana	Togo
# Social unrest	184	23	18	15
# Violent Incidents	366	27	50	43
# 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: In February and March 2024, the number of violent episodes decreased compared to the period December 2023 - January 2024. As in previous periods, a higher number of incidents were recorded in Benin, with a predominance of attacks against civilians and clashes between non-state armed groups and the security forces.



Food security: According to the results of the Cadre Harmonisé, in the current phase of the analysis (March-May 2024), 900,000 people are classified as being in crisis phase (Phase 3) in Côte d'Ivoire, 1.13 million people in Ghana, almost 364,000 people in Benin and almost 350,000 people in Togo. In Ghana, almost 20,000 people are classified as being in the emergency phase (Phase 4).



Population movements: The estimated number of arrivals of refugees and asylum seekers in the coastal countries at the end of March 2024 was 122,858, compared with an estimated 113,780 at the end of January 2024. This increase in the number of arrivals from Burkina Faso was mainly observed in Côte d'Ivoire, where more than 9,000 new arrivals were recorded during the reporting period.

¹ Gulf of Guinea Joint Response Plan for refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons, and host communities: Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo Regional Chapeau (January - December 2024) - Côte d'Ivoire | ReliefWeb

² Bénin : le nouveau code électoral fait débat - France 24

³ Côte d'Ivoire : un militaire burkinabè et un supplétif civil arrêtés par l'armée ivoirienne | TV5MONDE - Informations

⁴ Au Ghana, une nouvelle loi contre les personnes LGBTQ adoptée par le Parlement (rfi.fr)

Security Incidents: Trends⁵

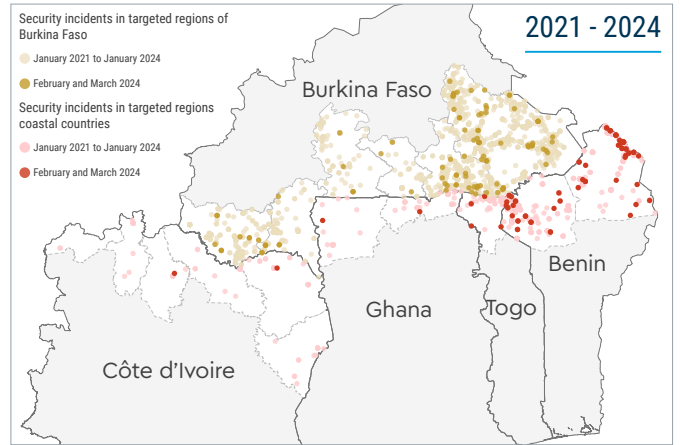
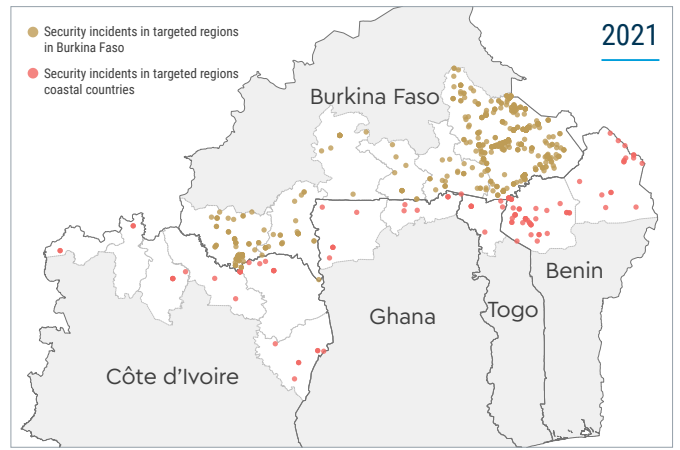
Between January 2021 and March 2024, 726 incidents, including 240 social disturbances and 486 violent incidents were recorded in the northern regions of Benin, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire and Togo.

In February and March 2024, the number of violent incidents fell compared with the period December 2023 - January 2024.

As in previous periods, a higher number of incidents were recorded in **Benin**, with a predominance of attacks against civilians and clashes between non-state armed groups and the security forces.

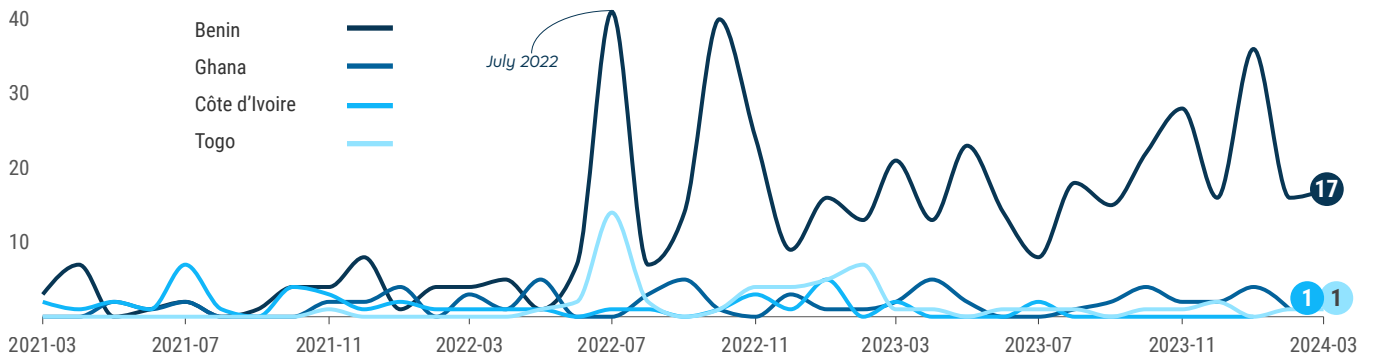
In **Togo**, a security incident involving a non-state armed group and a case of social unrest were recorded.

In **Côte d'Ivoire**, the relative calm that had prevailed in previous periods was broken, with one security incident recorded; while in **Ghana**, the period February - March 2024 was marked by one recorded attack on civilians by a non-state armed group.

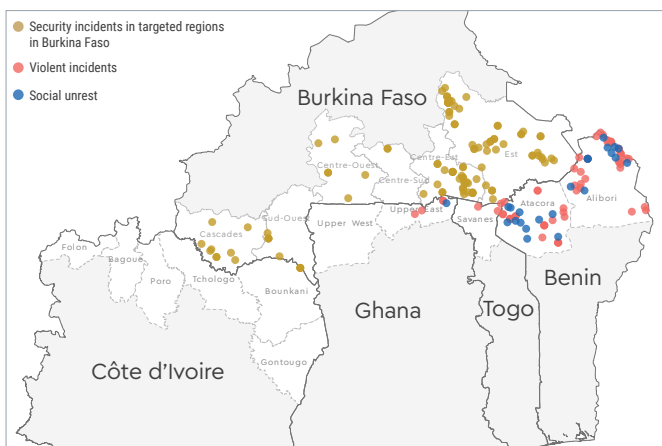


⁵ Source of data on security incidents: ACLED. Analysis by ACAPS.

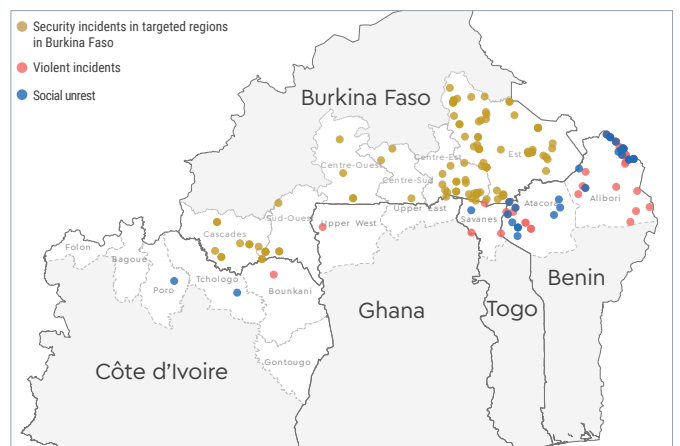
Violent Incident Trends by Country



December 2023 and January 2024



February and March 2024



Insecurity

This section examines the trend in security incidents in the coastal countries for the period February and March 2024, compared with the situation in the previous period. The terms 'social unrest' and 'violence' are used to distinguish between, on the one hand, demonstrations, popular uprisings and incidents involving the security

forces, and societal challenges and, on the other hand, violent events such as attacks by armed groups, community conflicts or kidnappings.

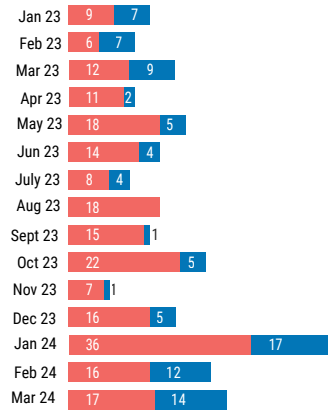
Benin

During the period February - March 2024, 33 security incidents were reported in the northern regions of Benin, a decrease compared with the period December 2023 - January 2024, which confirms the fluctuating nature of the trend in security incidents in Benin.

Attacks on civilians by non-state armed groups accounted for the majority of the incidents recorded. The department of Alibori recorded most of the incidents reported (23 incidents) over the period February - March 2024, followed by Atacora (10 incidents).

Trends in security incidents

■ Violent incidents ■ Social unrest



Types of violent incidents

February and March

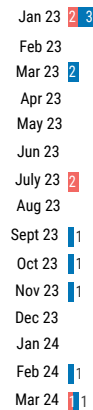


- Armed clash
- Attack
- Abduction/forced disappearance

Côte d'Ivoire

For the period February - March 2024, the relative calm seen in the north-east of Côte d'Ivoire during previous periods was disrupted by one reported case of an attack.

■ Violent incidents ■ Social unrest



February and March



- Armed clash

Ghana

In northern Ghana, one violent incident was recorded during the period February - March 2024, fewer than during the previous period.

Despite the decrease, this incident demonstrates the ongoing targeting of civilians, particularly in the Upper East region.

■ Violent incidents ■ Social unrest



February and March



- Attack

 **Togo**

During the period February - March 2024, there were two security incidents in the northern part of Togo, as many as during the period December 2023 - January 2024. These were an attack by the main non-state armed group present in the Savanes region against the security forces and a case of social unrest.

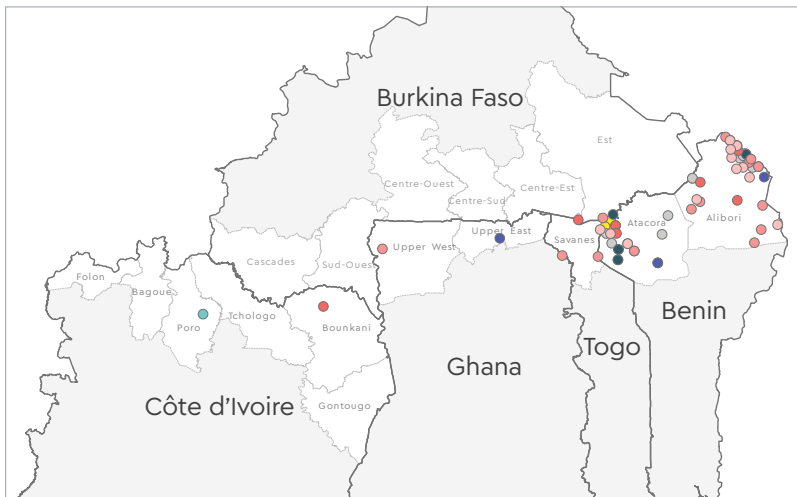
■ Violent incidents ■ Social unrest

Jan 23	4	1
Feb 23	6	1
Mar 23	1	
Apr 23	1	
May 23		
Jun 23	1	
July 23	1	1
Aug 23	1	
Sept 23		
Oct 23	1	
Nov 23	2	
Dec 23	2	
Jan 24		
Feb 24	1	
Mar 24	1	1

February and March



Security incidents by type between February and March 2024



 **Displacement Dynamics**

Refugees⁶

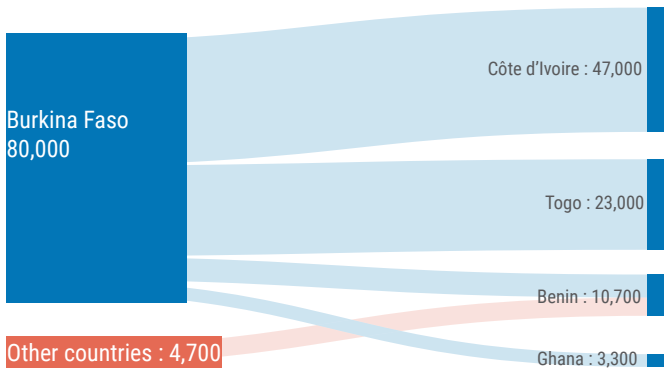
The estimated number of arrivals of refugees and asylum seekers in the coastal countries at the end of March 2024 was 122,858, compared with an estimated 113,780 at the end of January 2024. This increase in the number of arrivals, mainly from Burkina Faso, was mainly observed in Côte d'Ivoire, where more than 9,000 new arrivals were recorded during the reporting period.

In terms of registration figures, the data for the February-March period reflects this upward trend in the number of refugees and asylum seekers registered in the north of the coastal countries. On 31 March 2024, the total number of refugees and asylum seekers registered by the respective governments and UNHCR was **85,041**, compared with **79,154** on 31 January. While the number of Burkinabe refugees and asylum seekers registered in Togo and Ghana did not change during the reporting period, Côte d'Ivoire continues to see a significant increase in the number of registered asylum seekers, rising from **41,573** individuals at the end of January to **47,460** at the end of March 2024.

⁶ Analysis and reference data provided by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Origin of refugees and asylum seekers⁷

As of 31 March 2024



	Benin	Côte d'Ivoire	Ghana	Togo	Total
Burkina Faso	5,987	47,460	3,326	23,521	80,294
Other countries	4,747	-	-	-	4,747
Total	10,734	47,460	3,326	23,521	85,041

Internally Displaced Persons⁸ (no change since the last reporting period)

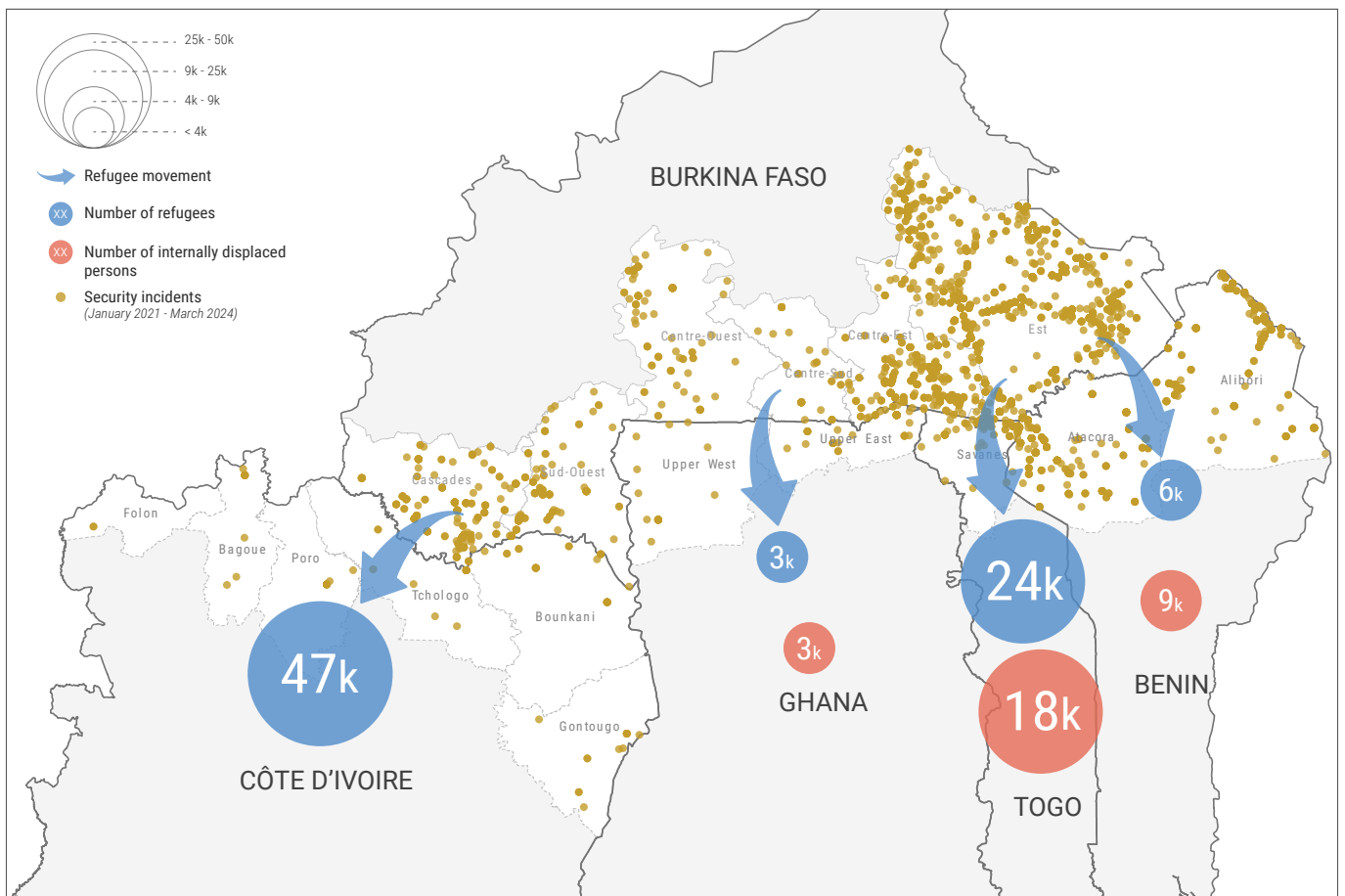
The International Organization for Migration's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) reported 18,429 internally displaced people in **Togo's** Savanes region following data collection in June and July 2023. This corresponds to an estimated 4,206 displaced households. In **Benin**, according to a joint harmonisation exercise carried out by the Agence Nationale de la Protection Civile, the DTM, and national and local governmental and humanitarian partners in November 2023

8,785 internally displaced people were recorded for July 2023, with the communes of Banikoara, Matéri and Karimama hosting the most people, with 3,671, 2,892 and 1,540 internally displaced persons respectively. On 21 April 2023, 3,158 internally displaced persons (IDPs) were reported by the Ghanaian Immigration Service, the populations being located in the Zebilla (802 IDPs), Pulmakom (255 IDPs) and Bawku/Missiga (2,131 IDPs) regions in the north of the country.

As of 31 March 2024, no internal population displacements had been officially recorded by the local authorities in **Côte d'Ivoire**.

	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



⁷ Analysis and reference data provided by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

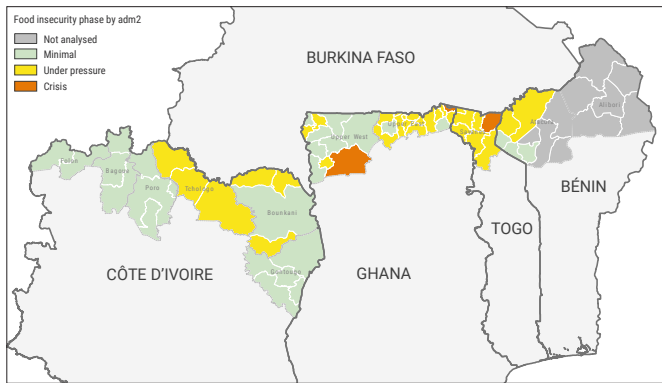
⁸ Analysis and reference data provided by the regional office of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM)

Food Security⁹

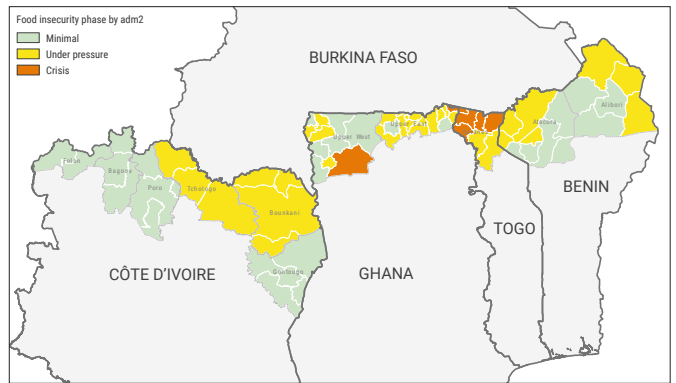
According to the results of the analysis of the acute food insecurity situation in the Cadre Harmonisé, 4 zones would be in the 'crisis' severity phase (Phase 3) in Ghana, 1 in Togo, and 0 in Côte d'Ivoire and Benin during the current period (March-May 2024). This increases to 6 in Togo, remains 4 in Ghana and 0 in Côte d'Ivoire and Benin according to the projected situation (June-August 2024).

In the current situation (March-May 2024), 900,000 people are classified in 'crisis' phase (Phase 3) in Côte d'Ivoire (compared with 870,000 in March-May 2023), 1.13 million people in Ghana (compared with 1.46 million in March-May 2023), almost 364,000 people in Benin (compared with 547,000 in March-May 2023) and almost 350,000 people in Togo (2023 data not available). In Ghana, almost 20,000 people are classified in the 'emergency' phase (Phase 4).

Cadre harmonisé - current situation (March-May 2024)



Cadre harmonisé - projected situation (June-August 2024)



Gender-based violence (GBV)¹⁰

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

Togo

GBV remains a major concern in humanitarian and non-affected areas alike. During this reporting period, 248 GBV survivors sought help from specialist service providers. According to the national classification, the following types of GBV were reported: psychological violence, sexual violence, economic violence and what is known locally as "institutional violence". The majority of survivors are minors and adolescents. The cases of sexual violence recorded during the period concerned the 15-19 age group in particular. A few minors under the age of 10 were also recorded. This data highlights the vulnerability of this category of people among those affected by the humanitarian situation in the country and should draw the attention of humanitarian actors to the need to mitigate the risks of GBV/protection they face and the adoption of negative coping mechanisms.

In order to improve the availability of and access to quality GBV services in a timely manner, UNFPA in partnership with GF2D has opened six new listening centres in the Savanes humanitarian emergency region, specifically in areas with a high rate of displaced people. These services include initial psychological support for declared survivors, as well as ethical and secure referrals to specialist services, including integrated GBV services in eight health centres and at the referral hospital in Dapaong.

Logistics¹¹

Road network in the area under evaluation in Togo

In all three areas assessed in the north of Togo, notably the prefectures of Tone, Oti and Oti Sud, the road network shows good interconnectivity between the various prefectures and communes.

In the Oti Sud prefecture, of the 420.78 km of roads assessed, 71.35% are in good condition, 26.94% in average condition and 1.70% in poor condition. Out of a total of 217 blackspots identified, 161 have a high level of crossings and 56 a very high level. Three damaged structures were recorded in Oti Sud 1 and five in Oti Sud 2. Four flood-prone routes and three alternative routes (bypasses) have been identified in the area.

⁹ [FICHE_COMMUNICATION_-_MARS_2024_VF.pdf \(ipcinfo.org\)](#)

¹⁰ Analysis and reference data provided by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

¹¹ Analysis and reference data provided by Handicap International (HI).

These figures show that most of the roads are in good condition, although some have deteriorated to varying degrees due to erosion caused by run-off, road traffic, the lack of crossing structures and flooding.

In the Oti prefecture, of the 393.3 km of roads assessed, 87% are in good condition, 12% in average condition and 1.3% in poor condition. A total of 77 blackspots were identified, 55 of which were at a high level of passability and 18 at a very high level, while four were impassable. Ten degraded structures were recorded, including two in Oti 1 and eight in Oti 2. The assessment revealed 14 damaged structures, as well as six flood-prone routes and one bypass route.

The prefecture of Tône, as the capital of the Savanes region, is crossed by the RN1. Out of a total of 706.1 km of roads assessed, 14% are in "poor" condition; 27% are in "fair" condition; 2.3% are in "rehabilitation work"; 56% of the total local road network is in "good" condition. The results of the assessment show that the local road network in the Tône prefecture has deteriorated on the inland roads, which are classified as high, very high and impassable. Of a total of 288 blackspots identified, 68% are high, 27% very high and 4.9% impassable.

Out of a total of 29 structures identified, 72% have a high level of passability, 17% a very high level and 10% are impassable. It should be remembered that the deterioration of these roads has a direct impact on journey times to towns, which are getting longer, and on means of transport, which are rapidly deteriorating (premature wear and tear on local vehicles).

Road network in the area under evaluation in Benin

The local road network assessed in Atacora department is in average condition, with good interconnections between roads. Most of the roads in average condition are unpaved, which often makes them very difficult to use in the rainy season. With a total of 854.1km of road assessed, the condition of the rural road network in the department's communes is as follows: 16% of the total length of road assessed at local level is in 'poor' condition; 52% of the total length of road at local level is in 'fair' condition; 18% of the total length of road at local level is in 'good' condition.

All the routes in average condition are those on which maintenance work has been carried out. Of the 23 damaged crossing structures assessed, 44% were very difficult to navigate and 56% were very difficult. These crossing structures are very difficult to cross, especially during the rainy season, and may even be impassable in the event of heavy rain.

In Alibori department, out of a total of 437.5km of roads assessed at local level: 35% of the total length of road assessed at local level is in 'poor' condition; 17% of the total length of road at local level is in 'fair' condition; 47% of the total length of road at local level is in 'good' condition. The evaluation of blackspots makes it possible to determine the general condition of the road network. On the Karimama-Guéné, Gomparou-Founogo, Banikoara-Gbassa and Gogounou-Zougoukpanrossi routes, there has been a great deal of damage due to erosion, cutting the routes in two. On the routes in the department's communes, nine damaged crossing structures have been assessed, with 22% having a high level of crossing difficulty, 44% very high and 33% impassable.

In Donga department, out of a total of 799.7 km of roads assessed, the condition of the local road network is as follows: 56% of the total length of road assessed at local level is in "poor" condition; 16% of the total length of road at local level is in "fair" condition; 4% of the total length of road at local level is undergoing "asphalting work"; 24% of the total length of road at local level is in "good" condition.

A total of 38 crossing structures were assessed. 14 structures, or 37%, were impassable, with 47% of structures showing very high levels of deterioration (passage with a 4-wheeled vehicle very difficult and risky). 16% of the structures assessed had a high level of damage (passage with a 4-wheeled vehicle difficult and/or risky).

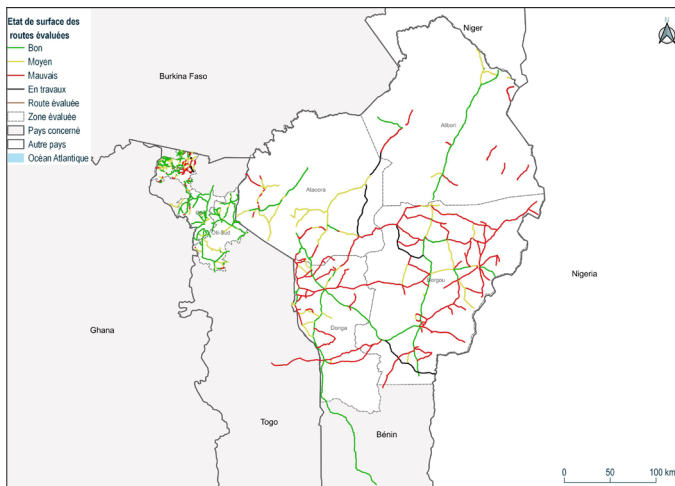
With reference to the road assessments, out of a total of 1,749.6 km of roads assessed in Borgou, the local road network assessed in the department's communes is as follows: 69% of the total length of road assessed at local level is in "poor" condition; 10% of the total length of road at local level is in "fair" condition; 7% of the total length of road at local level is undergoing "asphalting work"; 14% of the total length of road at local level is in "good" condition.

Of 51 structures assessed in total, 12 structures, i.e. 24% were "impassable" (impossible to pass with a 4-wheel vehicle), 37% of the structures assessed show a high level of deterioration, and 39% of structures show a very high level of deterioration (very difficult and risky to pass with a 4-wheel vehicle).

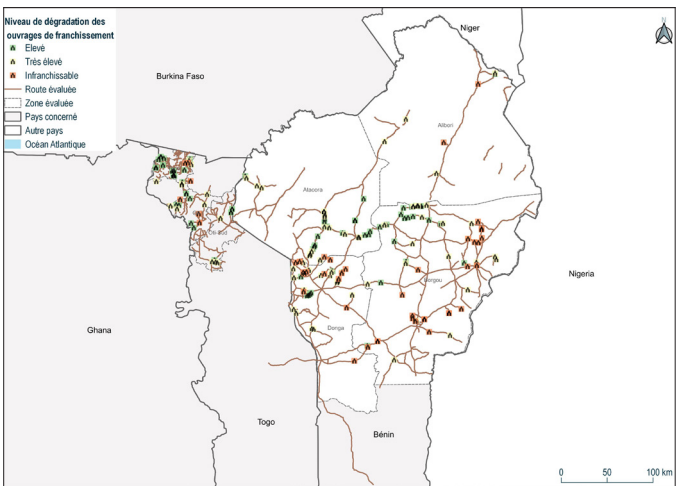
With the exception of the Tchaourou-Parakou and Parakou-Bembèrèkè roads via N'dali, which are asphalted roads showing no deterioration, and the Bembèrèkè-Bouanri and Kori-Bori roads, which are earth roads but show less deterioration, all the other roads assessed show "high level", "very high level" and "impassable" levels of deterioration.

This deterioration of the road network is leading to the isolation of local communities and difficulties in accessing and getting to markets and agricultural production sites.

Type of roads assessed in Togo and Benin



Level of deterioration of crossing structures in Togo and Benin



Biomass Production Anomalies¹²

The period from February to March 2024 corresponds to the dry season in this area. The level of vegetation cover, including green vegetation and dry vegetation, compared with the last 23 years, is greater than average over the entire area of interest.

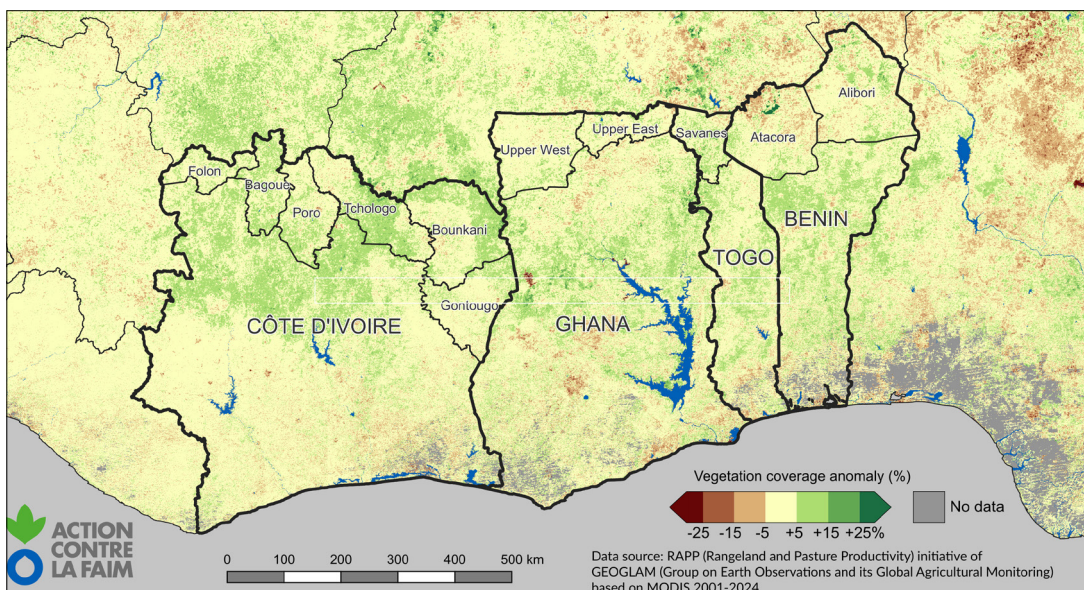
Across all the administrative units monitored, plant cover anomalies were positive, with the best coverage recorded in Côte d'Ivoire, notably in Tchologo (+4.70%) and Bagoue (+4.32%). The least significant anomalies are again recorded in Benin, with +0.36% in Atacora and +0.49% in Alibori.

This plant cover, expressed in terms of fodder potential, is a valuable resource for the Sahelian countries in the north, where there is often a shortage. Given the changing context of the region, this

complementarity is becoming increasingly limited. Togo and Benin, despite their positive fodder potential and the deficit recorded in neighbouring Sahelian countries, are applying measures to restrict cross-border transhumance, as Côte d'Ivoire is about to do. This state of affairs, in addition to the disconnection between these geographical areas, could accentuate the vulnerability of the Sahelian and coastal countries.

Tous les détails sur l'analyse sont disponibles sur : sigsahel.info

Photoactive and non-photoactive vegetation cover anomaly February-March 2024



¹² Analysis and reference data provided by Action Contre la Faim (ACF).



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

Thematic : 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

Sector: Education

Source: National BoDs / EiE evaluations



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As of 31 March 2024



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