

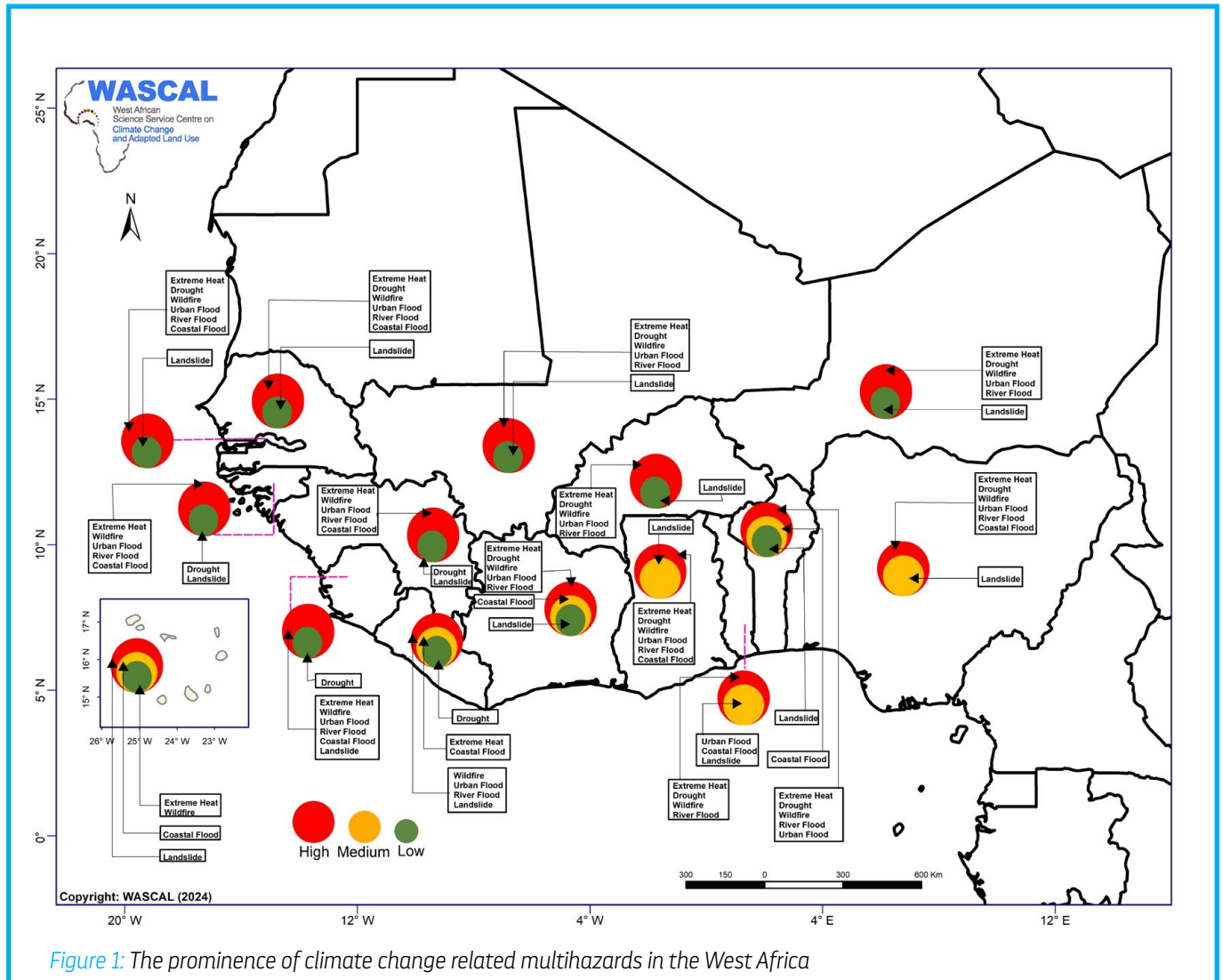
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Migration Under (Multi)Hazards



1 Predominant (Multi-)Hazards in West Africa

What hazards should we care about? Figure 1 highlights the predominant multihazards induced by climate change and their level occurrence in each country of West Africa. Climate Change is intensifying, amplifying, and increasing the frequency of climate and weather-related hazards in the region, with extreme heat, floods, droughts, and wildfires being the most prominent. These hazards significantly affect livelihoods, causing damage, loss, and displacement of people.



2 Are West African Countries climate change ready?

Adaptive capacity indices (ACI) are indicators used to measure the ability of the socio-economic and governance enabling environment in respond to natural hazards. Figure 2a illustrates the performance of the ACI over the individual countries. There is an uneven distribution of governance quality across the West African countries. While one country exhibits high political stability, effectiveness, and regulatory quality, others struggle with corruption and regulatory inefficiencies. Despite improvements in education, significant disparities exist in educational attainment. Infrastructure development is generally low to moderate, posing challenges for rapid information dissemination and evacuation, despite widespread Internet & Communication Technology (ICT) network coverage. Disaster risk reduction facilities are mostly moderate, highlighting both progress and ongoing gaps in disaster risk management cycle of the countries.

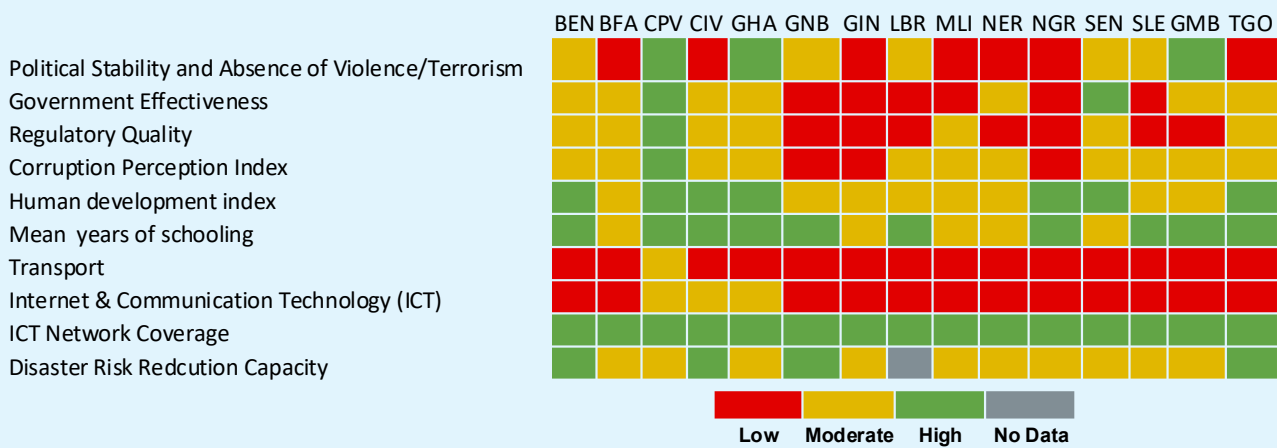


Figure 2a: Level of adaptive capacity indicators on governance (i.e., Political stability, Government effectiveness, regulatory quality, corruption, human development), education, infrastructure (i.e., Transport, ICT, Network coverage), and disaster risk reduction capacity of the West African countries.

Climate related multihazards are affecting the population of West Africa in many ways. Figure 2b shows the risk levels on the local population. There is an increasing higher number of people affected in each country as the multihazard frequency and intensity rise over time. It is expected that between 5% and 30% of the West African population will be impacted by extreme climate events. This finding underscores the urgent need for effective disaster risk reduction and management.

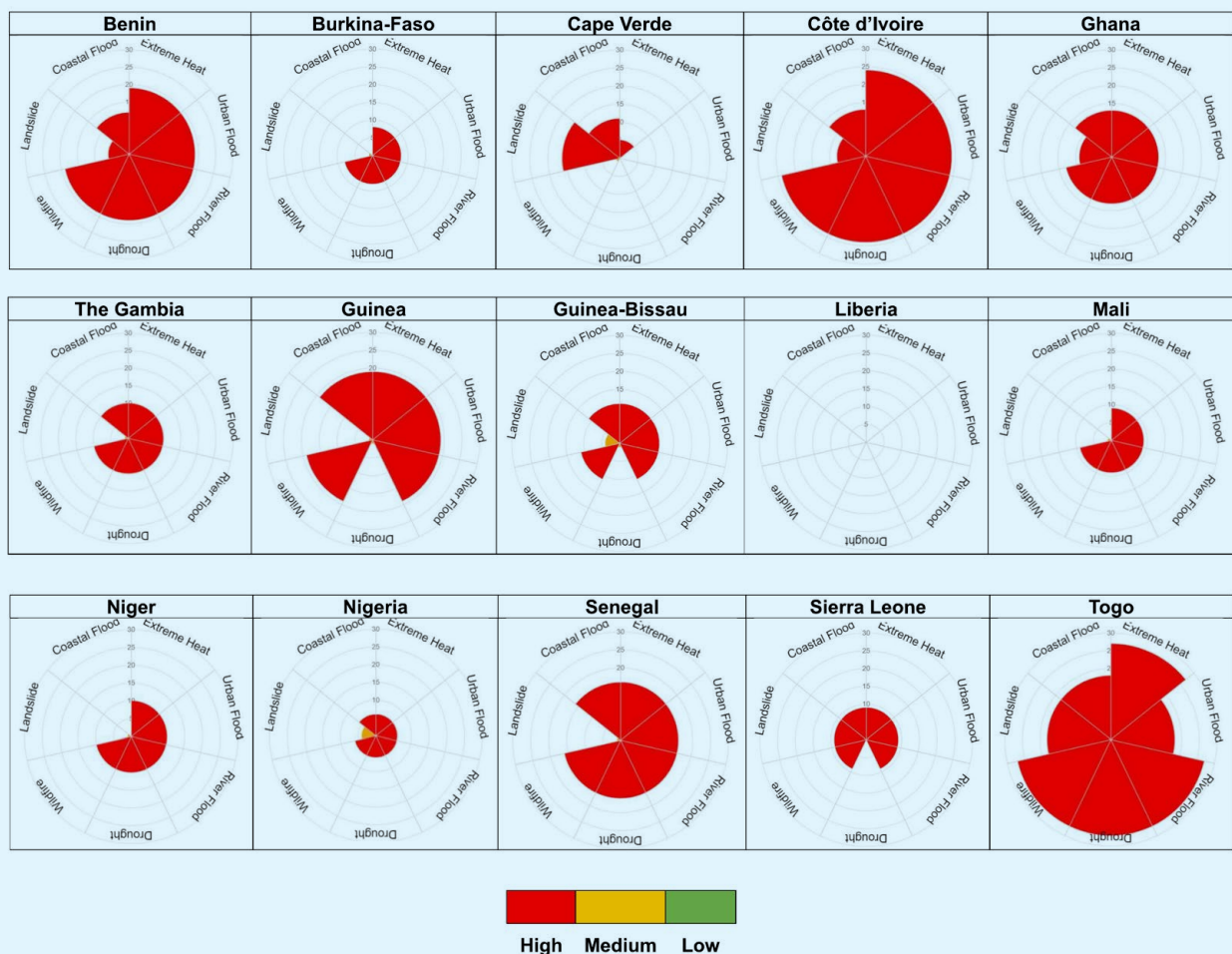


Figure 2b: Polar chart of percent population affected by multihazard per country in West Africa. Liberia is empty due to missing data.

3 Is there a Link Between Migration, Multihazards & Adaptive Capacity?

The migration patterns depicted in the region correlate somehow with the adaptative capacity of a given country to cope with the risk levels due to climate change-related multihazards (Figure 3). Countries heavily affected by extreme weather events and inadequate adaptive capacities are seeing higher out-migration with negative Net -Migration (e.g., Niger, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, etc.). Conversely, countries with better governance, infrastructure, and fewer climate impacts tend to attract more migrants (e.g., Cape Verde, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Liberia, The Gambia). The cases of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana are surprising. However, these results might be linked to the origin and the periods of the data (existing data) but also by the political instability that Côte d'Ivoire went through during the 2010s.

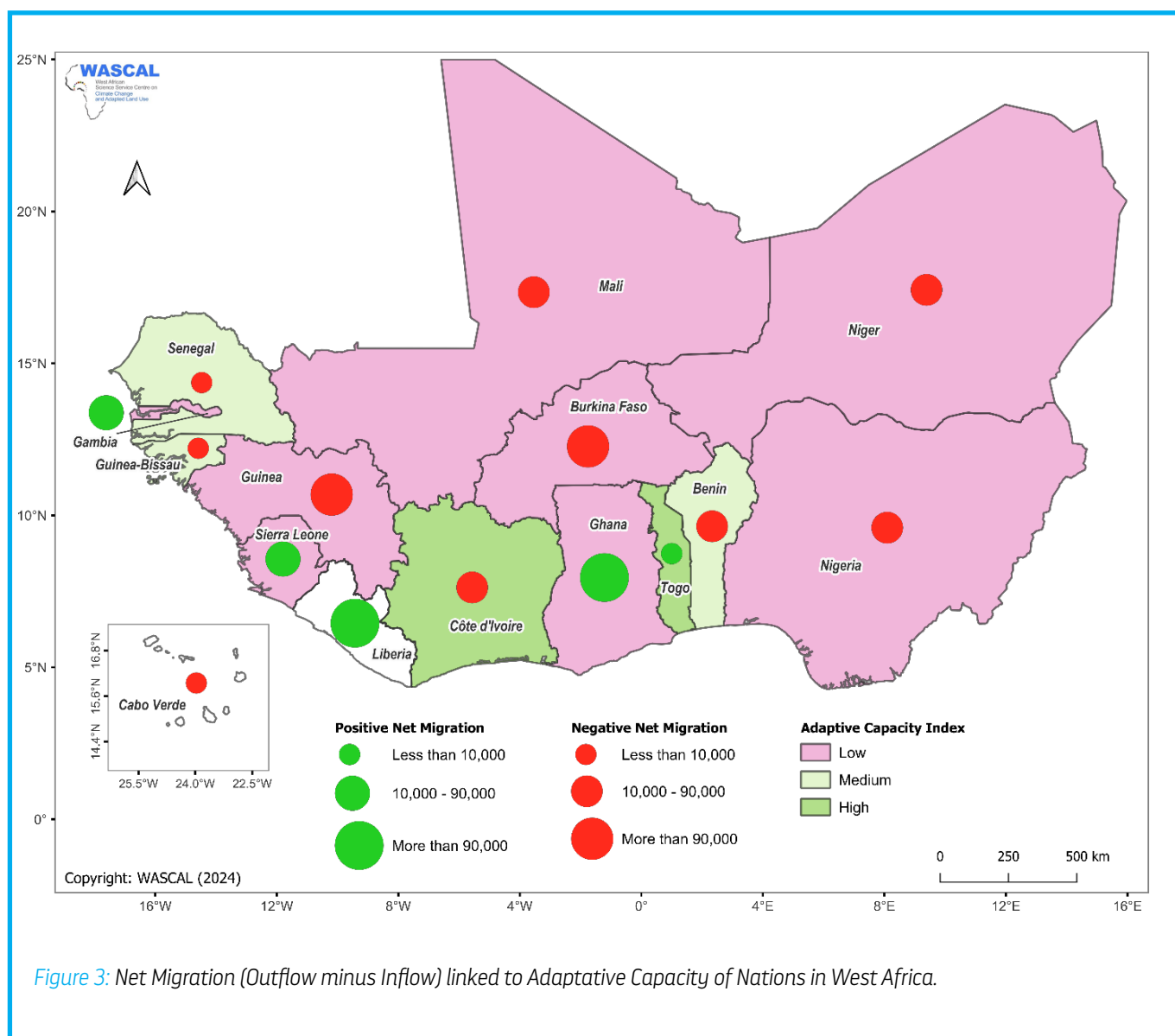


Figure 3: Net Migration (Outflow minus Inflow) linked to Adaptive Capacity of Nations in West Africa.

OUR OPINION

There is likely a link between migration patterns and the adaptative capacity of a given West African country to cope with the risk levels due to climate-related multihazards in West Africa. Regions experiencing severe climate impacts, such as extreme heat, floods, droughts, and wildfires, with low adaptative capacity indicator tend to have higher negative net migration, as displaced residents tend to migrate to safer environments. Conversely, countries with better governance, infrastructure, and fewer severe climate impacts attract more migrants, indicating a positive net migration. Therefore, enhancing resilience to climate change and improving living conditions are essential to managing and potentially reducing migration driven by environmental factors in the region.

OUR POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- » Enhance governance, improving education, developing robust infrastructure, and strengthening Disaster Risks Reduction capacities to build weather and climate-ready nations in West Africa.
- » Enhance climate resilience and improve the living conditions to effectively manage migration fluxes in West Africa.
- » Invest in disaster preparedness by improving the existing early warning, anticipatory actions, and disaster risk reduction mechanisms to increase civil protection in the countries.

Acknowledgements

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Data sources

<https://www.afdb.org/>

<https://www.migrationdataportal.org/regional-data-overview/western-africa>

www.govindicators.org

<http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/Home/Reports>

<https://www.transparency.org/en/countries/>

<https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/>

Acronyms

ACI	Adaptive Capacity Indices
BEN	Benin
BFA	Burkina Faso
CPV	Cape Verde
CIV	Cote d'Ivoire
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
GHA	Ghana
GNB	Guinea Bissau
GIN	Guinea
LBR	Liberia
MLI	Mali
NER	Niger
NGR	Nigeria
SEN	Senegal
SLE	Sierra Leone
GMB	Gambia
TGO	Togo

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