

West Africa Coastal Vulnerability Mapping:
Point and Gridded Locations of Fatalities, 2008–2013

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DESCRIPTION

This data set was used as an indicator in the analysis presented in the report, “Mapping the Exposure of Socioeconomic and Natural Systems of West Africa to Coastal Climate Stressors” (de Sherbinin et al., 2014; de Sherbinin et al., 2015). The table below provides information about the indicator as it was used in the analysis, including a description of the input data (where relevant) and of the processing completed to produce the indicator.

Title:	Conflict (Political Violence)
Indicator Code:	CONF
Component:	Sensitivity
Rationale:	Armed conflict reduces human security and increases the sensitivity of populations to climate stressors.
Data Set:	Armed Conflict Location and Event Dataset (ACLED) codes the dates and point locations of all reported political violence events in over 50 developing countries. Political violence includes events that occur within civil wars and periods of instability.

	<p>The Point and Gridded Locations of Fatalities data set includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A subset of ACLED point locations with one or more fatalities from the years 2008-2013; and • A dot density raster created from the subset of ACLED points. <p>The raster data set was created from the subset of ACLED points using a kernel density interpolation of the number of fatalities with a search radius of 50 km.</p> <p>The ACLED data were downloaded from: http://www.acleddata.com/data/africa/</p> <p>Input data source citation: Raleigh, C., A. Linke, H. Hegre, and J. Karlsen. 2010. Introducing ACLED-Armed Conflict Location and Event Dataset. Journal of Peace Research 47(5) 651-660. https://doi.org/10.1177/0022343310378914.</p>
Units:	Number of fatalities.
Limitations:	Event data are derived from a variety of sources including reports from developing countries and local media, humanitarian agencies, and research publications. Gaps in the record are possible.
Spatial Extent:	The spatial extent of the Point and Gridded Locations of Fatalities, 2008-2013 data set is the 200 km coastal zone of the ten Guinea Current countries of coastal West Africa: Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Cameroon.
Spatial Resolution:	30 arc-second (~1 km)
Time Period:	The full Africa data set is from 1997 to 2013. Sites from 2008 to 2013 were used.
Additional Notes:	

ACCESSING THE DATA

SEDAC URL: <http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/data/collection/wacvm>.

Permanent URL: <https://doi.org/10.7927/H4F769H4>.

The data are available as compressed zipfiles of GeoTIFFs or shapefiles. Downloaded files need to be uncompressed in a single folder using either WinZip (Windows file compression utility) or similar application before they can be accessed by your GIS software package. Users should expect an increase in the size of downloaded data after decompression.

The data are stored in geographic coordinates of decimal degrees based on the World Geodetic System spheroid of 1984 (WGS84).

DISCLAIMER

CIESIN follows procedures designed to ensure that data disseminated by CIESIN are of reasonable quality. If, despite these procedures, users encounter apparent errors or misstatements in the data, they should contact SEDAC User Services at ciesin.info@ciesin.columbia.edu. Neither CIESIN nor NASA verifies or guarantees the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of any data provided. CIESIN provides this data without warranty of any kind whatsoever, either expressed or implied. CIESIN shall not be liable for incidental, consequential, or special damages arising out of the use of any data provided by CIESIN.

USE CONSTRAINTS

Users are free to use, copy, distribute, transmit, and adapt the work for commercial and non-commercial purposes, without restriction, as long as clear attribution of the source is provided.

RECOMMENDED CITATION(S)

Data set:

Raleigh, C., A. Linke, H. Hegre, and J. Karlsen and Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN), Columbia University. 2018. West Africa Coastal Vulnerability Mapping: Point and Gridded Locations of Fatalities, 2008-2013. Palisades, NY: NASA Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center (SEDAC). <https://doi.org/10.7927/H4F769H4>. Accessed DAY MONTH YEAR.

Scientific publication:

Raleigh, C., A. Linke, H. Hegre, and J. Karlsen. 2010. Introducing ACLED: An Armed Conflict Location and Event Dataset. *Journal of Peace Research* 47(5): 651-660.

<https://doi.org/10.1177/0022343310378914>.

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de Sherbinin, A., Chai-Onn, T., Jaiteh, M., Mara, V., Pistoiesi, L., and Schnarr, E. 2014. Mapping the Exposure of Socioeconomic and Natural Systems of West Africa to Coastal Climate Stressors. Technical Report for the USAID African and Latin American Resilience to Climate Change (ARCC) project. Washington, DC: USAID.

http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/downloads/docs/wacvm/tbw04-02wacoastalmappingresults_cleared.pdf.

de Sherbinin, A, T. Chai-Onn, M. Jaiteh, V. Mara, L. Pistoiesi, E. Schnarr, and S. Trzaska. 2015. Data Integration for Climate Vulnerability Mapping in West Africa. *ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information* 4(4):2561-2582. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijgi4042561>.

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