GUINEA-BISSAU

COUNTRY REPORT

GIS Hydropower Resource Mapping and Climate Change Scenarios for the ECOWAS Region

ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
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Program Responsibility:

The ECOWAS Small-Scale Hydropower Program was approved by ECOWAS Energy Ministers in 2012. In the frame of this program ECREEE assigned Poyry Energy GmbH in 2015 for implementation of a GIS Hydro Resource Mapping and Climate Change Scenarios in ECOWAS countries with Hydropower potentials. One deliverable of this project are 14 country reports summarizing the GIS Hydro Resource mapping and climate change scenarios. The overall methodology background information and lessons learnt of these Country Reports are described in the final report *"GIS Hydropower Resource Mapping and Climate Change Scenarios for the ECOWAS Region - Methodology & Lessons Learnt."*
www.ecowrex.org/smallhydro

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PREFACE

The 15 countries of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) face a constant shortage of energy supply, which has negative impacts on social and economic development, including also strongly the quality of life of the population. In mid 2016 the region has about 50 operational hydropower plants and about 40 sites are under construction or refurbishment. The potential for hydropower development – especially for small-scale plants – is assumed to be large, but exact data were missing in the past.

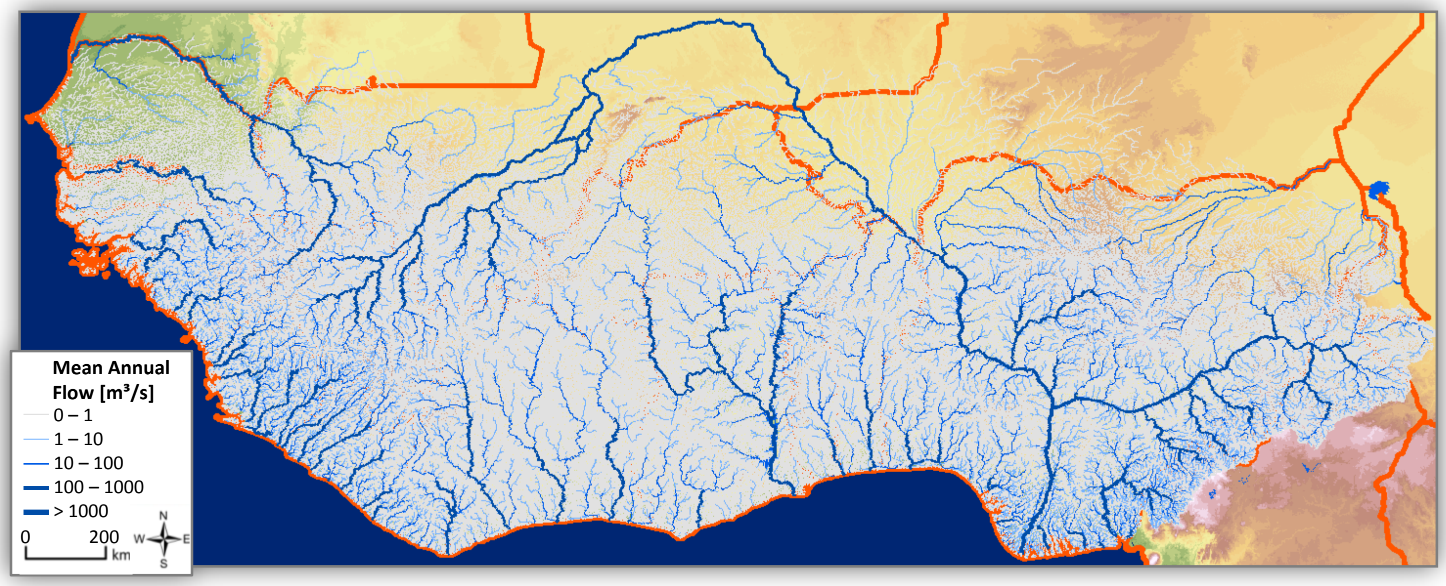
The ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), founded in 2010 by ECOWAS, ADA, AECID and UNIDO, responded to these challenges and developed the ECOWAS Small-Scale Hydropower Program, which was approved by ECOWAS Energy Ministers in 2012. In the frame of this program ECREEE assigned Pöyry Energy GmbH in 2015 for implementation of a hydropower resource mapping by use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for 14 ECOWAS member countries (excluding Cabo Verde). The main deliverable of the project is a complete and comprehensive assessment of the hydro resources and computation of hydropower potentials as well as possible climate change impacts for West Africa. Main deliverables of the GIS mapping include:

- River network layer: GIS line layer showing the river network for about 500,000 river reaches (see river network map below) with attributes including river name (if available), theoretical hydropower potential, elevation at start and end of reach, mean annual discharge, mean monthly discharge, etc.
- Sub-catchment layer: GIS polygon layer showing about 1000 sub-catchments with a size of roughly 3000 km². This layer summarizes the data of all river reaches located within the sub-catchment.

Hydropower plants are investments with a lifetime of several decades. Therefore, possible impacts of climate change on future discharge were incorporated into the river network and sub-catchment GIS layers. The GIS layers are available in the ECREEE Observatory for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (www.ecowrex.org).

This report summarizes the results of the GIS layers for Guinea-Bissau and includes:

- General information
- Climate
- Hydrology
- Hydropower potential
- Climate change



GENERAL INFORMATION

Guinea-Bissau is one of the smaller countries in West Africa and has about 1.8 Mio inhabitants. The capital of Guinea-Bissau is Bissau. The neighboring countries are Senegal in the north and Guinea in the east.

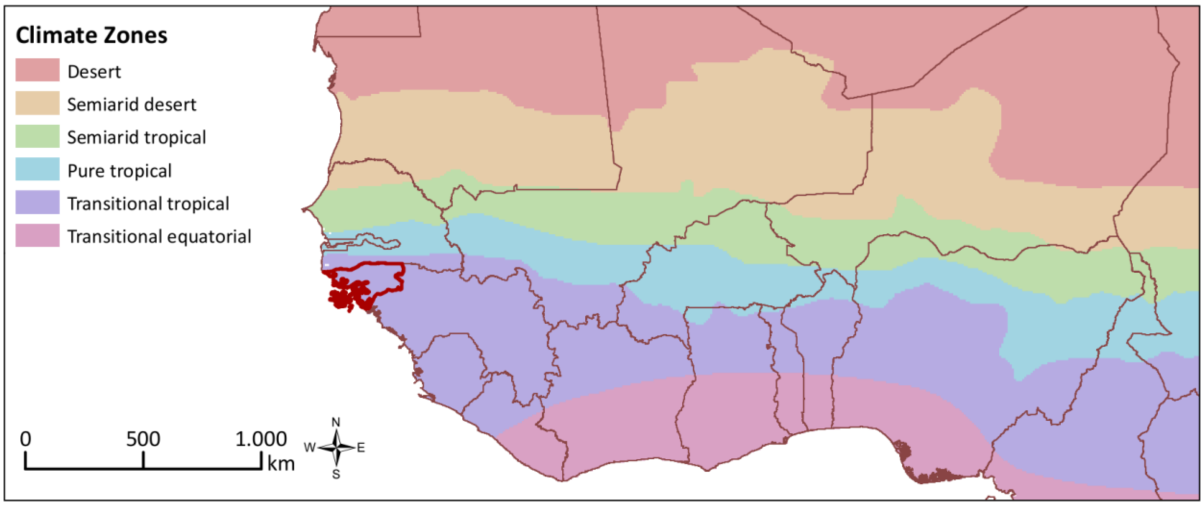
Historically, hydropower played no role for electricity generation in Guinea-Bissau. However, with the new hydropower plant Saltinho Phase 2, which is currently under construction, hydropower will boost the electricity generation in the country.

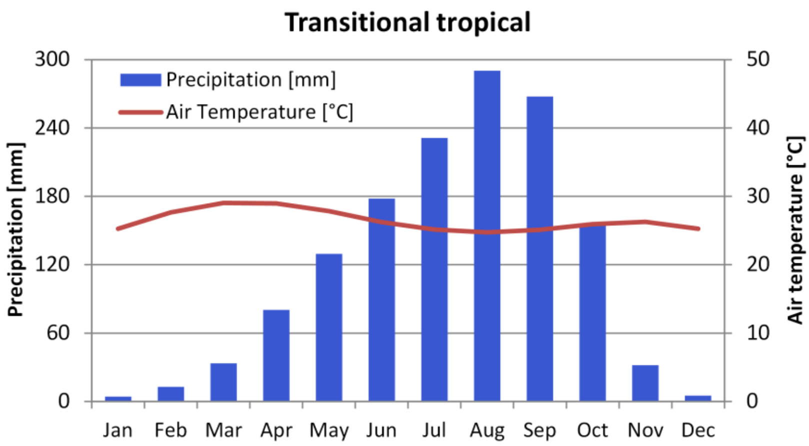
General Information for Guinea-Bissau	
Inhabitants (2014)	1.8 Mio.
Area (2014)	36,130 km²
GDP per capita (2014)	567 USD
Electrification rate total/urban/rural (2014)	5/10/0.4
Hydro installed capacity (2014)	0 MW
Electricity generation (2013)	22.9 GWh
Electricity generation from hydropower (2013)	0 GWh
Number of existing hydropower plants with installed capacity > 1 MW (2016)	1
Number of existing small hydropower plants with installed capacity 1-30 MW (2016)	0
Number of existing medium hydropower plants with installed capacity 30-100 MW (2016)	1
Number of existing large hydropower plants with installed capacity >100 MW (2016)	0

Source: ECOWAS Country Profiles (www.ecowrex.org)
Reference year given in brackets.

CLIMATE

The climate in West Africa can be grouped into six zones with distinctive seasonal rainfall patterns (L'Hôte et al., 1996). Guinea-Bissau is located at the northern fringe of the "Transitional tropical" climate zone, which is characterized by high rainfall amounts between July and September, but also significant rainfall amounts in May, June and October. The seasonality in rainfall is controlled by the seasonal movement of the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ). Air temperature is highest in April before the start of the rainy season. After the rainy season in October there is a secondary peak in air temperature, whereas August, December and January are the coldest months of the year. The diagram below summarizes the mean monthly rainfall and air temperature in the Transitional tropical climate zone.



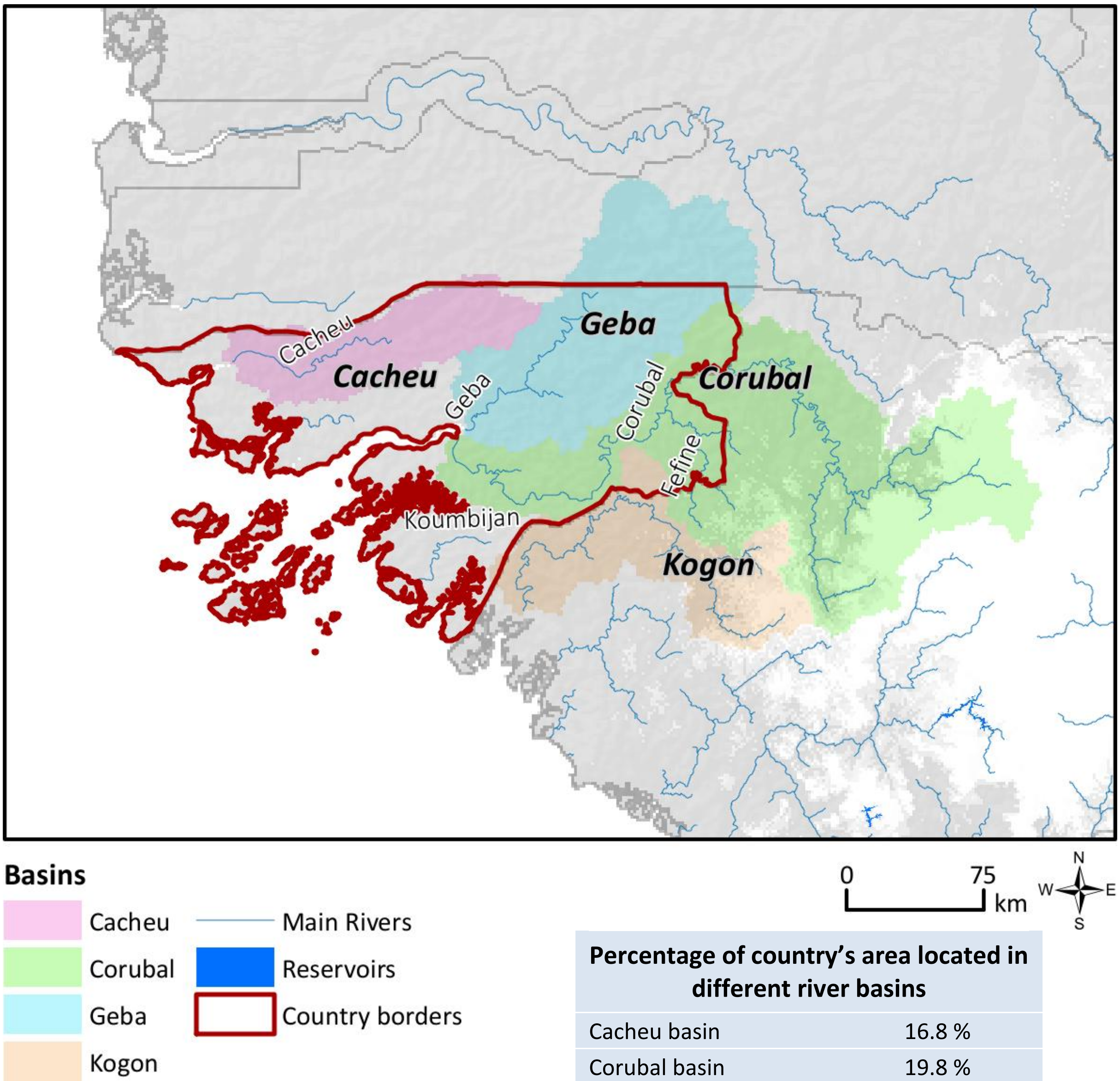


Precipitation data source: Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (NASA/JAXA), TRMM 3B42, mean 1998-2014
Air temperature data source: Climate Research Unit (University of East Anglia), CRU TS 3.22, mean 1998-2013

HYDROLOGY

The Corubal River is the largest river in Guinea-Bissau. The Corubal River has its source in the Fouta Djallon highlands in Guinea and discharges into the Atlantic Ocean in Guinea-Bissau. About 20 % of the country is located in the Corubal basin. Other important basins, but with much less flow than the Corubal River, are the Geba basin covering 24 % of the country and the Cacheu basin covering 17 % of the country (see map and table below).

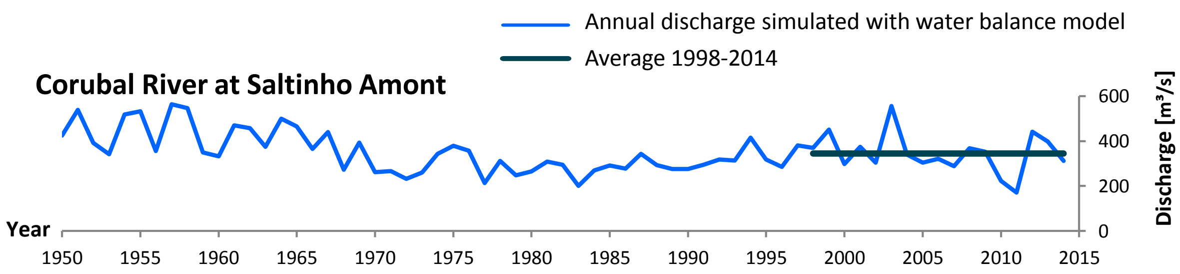
The figures on the following page illustrate the annual and seasonal variations in discharge for the Corubal River.



Percentage of country's area located in different river basins	
Cacheu basin	16.8 %
Corubal basin	19.8 %
Geba basin	23.5 %
Kogon basin	2.2 %

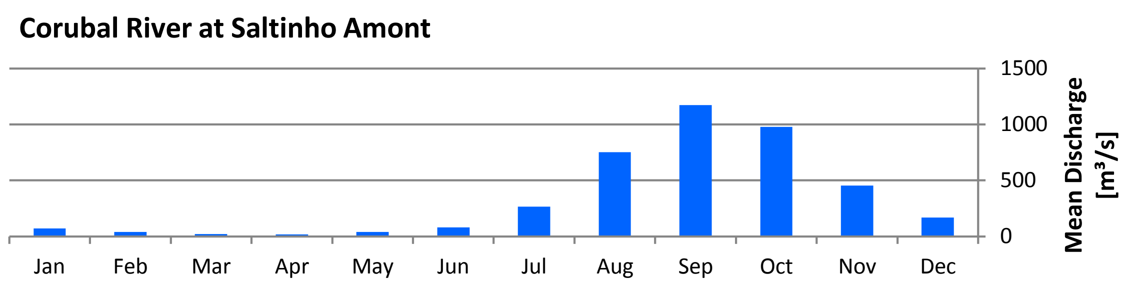
Historic Variation in Annual Discharge

The Corubal River shows considerable variations in annual discharge over the last 60 years. High flows occurred in the 1950s and 1960s, whereas mean annual discharge shows no trend since about the 1970s. This also applies for mean annual discharge of the most recent period 1998-2014.



Seasonality in Discharge

The Corubal River shows strong seasonality in discharge, with high flows from August to October and low flows between February and March. The seasonality in discharge is caused by the highly seasonal variation of rainfall throughout the year.



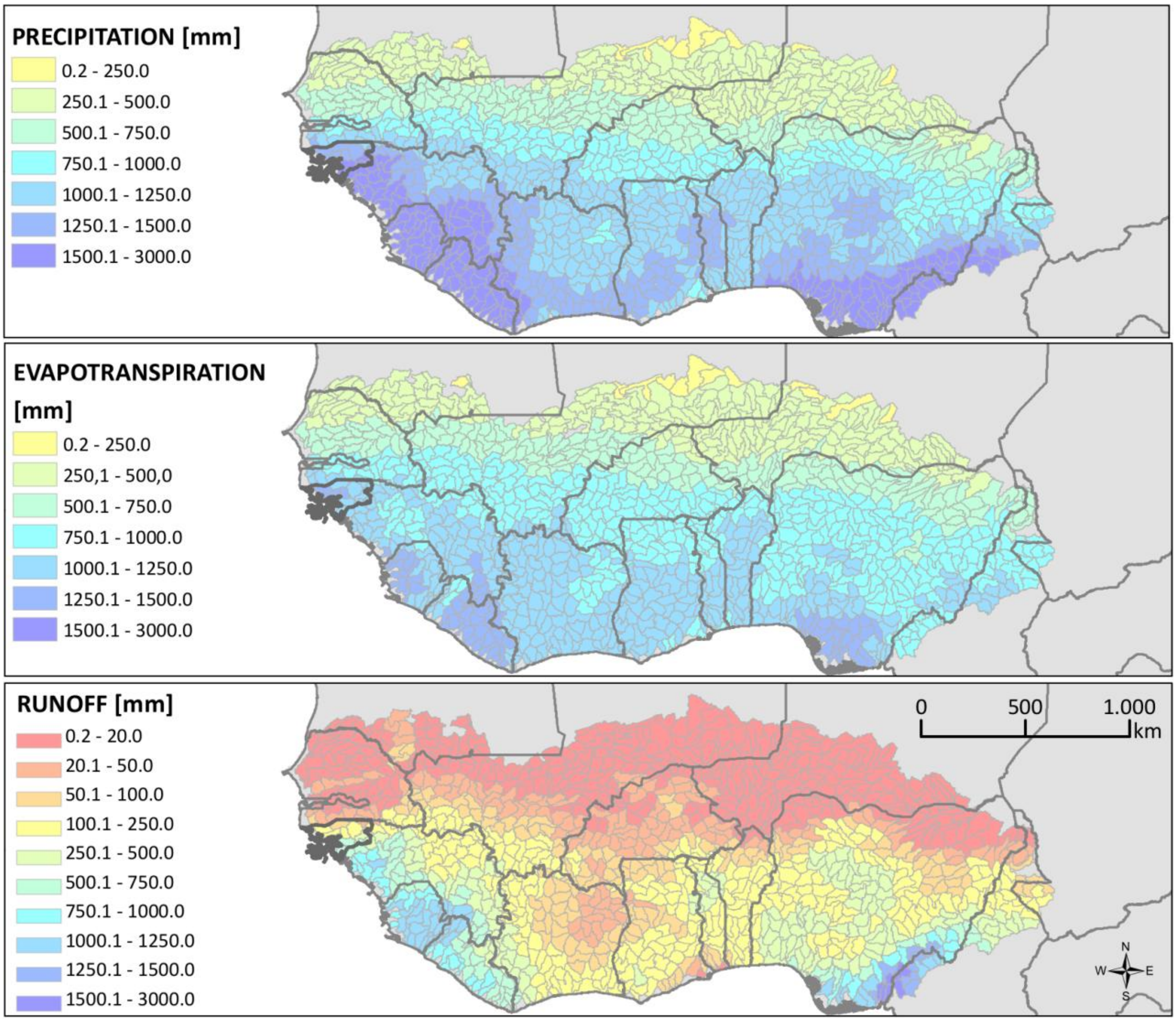
Annual Water Balance

The long-term mean annual water balance describes the partitioning of precipitation (rainfall) into actual evapotranspiration (transpiration by plants, evaporation from soil) and runoff, as over long time periods the change in storage (soil moisture, ground water) can be assumed to be negligible for the mean annual water balance.

The regional distribution of the water balance components in West Africa is strongly controlled by spatial variations in mean annual precipitation. An annual water balance model calibrated with observed discharge data of 400 gauges was used to determine mean annual actual evapotranspiration and runoff for the period 1998-2014, as shown in the maps below. In most parts of West Africa mean annual actual evapotranspiration is considerably larger than mean annual runoff.

This is also the case for the mean annual water balance in Guinea-Bissau, where roughly 80 % rainfall is lost via evapotranspiration and 20 % of rainfall generates runoff. However, in the headwater regions of the Corubal River in Guinea about 40 % of rainfall generates runoff and 60 % is lost via evapotranspiration.

Mean annual discharge is computed by aggregating runoff along the river network, which together with channel slope determines the hydropower potential (see next section).

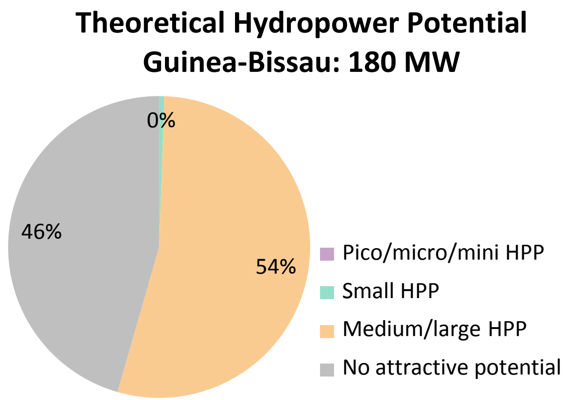


HYDROPOWER POTENTIAL

The theoretical hydropower potential of a river is defined as the amount of power that would be produced if the full head of the river was used and if 100 % of the mean annual discharge was turbinated (i.e. no spillway losses or environmental flow constraints). In this study overall plant efficiency (turbines, hydraulic losses) is assumed with 87 %.

The theoretical hydropower potential for Guinea-Bissau is estimated to be 180 MW (reference period 1998-2014), which is the total of all rivers in the country.

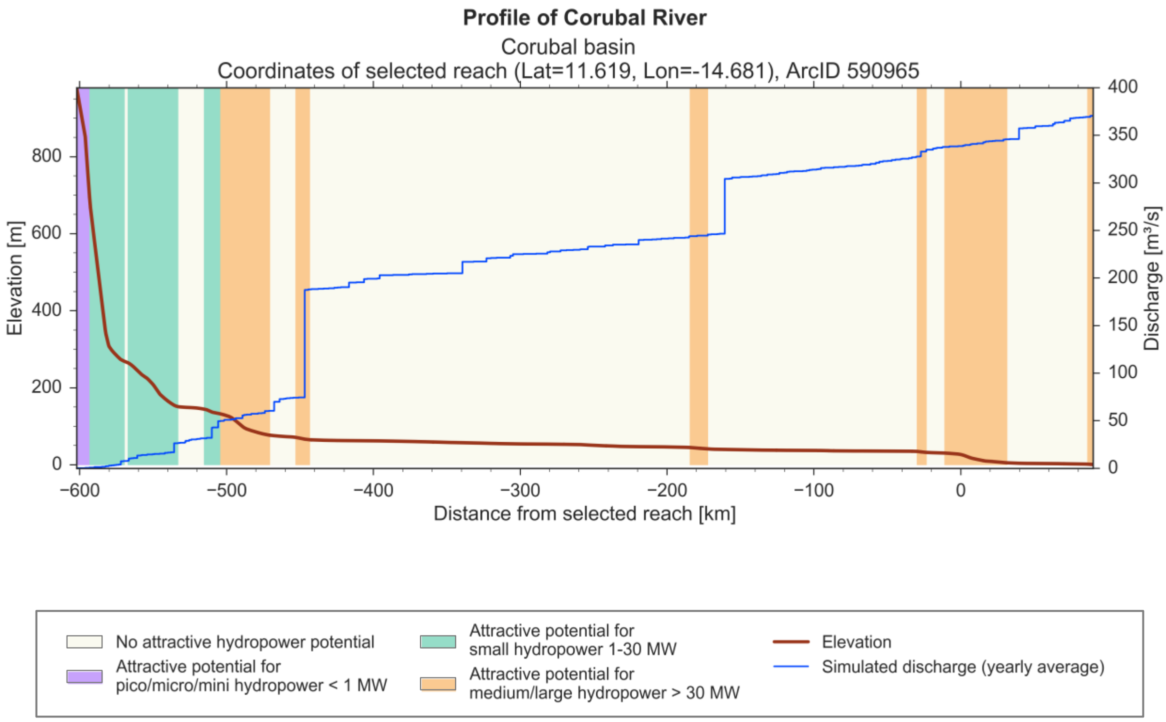
The following table and figure show how the total potential of the country is subdivided into theoretical potential for hydropower plants (HPP) of different plant size. A classification scheme based on mean annual discharge (m^3/s) and specific hydropower potential (MW/km) was applied to determine the preferred plant size for river reaches with a typical length of 1-10 km. Four classes were considered for the preferred plant size, including pico/micro/mini HPP (< 1 MW installed capacity), small HPP (1-30 MW installed capacity), medium/large HPP (> 30 MW installed capacity), and "No attractive potential" for river reaches with too low specific hydropower potential. The country has considerable theoretical potential for medium/large HPP at the Corubal River, but basically no potential for pico/micro/mini and small HPP. The technical potential was not assessed in this study.



Theoretical Hydropower Potential of Rivers in Guinea-Bissau	
Pico/micro/mini HPP	0 MW
Small HPP	1 MW
Medium/large HPP	97 MW
No attractive potential	82 MW
Total of all rivers in country	180 MW
Total of rivers with attractive theoretical potential for pico/micro/mini, small, or medium/large HPP	98 MW

Longitudinal Profiles of Selected Rivers

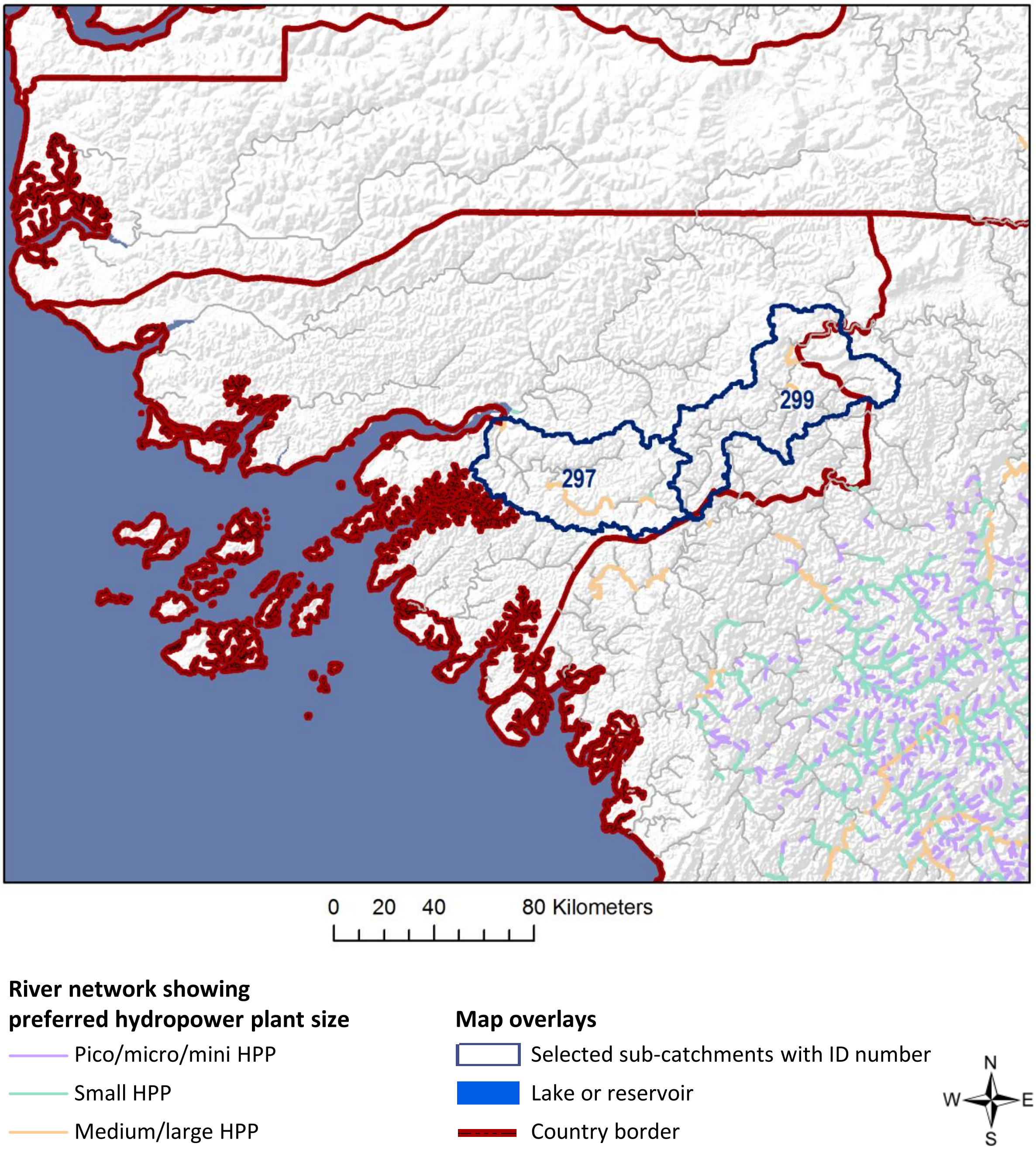
The following graph shows the longitudinal profile of the Corubal River, plotting elevation (red) and mean annual discharge (blue) from the source to the mouth of the river. Inflow from tributaries is clearly identifiable as sudden increase in river discharge. The background color indicates if a river reach has an attractive theoretical hydropower potential for pico/micro/mini HPP (< 1 MW installed capacity), small HPP (1-30 MW installed capacity), or medium/large HPP (> 30 MW installed capacity).

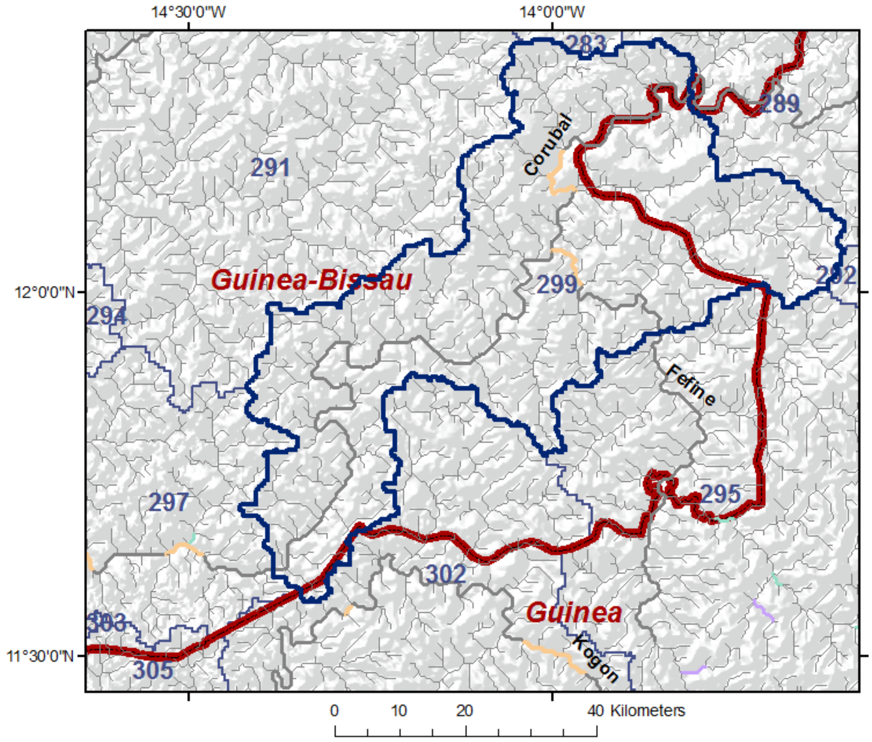


Hydropower Potential in Selected Sub-catchments

The following maps and tables give information about the theoretical hydropower potential of selected sub-catchments in Guinea-Bissau. Sub-catchments with theoretical hydropower potential are solely found along the Corubal River in the south-east of the country.

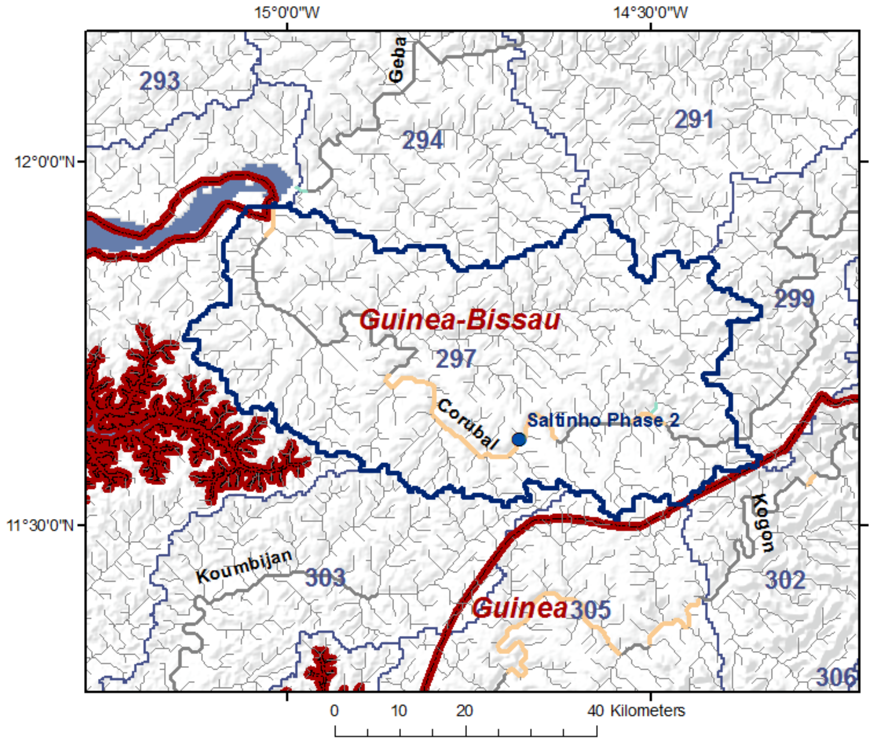
The table data summarizes the total theoretical hydropower potential of all river reaches within the sub-catchment. River reaches were grouped according to preferred plant size for pico/micro/mini HPP (< 1 MW installed capacity), small HPP (1-30 MW installed capacity), or medium/large HPP (> 30 MW installed capacity). Similarly, the color code of the river network displayed in the maps indicates the preferred plant size. A grey color indicates no attractive potential for hydropower development.





Theoretical Hydropower Potential of Rivers in Sub-Catchment #299	
Pico/micro/mini HPP	0 MW
Small HPP	0 MW
Medium/large HPP	11.0 MW

In the east of Guinea-Bissau there are sections of the Corubal and Fefine rivers that have some theoretical hydropower potential, but the river sections are located in the Dulombi Boe National Park.



Theoretical Hydropower Potential of Rivers in Sub-Catchment #297	
Pico/micro/mini HPP	0 MW
Small HPP	0.2 MW
Medium/large HPP	86.2 MW

The lower section of the Corubal River includes the Saltinho Phase 2 HPP site where there is considerable hydropower potential for medium/large HPP.

River network showing preferred hydropower plant size

- Pico/micro/mini HPP
- Small HPP
- Medium/large HPP
- No attractive potential

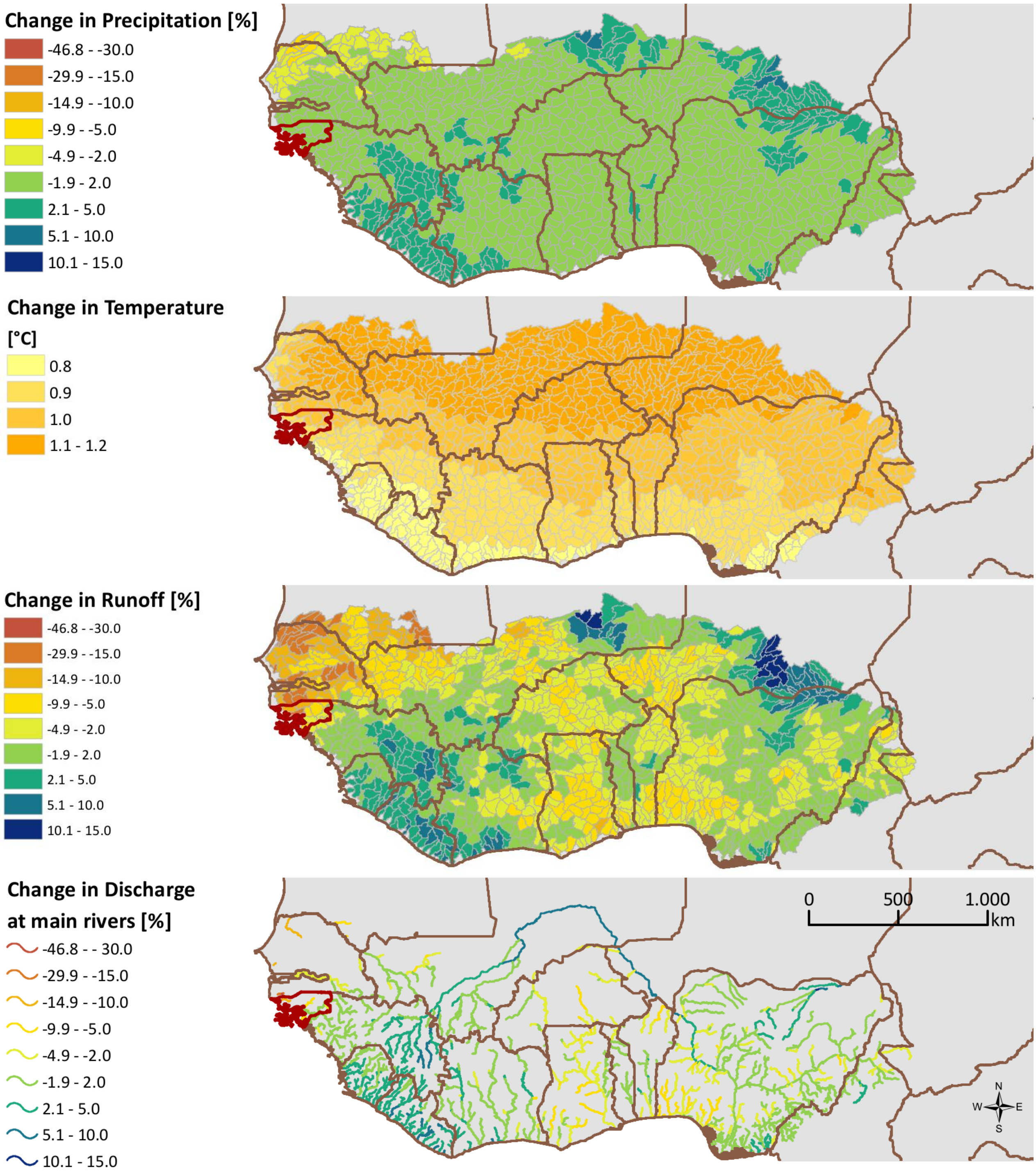
Map overlays

- Existing hydropower plant
- Lake or reservoir
- Sub-catchment boundary
- Country border

CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change may have considerable impact on future water resources and thus hydropower generation. The following figures show an assessment of climate change projections for West Africa based on 15 Regional Climate Models of the CORDEX-Africa ensemble. Two Representative Concentration Pathways (RCP4.5 and RCP8.5) were considered, thus yielding a total of 30 climate model runs. Future runoff was simulated by driving a water balance model with precipitation and temperature climate change signals with respect to the reference period 1998-2014.

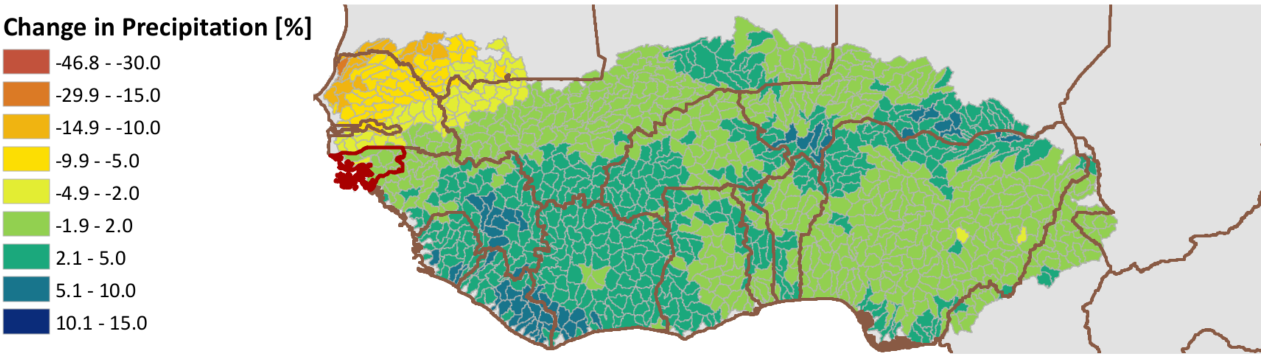
Projections for the Near Future 2026-2045

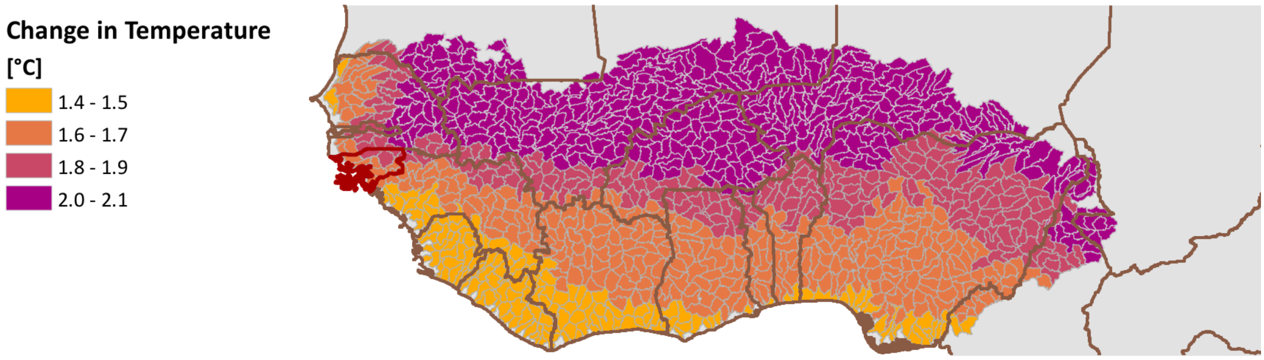


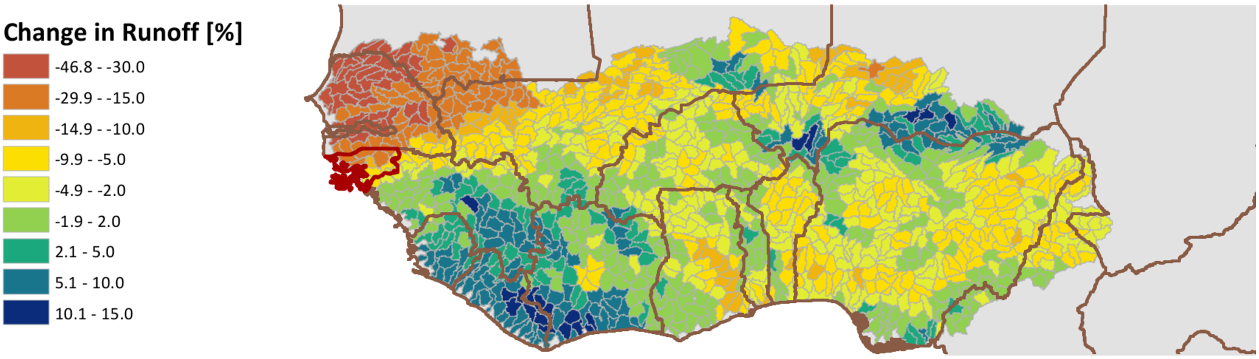
Projections for the Far Future 2046-2065

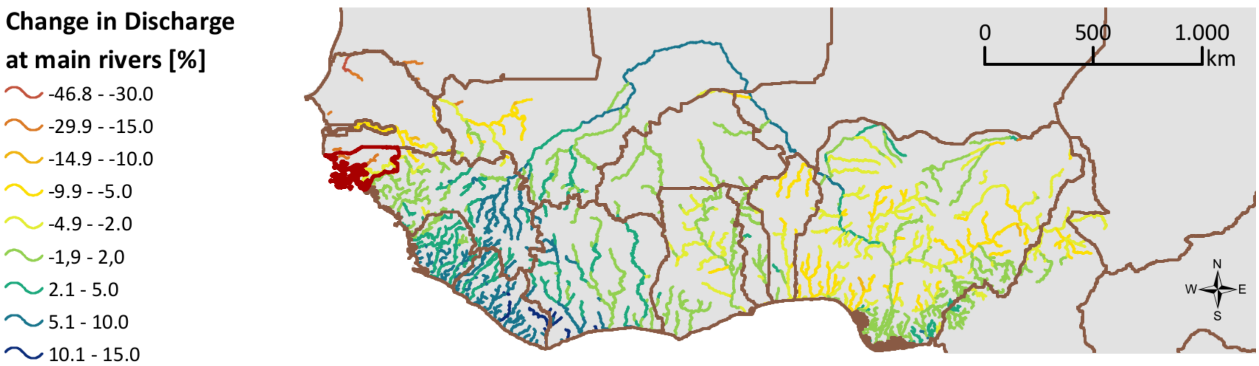
The maps below show the expected impact of climate change on future mean annual water resources. From the 30 climate model runs the median result was computed to generate the maps, which show change signals comparing the future periods 2026-2045 (previous page) and 2046-2065 (this page) vs. the reference period 1998-2014.

In large parts of West Africa increase or almost no change is projected for future precipitation. This is also the case for Guinea-Bissau. The combined effects of future precipitation and considerable warming (which affects evapotranspiration) were simulated with a water balance model to compute future runoff. In Guinea-Bissau a slight decrease is projected for future runoff (median of 30 model runs). The same applies to river discharge.









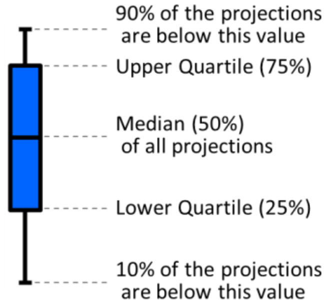
Projected Change in Discharge for Selected Gauges

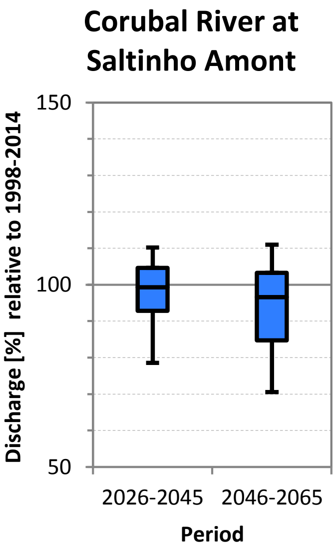
Future mean annual discharge was estimated with data from 30 different climate model runs. Boxplots are presented to summarize the spread in the simulation results (see explanation at right).

For the Corubal River there is a tendency of climate models to project a decrease in future discharge. The median of all climate model projections shows a decrease of about -4 % in the far future. The majority of climate model results shows a decrease, whereas only a few climate models yield an increase of discharge in the far future.

Overall the climate change impact assessment shows that given the projections with the most detailed climate models currently available (CORDEX-Africa) a slight decrease of discharge may be expected in the future.

Boxplot summarizing projections with 30 climate model runs





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study was conducted by Pöyry Energy GmbH (Vienna, Austria) for the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE, Praia, Cabo Verde). This is a contribution to the ECOWAS Small-Scale Hydro Power Program, which aims to develop the small-scale hydropower sector in West Africa and is funded by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID).

Observed discharge data were used for hydrological model calibration and were obtained from the following sources: Global Runoff Data Centre (GRDC), Volta Basin Authority, Niger Basin Authority, Senegal & Gambia Basin Authorities (OMVS, OMVG), Liberia National Hydrological Service, Sierra Leone National Hydrological Service, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Precipitation data 1998-2014 are based on Tropical Rainfall Measurement Mission (TRMM 3B42 v7). Additional precipitation data 1950-2010 for model calibration were obtained from the Global Precipitation Climatology Centre (GPCC). Air temperature and potential evapotranspiration data were obtained from the Climatic Research Unit (CRU, Univ. East Anglia), with additional data from the CLIMWAT database of FAO. River network and elevation data were derived from the Hydrosheds dataset (USGS). Climate model data were obtained from the Coordinated Regional Downscaling Experiment for Africa (CORDEX-Africa), which is a project of the World Climate Research Program.

The delineation of climate zones is based on: L`Hôte Y, Dubreuil P, Lerique J. 1996. *Carte des types de climats en Afrique Noire à l'ouest du Congo. Rappels, et extension aux régimes hydrologiques*. In: L'hydrologie tropicale: géoscience et outil pour le développement (Actes de la conférence de Paris, mai 1995). IAHS Publ. no. 238, p. 55-65

More information about the general methodology for the GIS hydropower resource mapping is available in: Kling H, Stanzel P, Fuchs M. 2016. *Regional assessment of the hydropower potential of rivers in West Africa*. Energy Procedia, Elsevier, Special Issue of ERE, 8 pp.