Human Security Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Manual

2020



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACLED Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project

AfDB African Development Bank

AU African Union

BTI Bertelsmann-Stiftung Transformation Index

CEDAW Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women

CMA Coordination of Azawad Movements

CRA Conflict Risk Assessment

DPA ECOWAS Directorate of Political Affairs
ECAF ECOWAS Conflict Analysis Framework

ECOWARN ECOWAS Early Warning and Response Network
ECOWAS Economic Community of West African States
ECPF ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework
EWD ECOWAS Directorate of Early Warning

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FGD Focus Group Discussion
GBV Gender-based violence
GDP Gross domestic product

GIS Geographic Information System

HSRVA Country Risk and Vulnerability Assessment

IDEA International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

IDPs Internally displaced persons

IFES International Foundation for Electoral Systems

IMF International Monetary FundIncReps ECOWARN's Incident ReportsKII Key Informant Interview

NCCRM National Coordination Centers for Response Mechanisms

NGO Non-Governmental Organization

OECD Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
REWARD Reacting to Early Warning and Response Data in West Africa

SD Standard Deviation

SitReps ECOWARN Situation Reports
SNA Stakeholder Network Analysis

UN United Nations

UNDP United Nations Development ProgrammeUNHCR UN High Commissioner for Refugees

USAID United States Agency for International Development

WHO World Health Organization
WTO World Trade Organization

Introduction

Purpose

This Human Security Conflict Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (HSRVA) Handbook, produced by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), aims to serve two objectives. The first is to explain the purpose and value of a HSRVA, and each of its constituent parts, in the context of ECOWAS and conflict prevention efforts in West Africa. The second is to provide detailed step-by-step guidance on how to undertake the HSRVA process, from research design through the generation of a final country report and recommendations.

In terms of structure, this handbook is divided into three sections. The **Methodology** section provides a high-level overview of the HSRVA process and methodology. The **Implementation Steps** section details each step in the HSRVA process. Finally, the **Next Steps and Broader Applications** section demonstrates the use of the HSRVAs in the broader process of early warning and response, and how they integrate into the rest of the ECOWAS conflict prevention institutional architecture. Appendices, templates and example reports have also been included to provide readers with additional guidance on undertaking and applying the HSRVA process.

Background and Context of the HSRVA Process

The HSRVAs were conducted by ECOWAS between 2016 and 2018 in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Reacting to Early Warning and Response Data in West Africa (REWARD) project, to update and expand upon the Early Warning Directorate (EWD) Conflict Risk Assessment (CRA) 2013-2014 country reports. The HSRVA process and resulting reports are intended to help optimize the ECOWAS Early Warning and Response Network (ECOWARN) system, whereby data collection and computation flows into analysis, which then informs planning and response. The graphic below illustrates this integrated process.



The ECOWARN system is premised on two types of information that are submitted by field monitors in each of the 15 ECOWAS member states: Incident Reports and Situation Reports. Incident Reports (or IncReps) are episodic, structured reports on security related incidents. These include basic but important information, including the actors involved, actions that were taken, any losses, injuries, or deaths, and the potential for escalation.

Situation Reports (or SitReps) are weekly ratings on a set of conflict early warning indicators. These IncReps and SitReps allow analysts in the EWD to identify relative levels of risk and vulnerability across all provinces, districts, and regions, and to identify sudden or gradual changes in risk and vulnerability over time. These reports are then integrated by the EWD with a diverse data stream from other sources, covering conflict vulnerabilities, escalation risks, and human security concerns at the local, national, and regional levels. The EWD uses this information to inform analysis products such as Regional Situation Reports, Thematic Reports and Case Studies to inform decision-making, planning and response.

The findings from the 2016-2018 HSRVA reports will, in part, serve as a baseline for the ongoing monitoring and analysis of conflict patterns and trends by providing a better understanding of national and sub-national dynamics. The HSRVA reports assess structural vulnerabilities, event-driven risks, and social and institutional resilience factors according to five human security pillars: 1) Environment, 2) Governance, 3) Health, 4) Crime, and 5) Security. This will allow analysts to better understand how the hotspots, patterns, and trends they identify flow from vulnerabilities and how those vulnerabilities and drivers of conflict have been expressed and are likely to be expressed in specific contexts.

However, while the HSRVA reports are intended to serve as a baseline, the HSRVA process is iterative (as illustrated in the graphic below). Due to the shifting dynamics of conflict risks and vulnerabilities, the HSRVA reports are not intended to serve as definitive, unchanging assessments of the ECOWAS member states, but instead to capture the salient risks, vulnerabilities and resilience factors at the time of research. As a country's risk profile is event-driven and can change over time, it is important to regularly update these HSRVA reports in the future for relevance.

In addition to serving as a baseline for the EWD, these findings will assist each of the incountry National Coordination Centers for Response Mechanisms (NCCRMs) in strengthening early warning data for ongoing monitoring and response by ECOWAS and national stakeholders. This will facilitate efficient and rapid early warning by informing the production of analysis products and therefore orient the strategy for operational and structural prevention both for ECOWAS and for other partners.



The HSRVAs and the ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework (ECPF)

The HSRVA framework also aligns with the existing ECOWAS conflict prevention institutional architecture, the ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework (ECPF). The ECPF serves as a reference for the ECOWAS system and member states in their efforts to strengthen the human security architecture in the region by creating a space for cooperation and coordination between ECOWAS, member states, and external partners. It also aims to elevate conflict prevention and peacebuilding within the political agenda of member states in order to build support for timely and targeted multi-actor and multi-dimensional action to defuse or eliminate potential and real threats to human security.

The ECPF encompasses the categories of *operational prevention* and *structural prevention*. The former is defined in the ECPF as including "early warning, mediation, conciliation, preventive disarmament and preventive deployment using interactive means such as good offices and the ECOWAS Standby Force". The latter, as defined in the ECPF, comprises "political, institutional (governance) and developmental reforms, capacity enhancement and advocacy on the culture of peace". The HSRVA framework is aligned with the ECPF such that identified Vulnerability Factors are to be mitigated by structural prevention measures and Risk Factors are to be mitigated by operational prevention measures. This alignment is important for the utility and actionability of this report by users in West Africa.

Importantly, while many reports and analyses of structural vulnerabilities and resilience factors focus almost exclusively on the national level, the ECPF seeks to support a more decentralized early warning and response infrastructure across West Africa. Therefore, the

HSRVA reports take into consideration dynamics at the sub-national level, which are critical in helping analysts and potential responders understand the context in which specific events and risks are occurring, a context which may be markedly different in crucial ways from the national context. This mapping of sub-national level risks, vulnerabilities, and resiliencies can also help inform strategies for engaging at the local level for structural prevention.

Finally, as noted in the ECPF, conflict in West Africa tends to be highly interconnected, which often leads to cycles of violence that cross borders and can keep countries embroiled for decades. As the HSRVA reports cover all of the ECOWAS member states, they are also useful in helping to understand the dynamics of West Africa's supra-national conflict systems, such as those that occur across the Mano River, the Gulf of Guinea, the Lake Chad Basin and the Sahel. These regional conflict systems are historically, culturally, and geographically interconnected and also share many of the same structural vulnerabilities that give rise to risks and the eventual outbreak of violence, decade after decade. Thus, the HSRVA reports present an opportunity to identify the sub-national, national, and supra-national factors that lead to structural vulnerability and heightened risk, and highlight the need for a holistic and systemic lens in analysis, planning, and response as framed within the ECPF. The HSRVA reports will also link into future early warning products and processes, such as the ECOWAS Conflict Analysis Framework (ECAF), which will be detailed in the section on Next Steps and Broader Applications.

Overview of the HSRVA Methodology

The HSRVAs assessed structural vulnerabilities, event-driven risks, and social and institutional resilience factors according to five human security pillars – 1) Environment, 2) Governance, 3) Health, 4) Crime, and 5) Security. The reports describe how risks flow from vulnerabilities both within and across these five pillars. Furthermore, the reports also break out gender considerations and external factors as cross-cutting issues that need to be understood for effective early warning, planning and response.

Within the context of the HSRVA, "vulnerability" is defined as any structural factor that has the potential to be a conflict driver, while "risk" is defined as any event-driven factor that has the potential to be a conflict trigger. Structural vulnerabilities can include such things as youth unemployment, poverty, inequality, climate, patronage, or demographic factors, while event-driven risks include specific controversies or events such as disasters or elections that may occur. "Resilience" is defined as any social or institutional factor that has the potential to help mitigate or manage risks and vulnerabilities. These may include political, cultural, and community leadership with significant social capital to influence conflict dynamics in a constructive way, including public sector, private sector, religious institutions, civil society, opinion leaders, development workers, or other institutions that play a stabilizing role in the short, medium, or longer term.

The HSRVA reports layered, triangulated, and juxtaposed quantitative, Geographic Information System (GIS), and qualitative data in a way that is accurate, meaningful, and representative, drawing first and foremost on ECOWARN IncReps and SitReps and then integrating complementary data sources to fill gaps. The HSRVA was conducted in three main phases: Desktop Study, Field Research, and Analysis and Validation, as shown in the graphic below.



Phase 1: Desktop Study

For each of the HSRVA reports, the Desktop Study included a preliminary assessment of structural vulnerabilities, event-driven risks, and social and institutional resilience factors. The process by which a Desktop Study is undertaken includes the data collection and

processing, the qualitative research, and the writing of the narrative. This is covered in detail in the **Desktop Study** section of the Implementation Steps chapter.

For the assessment of structural vulnerabilities, the research used data from dozens of sources, including ECOWARN Situation Reports (SitReps). Drawing on these pre-existing data sets, a quantitative HSRVA Index was created to measure the relative levels of vulnerability across five human security dimensions, a process which is covered in detail in "Developing the HSRVA Index" within the **Desktop Study** section of the Implementation Steps chapter.

For the assessment of event-driven risks, event data, including from ECOWARN's Incident Reports (IncReps), was triangulated against data from the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) to estimate the locations and types of conflict issues at the subnational level over time. The use of multiple sources in this manner allows for cross-validation, the filling of gaps that may be present in a single data source, and the identification of trends in indicators and sub-indicators using queries and key word searches. This process is covered in more detail in "Evaluating event data for event-driven risks" within the **Desktop Study** section of the Implementation Steps chapter.

For the assessment of social and institutional resilience factors, a survey was deployed to all of ECOWAS's in-country contacts to learn more about the peace and security actors working to manage and reduce risks and vulnerabilities in the country. Respondents (including government agencies, representatives of religious institutions, public sector actors, civil society, youth groups, and development actors, among others) were also asked to name organizations that they had partnered with in the previous two years on issues of peace and security. Data was then uploaded as a stakeholder network map using specialized social network analysis tools for quantitative analysis to identify leverage points, spheres of influence, and social capital. This process is covered in more detail in the **Stakeholder Network Analysis** section of the Implementation Steps chapter. Based on this analysis, key technical experts were identified and contacted for the next phase of the research.

Phase 2: Field Research

The Field Research phase of the HSRVA process in each country began with a scoping workshop, usually in the capital city. Using the stakeholder network map completed in Phase 1, highly-networked technical experts were convened in a workshop to validate the initial desktop findings and suggest a way forward for the qualitative analysis in the field. The scoping workshop was also used to tailor and sensitize the broader research questions as well as the Key Informant Interview (KII) and Focus Group Discussion (FGD)¹

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¹ KIIs and FGDs were chosen as the primary form of qualitative inquiry in the field due to the ability of these techniques to elicit rich, context-specific data on personal experiences and perspectives from a range of stakeholders and experts. However, it is recognized that all research methods come with inherent limitations; for example, the personal nature of the KIIs and FGDs means that this data may not be generalizable across groups and may unintentionally reflect personal or cultural biases or misconceptions. To compensate for this, the HSRVAs triangulate KII and FGD data with quantitative and desktop research, in addition to participatory validation, in order to fill gaps or correct inaccuracies in the qualitative data. For more information on qualitative research techniques, please see FHI360's *Qualitative Research Methods: A*

instruments and questionnaires based on local context. Finally, the scoping workshop also served to collect references and contacts for key actors and stakeholders in the field who were consulted over the course of the KIIs and FGDs.

A team of experts and researchers then conducted an in-country assessment with participants from several regions in the country. The team traveled to the various hotspots identified in the desktop study and validated in the scoping workshop to interview key stakeholders affected by conflicts or living in or around conflict areas and with knowledge of local context and capacities. The KIIs and FGDs conducted during this in-country assessment produced qualitative data and information regarding various perspectives on structural vulnerabilities, event-driven risk factors, and social and institutional resilience factors relating to the different conflict issues across the country. The KII and FGD transcripts were then collated, streamlined to reduce repetition and vagueness, and categorized for analysis and prioritization during Phase 3. The full process of undertaking this field research, including planning, executing the orientation and technical workshops, conducting KIIs and FGDs, and compiling the transcripts, is covered in the Field Research section of the Implementation Steps chapter.

Phase 3: Analysis and Validation

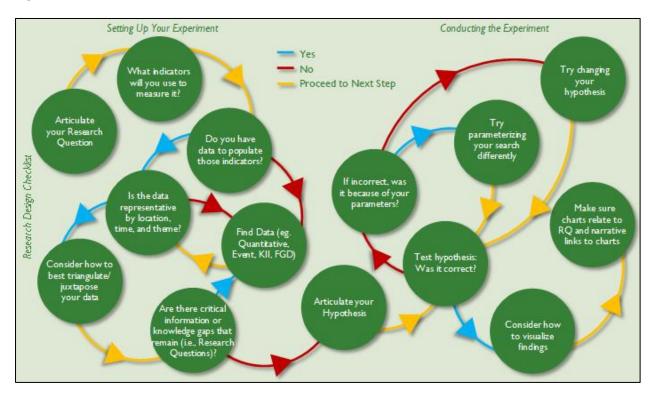
After the quantitative, GIS, and survey data was qualified and contextualized in the field, and the qualitative data was collected, organized and summarized, a final report was drafted and validated. The report serves as a baseline and resource for more targeted early warning products and analysis/planning within the country under analysis as well as in associated conflict systems more broadly. The process of writing, validating, and disseminating the final report is covered in the **Reporting** section of the next chapter.

Data Collector's Field Guide (2005): https://www.fhi360.org/resource/qualitative-research-methods-data-collectors-field-guide.

A Note on Research Design

For every Early Warning product, some thought must be given to what the key research question is, followed by the means of measurement, the availability of data, and the representativeness of that data across time, location, and indicator. This is as true for a major research project, such as the HSRVA, as it is for any memo, alert, or briefing. Otherwise the findings may be skewed or insufficiently qualified, leading to ill-considered recommendations. Below is a flow chart used in the HSRVA to ensure that the research design is robust. The depth to which this flow chart is applied is scalable to the scope of the Early Warning product.

This Manual describes in detail how each of these steps are applied for the purpose of the HSRVA.



Implementation Steps

Step 1: Writing the Desktop Study

A. Developing the HSRVA Index

The first step in the HSRVA process is to develop a quantitative index which identifies structural vulnerabilities in each of the ECOWAS member states. Starting with the ECOWARN SitReps, and juxtaposing those findings against complementary datasets, the Index draws on a wide range of sources. The HSRVA Index provides each country with a score on a scale of 1-10 (with 1 being more vulnerable and 10 being more resilient) in each of the five human security pillars and thematic subindicators within each pillar. These scores provide analysts with a better foundation for understanding of the relative areas of vulnerability within and between ECOWAS member states and for prioritizing areas for further research. The HSRVA Index also directly informs the research and writing of the narrative Desktop Study (see step 3 below).

DOCUMENT CHECKLIST

The following documents, reports, and tools will be produced as part of the HSRVA process:

- ☐ HSRVA Index
- □ Desktop Study
- Stakeholder ScopingSurvey
- □ Framing Questions
- ☐ KII and FGD Instruments
- □ Data Packet
- ☐ Final HSRVA Report

See Appendices A and B for a full list of the HSRVA Index indicators, sub-indicators and sources and step-by-step instructions on how to construct the HSRVA Index.

Purpose, Scope and Limitations of an Index

The purpose of the HSRVA Index is to provide EWD analysts with a snapshot of structural vulnerabilities within and between ECOWAS member states which may contribute to or evolve into event-driven risk factors. The HSRVA Index provides a quantitative baseline to help analysts prioritize, undertake further research on, and monitor specific geographic or thematic areas. Although the context within each country is unique, a properly caveated and interpreted index provides a necessary standardized baseline and framework for comparative and deeper analysis. This is not to lessen or ignore the important role of qualitative inquiry but presumes that all qualitative interpretation should flow from an initial quantitative foundation to minimize the distortionary effects of group-think, personal unconscious bias, or undue weighting of the most recent or most accessible events and information. The HSRVA Index provides that quantitative foundation on which interpretive qualitative analysis – which is necessary to understand and incorporate the unique dynamics of each country – is based.

Of course, any index does present inherent limitations. These occur at the level of the framework structure and calculations formulae (which assume a degree of generalizability that must be qualified in the interpretation) and at the level of data (each quantitative source has its own emphasis or methodological characteristics and there can be gaps in time and space that must be triangulated to ensure validity). However, if both the strengths and limitations of the HSRVA Index are transparent and fully sensitized among its key users, it will serve a critical role by providing a quantitative foundation for more strategic and targeted analysis to the challenges faced within ECOWAS member countries.

A Note on Data Sources

Both the HSRVA Index (above) and, to a lesser degree, the event data (detailed in the section below) are predicated on outside data sources. Those data sources that are used in the HSRVA process have been carefully selected for their relevance, scope, and timeliness, but in the future, or if the HSRVA methodology is applied to another context, it is possible that some of the data sources may not be available. Two of the best ways to find new data sources, if they are needed, are: 1) to use data sources that were used in previous methodologically rigorous projects, such as flagship reports or academic papers, or 2) to investigate what sources are published by reputable organizations (e.g. World Bank, United Nations).

If new data sources need to be selected for whatever reason, it is important to consider the relevancy, scope, and timeliness of a possible source. Relevancy covers whether the data source measures what you want it to measure (or at least is as close as possible). For example, it is difficult to measure corruption directly, but the Corruption Perceptions Index (produced by Transparency International) measures a close proxy, perceptions of corruption by a variety of audiences. Scope covers whether the data source includes the entire geography under analysis (or as much as possible). For example, it is very difficult to get updated data in certain contexts, such as when protracted armed conflict prevents the collection of data. Timeliness covers how recent the data is. Though in some contexts it is difficult to collect updated data, analysts should strive to use the most updated data as possible in order to provide the most accurate picture of the current context. To some degree, there are likely to be trade-offs between these three priorities, but all three should be kept in mind and pursued to the extent possible.

B. Evaluating event data for event-driven risks

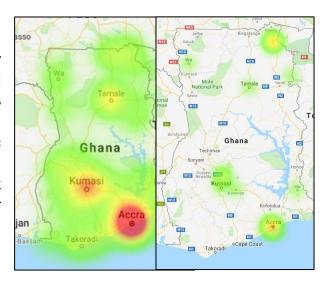
The second step in the HSRVA process is the evaluation of event data, relying primarily on the ECOWARN IncReps and juxtaposing against other available sources. Event data, when collected and analyzed against appropriate indicators and frameworks, serves as a foundation to inform further qualitative inquiry and prognosis of where, when and why conflict has occurred in the country or region being evaluated. A data-driven approach to the HSRVA process is critical for identifying relative levels of risk and vulnerability across the geographic areas being examined and identifying conflict hotspots. A data-driven

approach is also fundamental in analyzing patterns and trends in risks and vulnerabilities over time.

For this step of the HSRVA process, it is useful for the analyst to utilize a Geographic Information System (GIS), which will allow the user to visualize, question, analyze, and interpret data to understand relationships, patterns, and trends. GIS can be used to identify hotspots and trends to determine how different conflict risks are becoming evident over space and time. From here, the analyst can optimize event data in terms of quality, quantity, and representativeness by time, location and theme. The user should triangulate and validate data by using multiple datasets, such as ECOWARN and ACLED. Analysts should be able to search through event data over space and time and triangulate data sources to fill information gaps. When drafting the Desktop Study and planning for the Field Research, analysts should identify hotspots and visualize where and when conflict incidents are occurring, as well as the types of incidents themselves.

Identifying Hotspots:

Identifying key hotspots within the country informs both the Desktop Study and planning for the Field Research. Heatmaps of incidents or fatalities, using data from the appropriate date range and geographic region can be a useful visualization tool. While heatmaps are useful, the analyst should also seek to identify what the major conflict drivers are in each region.

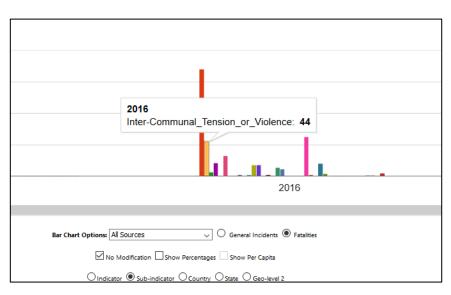


Above left: Heatmap of all conflict incidents in Ghana. Above right: Heatmap of conflict incidents relating to land competition. By utilizing specific search parameters and analyzing data at the local and regional level, the identification of hotspots can better inform field research planning.

Patterns and Trends:

Using a GIS application, the user can also evaluate spikes in conflict fatalities, as well as other patterns and trends in the country. This will inform the "Key Incidents or Events" and

"Key Risk Factors" sections of the Desktop Study. The step first this in process is identifying if and when any spikes in conflict fatalities occurred in the given country or region. From here, the analyst can investigate further to report on trends in incidents compared to fatalities and summarize the incidents in the event data. The analyst should also identify key



Example of how event-data synthesized to a GIS tool can be used to identify key risk factors

risk factors for the country or region using the event data. Examples of event-driven risk factors include criminality, political tensions, riots and protests, or communal tensions and violence.

C. Writing the narrative Desktop Study

After using the quantitative HSRVA Index and GIS event data to analyze the structural vulnerabilities and event-driven risk factors of the country, the next step is writing the narrative Desktop Study. The Desktop Study provides important background information and context on the country in question, and helps the research and field teams develop the research questions which will later be asked in the field. This section will provide detailed guidance on writing the Desktop Study narrative.

Structure

The Desktop Study uses the five human security pillars – Environment, Governance, Health, Crime, and Security - to structure the main section of the report, and follows the outline below.²

² Note that future research using this quantitative/qualitative mixed methods approach to assessing structural vulnerabilities and event-driven risks can operationalize these pillars differently, such as along EWD's thematic areas, depending on the specific research questions or mandate of primary customers or responders.

- 1. Country Background
- 2. Key Incidents or Events
- 3. Conflict Risk and Vulnerability Factors
 - a. Most Vulnerable Category
 - b. Second MostVulnerable Category
 - c. Third Most Vulnerable Category
 - d. Fourth MostVulnerable Category
 - e. Fifth Most Vulnerable Category
- 4. Gender Considerations
- 5. Key Risk Factors
- 6. Regional Breakdown
- 7. Key Stakeholders
- 8. Conclusion



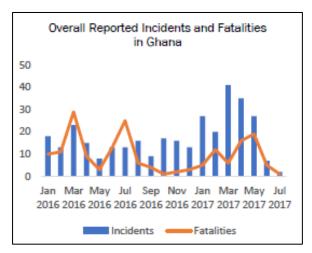
The Table of Contents from the Benin Desktop Study

Section 1: Country Background

This section should give a brief but comprehensive overview of 1) the social and political history of the country, and 2) the salient points from the HSRVA Index and the human security pillars that help to give a fuller picture of the country. To ensure usability of the study by a broader range of stakeholders, assume that the reader does not have a deep background in the country.

Section 2: Key Incidents or Events

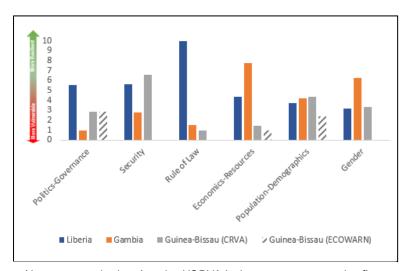
This section analyzes the GIS event data to identify key incidents or events that took place in the preceding two years. The spikes and trends in incidents and fatalities can then be used as a starting point for deeper investigation into key events or types of conflicts in the country. For example, the graph to the right from the Ghana Desktop Study shows a spike in fatalities in March 2016. When the analyst looks specifically at the event data from that month, it is revealed that the spike was due to farmer-herder conflicts, including a relatively major clash in the Greater Accra region, and an increase in violent criminality. This information can then be used in the "Key Risk Factors" and



A graph analyzing trends in conflict incidents vs. fatalities in Ghana.

"Regional Breakdown" sections of the Desktop Study and to guide deeper qualitative research into these areas. The writer may also wish to include an analysis of trends in conflict incidents compared to fatalities, as well as a comparison of reported incidents or fatalities by region.

Section 3: Conflict Risk and Vulnerability Factors



Above: a graph showing the HSRVA Index scores across the five human security pillars as well as gender for Guinea-Bissau and two comparison countries (in this case, Liberia and the Gambia).

This section uses the results of the HSRVA Index and the five human security pillars to structure а deeper examination of conflict risk and vulnerability factors in the country. This section can begin with a short paragraph summarizing the HSRVA Index findings and graph visualizing the HSRVA Index scores for the country (as shown in the figure to the left). It is also useful to compare the scores of the country in question with the scores of two

neighboring or comparable countries to provide a sense of proportionality.

This section then delves into an examination of the country through the lens of the five human security pillars, organized from most to least vulnerable. The guidance below includes some common topics of research within each pillar, as well as useful resources. However, these lists are by no means exhaustive, and researchers are encouraged to expand or tailor these subjects according to the country context.

For an example of the structure and style of the Desktop Study, see the template and example report included at the end of this handbook.

Tips for research and writing the Desktop Study				
	Be sure to use the most recent data available, and note the year of the data in your writing to provide a sense of temporal context (for example, write "As of 2012, 52 percent of the population lived below the poverty line" rather than "52 percent of the population lives below the poverty line").			
	Whenever possible, cite the original data source rather than relying on secondary sources.			
	Endeavor to use politically neutral language and avoid adding in your own judgement or editorializing.			
	Mainstream gender and age wherever possible.			

The following potential research topics, questions, and useful resources are categorized according to the five human security pillars first identified by ECOWAS in a 2016 scoping paper³ and used in the 2016-2018 HSRVA reports: 1) Economics and Resources, 2) Politics and Governance, 3) Population and Demographics, 4) Rule of Law, and 5) Security. In the future, research topics, questions, and resources should be organized in alignment with the by five new human security pillars: 1) Environment, 2) Governance, 3) Health, 4) Crime, and 5) Security.

Human Security Pillar: Economics and Resources

Potential research topics and questions include:

Income inequality (e.g. Gini coefficient; income share held by the highest 10%) Disparities between rural and urban populations (particularly rates of poverty, employment and service provision). What percentage of the population lives in urban areas? What is the urban growth rate? Are there strong trends of rural-urban migration? Is this economically-driven?
Malnutrition and food insecurity. What percentage of the population is considered "food insecure"? What is driving malnutrition and/or food insecurity?
Economic productivity of the country (including GDP and expected GDP growth rates)
Literacy rates and net school enrollment rates for females vs. males. Also look at the change in these rates between primary and secondary school, as gender disparities often widen at the secondary and tertiary levels.
What role do women play in the economy? What percentage of women are engaged in the informal sector?

³ EWD Scoping Paper on "Risk Assessment of Five ECOWAS Pilot Countries: Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Liberia, Guinea-Bissau, and Burkina Faso"

	What is the overall makeup of the economy? What are the primary industries? What are the country's exports and imports? How diversified is the economy? (For example, what percentage of GDP comes from agriculture vs mining vs service
	sector?)
	Have there been any economic shocks recently? (For example, conflicts, drops in commodity prices, epidemics such as Ebola)
	What is the government's economic strategy?
	What percentage of the population is reliant on agriculture?
	What role does mining or other forms of resource extraction play in the economy?
	What are the issues associated with these industries (for example, human rights abuses, migration, land pressures, pollution, conflicts with local communities, etc.)?
П	•
	What are the levels of youth unemployment and education? Is this driving discontent (particularly if there is a large youth bulge)?
	Is land or control of other natural resources a source of conflict? Are herder-farmer conflicts an issue?
	What is the land tenure regime?
	What mechanisms are already in place to mitigate land pressures or conflict?
	Illicit economy: what role does drug or weapons trafficking play? Is there illegal
	mining or resource extraction? Is the government implicated? Does it impact domestic security?
	Is the country vulnerable to natural disasters? If so, what type? Have there been any recent natural disasters?
	What are the country's vulnerabilities to climate change? (For example, sea level rise, desertification, etc.) What impact could this have on the population? (For example, forced migration due to desertification, economic impact on livelihoods, etc.).
Useful	resources:
	World Bank statistics database and country overview pages
	International Monetary Fund (IMF) strategy reports
	African Development Bank (AfDB) publications, particularly the more recent Country
	Gender Profiles
	Publications and data by USAID or other development organizations, World Food
	Programme, FAO, UNDP or NGOs working in the country
	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Periodic
	Review reports (for Gender sections)
	Land Links country profiles (URL: https://www.land-links.org/country-profiles/)

Human Security Pillar: Politics and Governance

Potential research topics and questions include:

	Elections and levels of political participation, including voter turnout rates
	Have recent elections been considered free and fair? Have opposition groups
	contested results? What have international observers said about the elections?
	Perceptions of corruption within government
	Are there mechanisms to combat corruption in place, and are the mechanisms
	effective?
	Respect for political rights
	Perceptions of government legitimacy
	Representation of women and youth in politics (For example: number and
	percentage of women in Parliament/National Assembly; number and percentage of
	women or youth in ministerial or cabinet positions; what role do women and youth
	play in local politics and decision-making?)
	Does the country have a legacy of one-party or authoritarian rule? How does this
	affect the current political climate?
	Does violence occur around elections? If so, what drives this violence? Who is
	involved?
	Are political parties organized along religious or ethnic lines? If so, does political
	speech invoke these divisions? Are political grievances tied up with ethnic or
	religious or regional grievances?
	How well does the government deliver social services? Are there urban-rural
	disparities in social services?
	What rights are protected by the constitution? Are those rights protected? (For
	example, are protests or journalists suppressed?)
	What international conventions is the country party to (or not party to)?
	What are the key human rights issues in the country? What role does the
	government play in these issues (for good or for bad)?
Useful	resources:
	CEDAW Periodic Review reports
	Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index
	Afrobarometer surveys relating to corruption and government legitimacy
	US State Department annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices
	Reports by UN Special Rapporteurs
	Annual "Freedom in the World" publication by Freedom House
	Human rights reports by groups such as Human Rights Watch or Amnesty
	International
	Data from the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA)
	The ElectionGuide website (URL: http://www.electionguide.org/) by the
	International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)
	World Press Freedom Index by Reporters Without Borders
	PARLINE database on national parliaments by the Inter-Parliamentary Union

	UN and World Bank data on rural vs urban service availability
Humaı	n Security Pillar: Population and Demographics
Potent	ial research topics and questions include:
	Age distribution: What is the median age? What is the rate of population growth?
	Youth bulge: Is there a large youth population? What percentage? What challenges and opportunities come along with this youth population?
	Fertility: What is the average family size? Are there regional or rural/urban disparities in fertility rates, or disparities between education levels?
	What is the state of contraception use and family planning in the country?
	What is the maternal mortality rate?
	What is the life expectancy at birth (male vs. female)?
	What is the prevalence of child marriage in the country?
	How do demographic trends (e.g., in youth bulge, migration) affect the other human security pillars (e.g., risks around youth unemployment or radicalization, women's economic opportunities, etc.)?
	What are the major ethnic or social groups? Where do these groups live?
	What is the religious makeup of the country?
	Is there a large immigrant community? Are there strong trends in migration?
	Is there a history of conflict between ethnic or religious groups? Or between immigrants and natives? Are there practices of coexistence that help mitigate conflict (for example, the 'joking relationship' or inter-religious dialogues)?
	Do ethnic or religious identities impact political affiliation, marginalization, etc.?
	How strong is the health system? (for example, number of healthcare workers per
	100,000 people, or number of hospitals). Are there rural-urban disparities in healthcare services?
	Does the country have a history of epidemics or disease? (for example, Ebola or Zika)
	Are there other health concerns in the country? (for example, HIV/AIDS prevalence rates, outbreaks of Measles, etc.)
Useful	resources:
П	Country Demographic and Health Surveys (produced by the USAID DHS Program)
	World Health Organization data and country reports or updates
	UN and World Bank data
П	National statistical data
	OFCD Social Institutions and Gender Index

 $\hfill \Box$ Country reports by the Bertelsmann-Stiftung Transformation Index (BTI)

Human Security Pillar: Rule of Law

Potent	ial research topics and questions include:
	Judicial independence Perceptions of corruption in government and in the judiciary Levels of trust in the judiciary or court system Accountability and impunity (for example, are abuses by security forces investigated? Is corruption by government officials investigated?) Number and percentage of women in the judiciary Women's rights under the law and respect for women's rights in practice Are there any groups who face discrimination under the law? Prison and detention conditions Reliance on traditional or customary law Resources allocated to the legal system (for example: do courts exist in rural areas? Are magistrates paid?)
	resources: CEDAW Periodic Review reports Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index Afrobarometer surveys relating to corruption and court systems US State Department annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices Reports by UN Special Rapporteurs Annual "Freedom in the World" publication by Freedom House Human rights reports by groups such as Human Rights Watch or Amnesty International
Humai	n Security Pillar: Security
Potent	ial research topics and questions include:
	Does the country have a history of armed conflict? If so, what were/are the drivers, and who is involved?
	Are there peacekeeping troops in the country? If so, for how long? What is their mandate?
	Are there trends of criminal violence in the country?
	Are there illicit economies (drugs, weapons, etc.) that impact security?
	Is there a history of political violence or violence around elections? If so, what are the drivers? Who are the key actors?
	Have there been terrorist attacks in the country? If so, what groups are involved?
	Have neighboring countries experienced terrorist attacks? Is there a risk of spillover or radicalization in the country?
	Refugees and IDPs: number of refugees and IDPs in the country, and country of origin. Is the country a source or exporter of refugees? Does the country have the

	capacity to accommodate rerugee of IDP populations? How are relations between
	displaced populations and local communities?
	How well are the security forces able to protect the population? Do they have
	adequate resources and pay? Are there issues of corruption? Are the security forces
	implicated in abuses?
	Does the country have vigilante or community security groups? How reliant are
	communities on these groups to ensure security?
	How are women impacted by violence? Are there issues of Gender-Based Violence?
	Are there issues of Gender-Based Violence?
	How are youth impacted by violence? (for example, are there concerns about youth
	radicalization? Are youth mobilized to engage in election violence?)
	Is land or natural resource management a source of violent conflict?
Useful	resources:
	Updates and data by UNHCR
	Reports by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime
	CEDAW Periodic Review reports
	OECD Social Institutions and Gender Index

conocity to accommodate refugee or IDD populations? How are relations between

Section 4: Gender Considerations

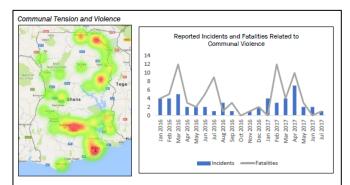
In addition to mainstreaming gender into the human security pillar sections above, the Gender Considerations section provides a summary of gender roles and additional information to give an overview of the general position of women in the country. For example, what different social, economic or political roles do men and women play in the country? How have women been uniquely affected by the trends discussed in the report? What disparities exist? How has the government worked to address these disparities? Are things improving?

For additional guidance on integrating a gender lens, see the "Gender Integration in Early Warning – ECOWAS: Gender Manual for Practitioners".

Section 5: Key Risk Factors

This section identifies the leading types of conflict risks in the country, based on an analysis of the GIS event data. Examples of conflict risks could include Criminality, Political Tensions, Riots and Protests, or Communal Tensions and Violence. For each type of event-driven risk, the report should identify hotspots, trends in incidents compared to fatalities, and a summary of the incidents in the event data.

The image to the right shows an example of a risk factor summary for Communal Tension and Violence from the Ghana Desktop Study.



Communal tension and violence is a risk factor in Ghana. According to ECOWARN and ACLED data collected from January 2016 – July 2017, there were 41 reported ECOWARN incidents and 31 reported ACLED incidents related to communal tension and violence. Many reported incidents included descriptions of fatal violence between farmers and herdsmen. In March 2016, a clash between farmers and herdsmen over land access reportedly resulted in seven fatalities. According to the data, land conflict was a key driver of communal violence. In April 2017, four fatalities were reported in Bunkpurugu Yunyoo due to a land dispute between the Sayeegu and Sambilluk communities. The data also included reports of chieftaincy disputes within communities. In January 2016, one incident detailed clashes between the Jafoak and Jamong families over the chieftaincy in Bunkpurugu, which led to at least five fatalities and property destruction. In February 2017, renewed chieftaincy clashes in Nanumba South reportedly resulted in 11 fatalities, 18 injuries, and widespread property destruction. Three women were also reportedly murdered in relation to the same chieftaincy dispute.

Section 6: Regional Breakdown

Using GIS event data, this section analyzes the types of conflict risks occurring in each region of the country and identifies key hotspots within each region. For usability, this information is best presented in a table format, as shown in the figure below. This information will later be used to inform the planning of the Field Research in the next step of the HSRVA process.

Region	Salient Issues	Key Areas	
Central River	Tensions with security forces Political tensions between UPD and APRC supporters	Upper Saloum	
Upper River	Political tensions between UPD and APRC supporters	Sandu	
West Coast	Political tensions between UPD and APRC supporters Clashes with ECOMIG soldiers	Foni Bondali	
Greater Banjul Area	Riots and protests, often over political issues, economic grievances, and concerns over a waste dumping site Arrests of political opposition supporters and journalists	Banjul Kanifing	

Left: an excerpt of the Regional Breakdown section of the Desktop Study for The Gambia.

Section 7: Key Stakeholders

Based on the research conducted over the course of the Desktop Study, this section identifies international, national, and local stakeholders who should be engaged during the next phase of field research. It is important to identify key actors across the five human security pillars, as well as think through the types of stakeholders (such as political

opposition groups, government entities, religious leaders, or traditional leaders etc.) who may contribute critical insights during the field research phase.

Section 8: Conclusion

This section provides a brief summary of the findings of the Desktop Study and identifies gaps or areas for additional research which can be filled during the next phase of the HSRVA process: Field Research.

D. Drafting framing questions

As indicated in the research design flow chart, the first step in each phase must be an articulation of the Research Question (or questions) being investigated. As such, in preparation for the Field Research phase, framing questions should be prepared to guide the research agenda. These questions should flow directly from the Desktop Study. Having captured a broad overview of the structural vulnerabilities, event-driven risks, hotspots, patterns, and trends, the researcher will draft a series of questions that will qualify and contextualize those preliminary findings. These questions will be refined during the orientation workshop on the first day of the fieldwork mission. Note that these questions should not be confused with the KII/FGD Instrument, which will ultimately be a stripped-down version of the framing questions to avoid bias or leading questions on the part of the researcher.

Guidelines for developing framing questions:

Framing questions should investigate the underlying risks and vulnerabilities
across the 5 pillars.
Framing questions should explicitly take into consideration the sociopolitical
context as identified in the Desktop Study.
Framing questions should refer explicitly to relevant events, actors, and locations
identified in the Desktop Study.

Like the potential research topics, questions, and useful resources, the following example framing questions are categorized according to the five human security pillars used in the 2016-2018 HSRVA reports: 1) Economics and Resources, 2) Politics and Governance, 3) Population and Demographics, 4) Rule of Law, and 5) Security. In the future, framing questions should be organized in alignment with the by five new human security pillars: 1) Environment, 2) Governance, 3) Health, 4) Crime, and 5) Security.

<u>Politics/Governance</u>: Since the Northern Mali conflict broke out in 2012 and the peace agreement was signed between the Malian Government, the Plateforme, and CMA in 2015 what challenges to the implementation of that agreement remain? (Local ownership, logistical, political...). Given the current security landscape, will upcoming elections in 2018 and 2022 go smoothly and will such political transitions help consolidate the peace

process or derail it? To what extent do issues of refugees and internally displaced affect social cohesion?

<u>Population/Demographics</u>: To what extent is ethnic polarization or tensions between farmers and pastoralists a salient factor in the socio-political landscape? Is religious sectarianism or radical extremism a divisive issue? Does migration and displacement contribute to conflict over land and resources? Are there specific issues facing the youth (e.g. Disenfranchisement, youth bulge, access to opportunity and resources etc.)? To what extent are adverse climatic conditions affecting food security and security in general? Are their groups who are structurally marginalized from political representation or opportunity?

<u>Economics/Resources</u>: Since the peace agreement, is socioeconomic activity reemerging? Are traders and convoys able to transport goods to and from the market, especially in the north? Beyond security assistance, to what extent is Mali reliant on foreign aid, especially health, technical, and food aid?

<u>Security</u>: In the context of the peace agreement, how are the security services keeping the territorial integrity of the state of Mali intact? How much of the territory does the military have effective control over? In addition to UN and French military forces, to what extent does the government rely on proxies such as the Plateforme to maintain peace and order, is this sustainable? As a part of the overall conflict landscape, to what extent does terrorism threaten the safety and security of the population of Mali?

<u>Rule of Law</u>: To what extend does drug trafficking and human trafficking fuel the conflict in Mali? Are there constraints or limitations on the functioning of the judicial institutions, such as corruption and professionalism? Is corruption undermining the successful implementation of the peace agreement itself? Beyond the administrative center, is there equitable access to justice and legal services?

E. Drafting the KII/FGD Instrument

After considering the broad, contextualized research questions that will be explored in the field, the team must now draft a KII/FGD Instrument that will be deployed in the research sites identified. These interviews will be used to answer the framing questions but will be posed without as much explicit reference to events, actors, and locations. These questions will be very general and open-ended, to avoid bias, and to create an opportunity for the respondent to bring his or her own understanding, perception, and experience of the context to the interview-rather than that context being imposed by the researcher. Note that every time one of these questions is asked and answered, the researcher should follow up with a request for an example or an elaboration. The KII/FGD instrument, therefore, is intended as a tool to start a conversation that could go in different directions depending on the role or expertise of the respondent.

Note that, while the instrument will be the same for KIIs and FGDs, the discussions may be quite different. The KII's may be much deeper, as they will be conducted with prominent individuals with expertise or visibility on a specific part of the problem-set being researched (Women Leader, Traditional/Religious/Community Leader, Security Agent, Administrative Official, and Opinion Leader). FGD's on the other hand, may be more general, as they are intended to elicit the point of view of the general population (broken out by gender and age group).

The questions for each pillar should be on a separate page. At the top of each page should be a list of key categories identified for that respective pillar. These categories will be determined based upon the Desktop study and the Framing Questions. For example, at the top of the Security pillar, the following categories may be listed:

Communal Tensions/Conflict	Criminal Violence	Gender- Based Violence	Insurgency	Extremism	Cross- Border Violence

Then in the course of the interview, the researcher will check the boxes when one category or another is identified as being a serious priority area from the perspective of the respondent. At the end of the field mission, the researchers will tally up the responses by stakeholder group and location to see if there was significant variation among the various respondents.

Guidelines for developing the KII/FGD Instrument

KII/FGD instrument questions should be drafted for each of the five human security
pillars and should aim to prompt a discussion by which to enable the respondent(s)
to elaborate on issues raised in the Framing Questions.
These questions do not need to be asked verbatim during the KIIs and FGDs, but
rather should be used by the interviewer to prompt and guide the discussion
Questions should be straightforward, simple, and discrete
Questions should aim to elicit detailed answers from the participant(s) (i.e. not
"yes" or "no" questions)
Do not ask questions that require interviewees to do analysis for you

Like the example framing questions, the following example KII/FGD instrument questions are categorized according to the five human security pillars used in the 2016-2018 HSRVA reports: 1) Economics and Resources, 2) Politics and Governance, 3) Population and Demographics, 4) Rule of Law, and 5) Security. In the future, KII/FGD instrument questions should be organized in alignment with the by five new human security pillars: 1) Environment, 2) Governance, 3) Health, 4) Crime, and 5) Security.

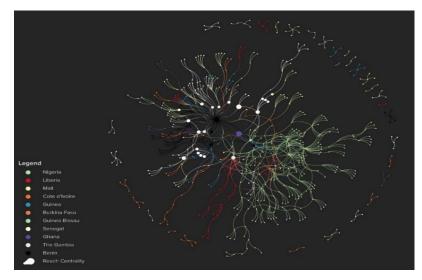
Politics	s and Governance						
	What role do women play in politics and decision-making?						
	What role do youth play in politics and decision-making?						
	What role do civil society groups, the media and social movements play in politics?						
Foono	mics and Resources						
	What are your views on the prices of commodities in your community? How does it						
	affect you and vulnerable groups?						
	Are there regional disparities or disparities between urban and rural areas in terms						
	of basic social services (education, healthcare, road infrastructure, water						
	infrastructure)?						
	Do you know of any illicit economic activities in your community? What role do they						
	play in the local and national economy?						
	What role do women play in the local economy?						
	What role do youth play in the local economy?						
Securi							
	What is your perception of security forces' role in managing criminality?						
	Are there conflict drivers such as land disputes, succession or inheritance, or						
	resource competition?						
	What role do communities or non-state actors play in security provision?						
	Are there political, communal or sectarian tensions that could pose a threat to						
	national or local security? To what extent have illicit markets (e.g. drug trafficking, illegal mining) contributed						
	to issues of criminality and violence?						
	Are there cross-border, maritime, or transnational threats?						
	Are there any issues within your community associated with refugees and						
	IDPs/deportees/returnees?						
П	What are the measures in place to guarantee your safety?						
	What are the measures in place to guarantee your safety.						
Popula	ation and Demographics						
	What role do women play in social, economic, and political life?						
	What role do youth play in social, economic and political life?						
	Is child labor an issue in your community? What are some of those issues?						
	How is urban/rural drift affecting youth in your community?						
	To what extent are climatic conditions affecting food security and security in						
	general?						
	How accessible is family planning and is it effective?						
	How prevalent is early marriage? What factors contribute to early marriage?						
	How prevalent is teenage pregnancy?						
Rule o	Rule of Law						
	☐ How effective is the judiciary in addressing issues of justice and impunity?						
	Is there access to justice and legal services in your community?						

- ☐ Are there alternative/traditional dispute mechanisms in your community? Are they effective?
- ☐ To what extent do communities rely on police and security forces to provide justice?
- ☐ To what extent are women's rights protected in practice?

Step 2: Stakeholder Network Analysis

Scope and Purpose of Stakeholder Network Analysis

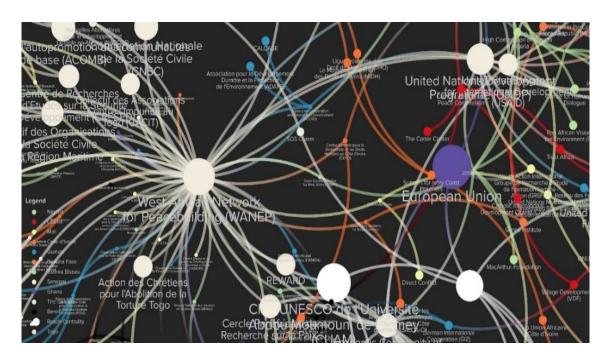
The purpose of a stakeholder network analysis (SNA) in the HSRVA process is to provide EWD analysts with a better understanding of the organizations working on issues of peace and security within ECOWAS member states and how those organizations are connected to one another. In the short term, the SNA will directly inform the Field Research phase of the HSRVA process, as representatives of highly networked or relevant organizations identified in the SNA will be invited to participate in the Scoping Workshop at the start of the Field Research. In the medium- and long-term, this analysis can also inform interventions and identify important characteristics of the broader network of organizations, such as where the network is dense and where it is sparse, which organizations are highly connected and therefore well-placed to play a communicating or convening role, how information or best practices might flow (or fail to flow) between members of the network, and where the network might be broken and/or disconnected. These findings can assist analysts in identifying gaps or weaknesses in the existing network as well as inform the likely impacts of activities based on specific objectives and stakeholders engaged. This, in turn, helps the prioritization and formation of strategy at the country and the sub-national levels, especially through analysis of how the stakeholder network relates to the levels of risk and areas of vulnerability identified in the Desktop Study.



An image of the ECOWAS-wide SNA completed as part of the 2016-2018 HSRVA process.

From a resource allocation perspective, conducting an SNA also allows for the of local engagement stakeholders and their networks more effectively, moving beyond deploying human. financial. and technical resources to the same, well-known, actors again and gain, or those most easily located capital cities or major economic hubs. SNA effective should allow the analyst or donor organization to understand where specific capacities exist (i.e. civil society organizations or individuals focusing on combatting gender-based violence, youth militancy, land conflicts, etc.) for both local understanding as well as potential local response. This not only can help build the capacities of local organizations to address risk and vulnerabilities in a locally appropriate and holistic manner, but also allow these entities to interact and work with other actors, thereby growing the network and leading to more sustainable early warning and response in member states.

There are two limitations inherent in conducting and utilizing a stakeholder network analysis: 1) capturing changes over time, and 2) accounting for response rate bias. The first limitation is based on the fact that the network is constructed at a moment in time, and thus may fail to capture new connections and organizations while continuing to include outdated information. These risks can be effectively mitigated by sending periodic surveys, either to all stakeholders or to a random sample thereof, in order to update the data which underpins the stakeholder network. The second limitation captures the phenomenon in which organizations are disproportionately missed in some geographic areas. This issue can be minimized by using as comprehensive an initial list of relevant organizations as possible and iteratively sending out a scoping survey to organizations identified by initial respondents as partners to ensure the most up-to-date information has been captured.



Conducting the Stakeholder Network Analysis

The process of conducting the SNA (detailed in the box to the right) involves the creation and deployment of a scoping survey, uploading survey responses to a visualization platform such as Kumu, and analyzing the resulting map. For detailed instructions on conducting the SNA, see Appendix C. The scoping survey used in the Liberia HSRVA is also included in Appendix D.

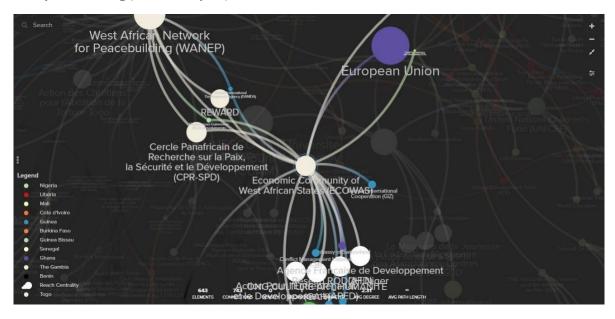
Constructing the scoping survey and deploying it to identified actors is crucial in gathering local perceptions on potential conflict risks and vulnerabilities, which can provide some initial contextualization and qualification of the findings identified from the data sample. Based on this information, the questions included in the survey can be developed or modified to account for and elicit more information on locally relevant conflict risks or triggers – which may include elections, land disputes, or controversial legislation – as well as vulnerabilities – such as a history of ethnic-based polarization, gender disparities, or perceptions of endemic institutional

SNA STEPS

- 1. Construct scoping survey
- 2. Compile a list of all relevant actors
- 3. Distribute survey to identified actors
- 4. Iterate survey process based on responses
- 5. Compile responses in Excel
- 6. Upload to Kumu
- 7. Format and customize Kumu map
- 8. Conduct analysis
- 9. Use results of analysis for HSRVA

For detailed instructions, see Appendix C

corruption. An additional vital part of the scoping survey is asking respondents about partnerships, information which is the fundamental basis for stakeholder network analysis. Although there is a lot of valuable information that can be gained through a scoping survey, there is a tradeoff between the amount of information that is requested from respondents and the likely response rate, the latter being particularly important when surveys are being periodically repeated, as described above.



An image of the ECOWAS-wide SNA completed as part of the 2016-2018 HSRVA process, showing primary connections to ECOWAS.

In order to use the information gained from the scoping survey effectively, it is useful to utilize software to visualize and analyze the key actors, how they are connected, and the various characteristics of the broader network. One example of this type of software is Kumu, which provides a powerful visualization platform for mapping systems and better understanding relationships and is used by hundreds of organizations around the world for an extremely varied range of projects. Kumu allows users to upload and visualize their information and, importantly, allows for extensive customization to make the result more intuitively understandable and provides powerful analytical tools. An example of the former is seen above, whereby a particular organization, such as ECOWAS, can be selected to highlight its immediate partners and their position in the broader network. The latter, which are covered in more detail in Appendix A, include calculating measures of centrality such as betweenness and reach, which reveal which organizations are well-positioned as conveners and communicators. These organizations can be crucial to the success of any endeavor and, to that end, those organizations that are identified as having the highest centrality are contacted to take part in the Scoping Workshop during the next phase of the HSRVA process.

Step 3: Field Research

After completing the Desktop Study and conducting the Stakeholder Network Analysis, a team of experts and researchers from ECOWAS and partner organizations conducts an incountry field assessment. The Field Research phase of the HSRVA process allows the team to qualify and contextualize the findings of the Desktop Study, identify and fill gaps in the research, and gain valuable qualitative insights into sub-national and national dynamics in the country. This section will provide an overview of the planning process, the Orientation and Scoping Workshops, the conducting of Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), and the compilation of transcripts.

Planning and Logistics

Coordinating a HSRVA fieldwork mission is a complex undertaking. Please note that the tasks below are not necessarily sequential and may by necessity overlap. The basic items to consider in your planning include:

☐ Following the completion of the Desktop Study, identify hotspots in the country and

Planning

develop framing questions to guide the field research.
Deploy the Stakeholder Survey (see Step 2) and map the results on a visualization
platform such as Kumu. Analyze the findings to identify key stakeholders and draft
a list of participants for the Scoping Workshop.
Identify ECOWAS and partner organization staff and the in-country field monitors
who will participate in the field mission.
Confirm the field research dates with relevant ECOWAS stakeholders, ECOWAS and
partner organization staff, and the in-country field monitors. Obtain necessary visas
and approvals for travel, as required by ECOWAS or partner organizations.
Liaise with the local ECOWAS bureau or representative for the necessary
administrative support for (e.g. Convening country officials, getting security
clearance and Laissez-Passer for internal travel by the research team. Note: This
process should be facilitated through the ECOWAS HQ in Abuja.
Secure a local facilitator. The facilitator will identify and engage participants for the
Scoping Workshop and the KIIs/FGDs in the field and will also provide assistance
to the field team and critical insights into the country context.
If necessary, secure translators to assist the field research team.
With the help of the facilitator, use the hotspots identified in the Desktop Study to
develop an itinerary for conducting the field research in key hotspots around the
country. The facilitator should secure participants for three FGDs (men, women and
youth) and 3-5 KIIs in each location. Where security concerns may prevent the team
from traveling, plan to bring stakeholders from those regions to the capital or
another secure location to participate in FGDs and KIIs. The facilitator should also
help secure meetings with key government ministries, political parties and other
relevant national stakeholders.

Logistics

Secure a hotel in the country's capital to lodge the field research team and host the
orientation workshop and Scoping Workshop. If necessary, secure hotels for
research locations outside the capital. If KII and FGD participants will be required
to travel and stay overnight to participate in the field research, secure
accommodation for these participants.
Secure car rentals for movement in the capital and to regions outside the capital if
required.
With the help of the facilitator, the findings of the Stakeholder Network Analysis
and key contacts from ECOWAS or partner organizations, develop a list of
participants for the Scoping Workshop.
Once the hotel conference space has been confirmed, send an invitation letter from
the in-country ECOWAS representative to those participants identified for the
Scoping Workshop.
Develop presentation materials (PowerPoint and handouts) for the Orientation
Workshop and the Scoping Workshop.
Arrange airport pickups and drop-offs for field team participants.
Determine cash needs for the duration of the field mission. Costs may include:
2. Transportation etinopole for participants in the Country Spening Workshop

- - Transportation stipends for participants in the Country Scoping Workshop and KII and FGD participants.
 - o Per diem payments for ECOWAS staff and field monitors
 - o Cash needed to pay vendors, such as car rental companies or event spaces

Planning timeline



- · Complete Desktop Study with hotspots identified
- Deploy Stakeholder Scoping Survey
- Secure the facilitator and work with him/her to begin
 drafting a list of Scoping Workshop participants, 2)
 identifying KII and FGD participants
- Identify ECOWAS staff participants and notify incountry field monitors
- Develop a travel itinerary based on identified hotspots which will inform your lodging and transportation needs

Two weeks before HSRVA

- Have hotel accommodation and conference space confirmed
- Have car hire secured
- Send invitation letter to Scoping Workshop participants
- Draft framing questions

One week before HSRVA

- Confirm flight arrival and departure times for all field team members
- Confirm airport pickups and drop-offs with hotel
- Finalize Orientation Workshop and Scoping Workshop presentation materials
- Work with facilitator to finalize list of KII and FGD participants and confirm meetings with ministries, political parties and other national stakeholders
- Take out necessary cash and gather required supplies

Orientation Workshop

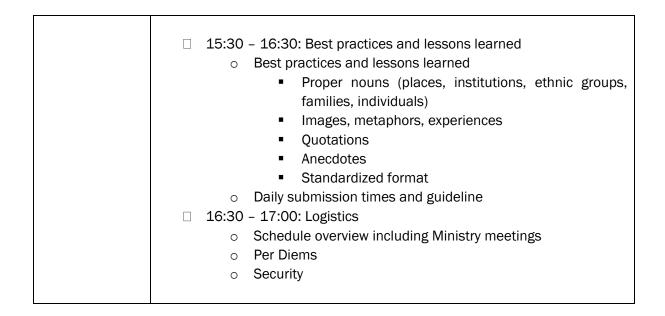
The Orientation Workshop is an all-day workshop held on the first day of the fieldwork mission to brief members of the field team (including country field monitors) on the field mission and key findings from the Desktop Study. The workshop is also an opportunity to refine the framing questions and provide instruction on interviewing and notetaking in preparation for Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs).

Ahead of the Orientation Workshop, the organizers should prepare an agenda, the draft framing questions developed in Step 1, and presentation materials (including a PowerPoint presentation on the Desktop Study findings and instructional materials on conducting interviews and notetaking). The Orientation Workshop presentation should provide:

An o	verview o	of HSRVA	process	and	metho	dology,	includin	g defini	tions
(vulne	erabilities, ı	risks, resili	encies)						
A sur	nmary of	previous	research,	such a	as the	2013	- 2014	Conflict	Risk
Asses	sment Rep	ort							
An ove	erview of th	he Deskto _l	o Report						
0	Overview	of the five	pillars fro	m the H	SRVA ii	ndex			
0	Gender c	onsiderati	ons						
0	Key Issue	es by Regio	n						
0	Key Conf	lict Risk Fa	actors						
0	Overview	of field iti	nerary, incl	uding b	reakdo	wn of te	ams if ap	plicable	
Inform	nation on c	conducting	interviews	and no	tetakin	g			

An example agenda for the Orientation Workshop could look like:

9:00 - 9:20	Introduction of the team and facilitators					
9:20 - 10:30	Overview of the HSRVA process and findings					
10:30 - 11:00	Conducting field research					
	☐ Scope and limitations of Desktop Research					
	☐ Getting the most out of qualitative field research					
	☐ Interview set up and ground rules					
Coffee Break						
11:30 - 13:00	Conducting field research					
	☐ 11:30 – 12:30: review framing questions and provide overview of					
	best practices for field research					
	 Review framing questions with goal to come up with 2/3 questions per Human Security pillar (Group Work) Structure the instrument (taking into consideration logic and flow, context, Do No Harm, conflict sensitivity, etc.) Importance of tailoring the instrument based on context (e.g. relevance to stakeholder, region, salient issues, etc.) and flexibility of interviewer to ask follow-up questions 12:30 - 13:00: roles and responsibilities Taking notes Interviewing Time Keeping 					
	o Interview Matrix					
	Lunch					
14:00 - 17:00	Conducting KIIs and FGDs 14:00 - 15:00: Fishbowl Interview Scenario KII example Interviewer asks questions; interviewee responds Research team takes notes Team reviews notes as a group to see if notes captured the important points 15:00 - 15:30: Coffee Break					



The team may also choose to create an internal agenda that includes a breakdown of which members of the team will be facilitating which parts of the orientation.

Scoping Workshop

The Scoping Workshop, held on the second day of the fieldwork mission, provides an opportunity for the team to validate the Desktop Study findings and to further tailor research instruments based on local knowledge and expertise. During the workshop, the team will review the desktop findings with local experts and stakeholders, including representatives of highly networked organizations identified in the Stakeholder Network Analysis. Following this, participants can provide insight into sub-national manifestations of identified risks and vulnerabilities, allowing the fieldwork team to incorporate these local or regional insights into research instruments. Participants can also provide insight into key stakeholders in the various regions who should be consulted during the field research, which can also be incorporated into the field research itinerary.

An example agenda for the Scoping Workshop could look like:

8:30 - 9:00	Registration				
9:00 - 10:30	Workshop Introduction and Presentation of Initial Findings				
	☐ 9:00 – 9:15: Introductions and welcome remarks				
	☐ 9:15 – 9:30: Overview – team introductions, workshop purpose and				
	objectives, house rules				
	□ 9:30 – 10:30: Presentation of findings				
	 Brief introduction to methodology used 				
	 Key incidents 				
	 Initial conflict risk and vulnerability findings 				
	o Gender				
	 Potential triggers 				

Coffee Break					
11:00 - 13:00	Group Discussion and Feedback on Initial Findings				
	☐ 11:00 – 12:00: Breakout discussion groups (facilitated by fieldwork				
	team members)				
	 Governance 				
	 Environment 				
	o Crime				
	o Health				
	 Security 				
	☐ 12:00 – 1:00 PM: Presentations by groups and facilitated discussion				
Lunch					
14:00 - 15:00	Presentations by groups continued				
15:00 - 15:30	Next steps and close				

Following the completion of the Scoping Workshop, the research team should adjust the KII and FGD instruments as necessary to incorporate feedback from participants. The remaining days of the field mission will consist of conducting KIIs and FGDs in key hotspots throughout the country and meeting with government ministries, political parties and other relevant national-level stakeholders.

Conducting KIIs and FGDs

KIIs and FGDs serve to contextualize, qualify and expand upon the Desktop Study findings in consultation with affected stakeholders and populations. The KIIs and FGDs can provide information and perspectives on sub-national and local dynamics in the country, which is critical for future early warning and response efforts. Using the hotspots identified in the event data as a guide, the team should conduct five KIIs in each hotspot with high profile, influential and knowledgeable individuals. For example, KIIs could be conducted with traditional rules, women leaders, security agents, administrative officials, or youth or opinion leaders. The team should also conduct three FGDs in each hotspot, broken out into men, women and youth. Each FGD should have around five participants. Prior to the start of the field mission, the team should work with the facilitator to identify and engage participants for the KIIs and FGDs, ensuring a gender balance and the inclusion of youth to the extent possible. Templates for KII and FGD instruments are included in the Templates section of this handbook.

Taking notes

Interviews notes should, to the extent possible, be taken verbatim to ensure that analysis includes content, tone, and emphasis. Techniques to keep in mind while conducting interviews:

Take note of specific place names, dates, organizations, political figures, ethnic
groups, etc.
Note specific events, examples or anecdotes
Concisely highlight event-driven risks, vulnerabilities, and actors
Use a gender lens where applicable

Identi	fy resiliency factors and programs that have been effective						
Provide useful background to an event							
Captu	re illustrative direct quotes						
For th	ne various topics discussed over the course of the interview, the interview						
notes	should ideally be able to answer the following questions:						
0	Who? What actors or communities are involved?						
0	What? What happened or is happening? Include as many details as						
	possible.						
0	When? When did the event occur? Is the issue ongoing? What is the						
	timeline?						
0	Where? Where did this occur? Is this a local, regional, national or supra-						
	national issue?						
0	Why? Why is this issue important? What are the impacts? How does it						
	connect to identified risks and vulnerabilities?						
If usir	ng a translator, ask the translator to translate as directly as possible, without						
signifi	cantly summarizing, to avoid potential bias or misunderstandings.						

The interview notes should include headings and notes should be organized by the five human security pillars. Where relevant, use sub-headings to denote significant topics of discussion (e.g. "Terrorism" under the Security pillar). Within each section, use quotation marks to highlight direct quotes from the interviewee ("xxx").

Headings should include: 1) date, 2) the location of the interview or origin of participants, 3) the affiliation of participants (e.g. pastor, women's leader), and 4) type of KII or FGD (e.g. Women's FGD). For example:

Date: 9 December 2017

Origin: Banjul Affiliation: Imam

Type: KII

Including this information will ensure that the interview notes are correctly categorized and compiled following the completion of the field mission.

Interviewing best practices for KIIs and FGDs Begin the interview by briefly explaining the project and the purpose of the interview. Reassure the participant(s) that the data collected is anonymous and answer any questions they may have. If a recording device will be used, obtain the consent of the participants to record. ☐ Make sure that questions are worded in a way that will elicit detailed responses rather than yes or no answers - use words such as "why" and "how". ☐ Elicit additional details by asking follow-up questions – for example, "Can you give me an example?" or "Can you tell me more about that?" Phrase questions simply and avoid jargon or technical language. Avoid leading questions. □ Do not begin the discussion with a sensitive or controversial topic – the participant(s) are unlikely to feel comfortable responding, and this could derail the interview. ☐ Read the room – if the participant(s) do not appear comfortable discussing a particular topic, it is ok to change the subject and return to the topic later. Conversely, if a particular topic is yielding rich information that is relevant to the framing questions, do not force the subject to change. ☐ In FGDs, make sure that the conversation is not dominated by one or two people – everyone should have the opportunity to contribute ☐ The facilitator should remain neutral and not express personal opinions or bias throughout the interview. The facilitator should also be aware of their body language and physical signs which may unconsciously signal agreement or disagreement. Keep track of time

At the top of each page there should be a checklist of key categories for each respective pillar. Without explicitly asking the respondent to rank the issues listed, note the emphasis and priority with which the respondent brings up each category in the course of the discussion. For those categories that that respondent stresses as very important, especially through tone, concrete examples, and an elaboration of the impact on human security, the researcher should check the box so it can be tallied at the end along with the other interviews.

Compiling Transcripts

The transcripts from the field research will be used to directly inform the drafting of the HSRVA report and need to be organized and compiled into a final data packet. To prepare the final data packet:

Organize transcripts by location
 Organize the content of each transcript by human security pillar

☐ Translate transcripts if necessary

Banjul Municipality FGD - Men (Banjul) Politics and Governance

What is your assessment of the current political environment?

- "In my opinion there is more freedom of expression we don't have to look over our shoulders
 for fear of repression for speaking our mind. There are a few demonstrations to support the
 government. We have more freedom".
- We were afraid some of the previous regime leaders may be angry after the transition. We also
 know that there is a crime issue in the Banjul. Police has been conducting night patrols to keep
 citizen safe. Now we feel that our rights are being respected.
- A few days ago, we had a street demonstration on issues going in Libya. Nobody was hurt. I don't think we could do that under the previous regime.
- I also noticed in our classrooms that the professors are openly and freely about politics and governance issues without fear.
- It is a fact that civil society is given more space and voice. It is a positive thing in itself and it
 is helping for transparency and putting the government in check.
- The use of social media is a resilience to our country as it provides a forum to discussing major

Example from the final data packet for The Gambia. Note that the packet includes geographic and interview information and is organized by human security pillar.

Ensure transcripts have consistent formatting
Include relevant headers/questions within each pillar to structure and provide
context to notes
Condense and streamline notes to reduce repetition unnecessary repetition
Remove all names and personal identifying information from the notes to ensure
anonymity.

Completing the Quantitative Breakdown Appendix spreadsheet

In order to complete the Quantitative Breakdown Appendix (see additional instructions in the **Reporting** chapter), the writer should fill out the Quantitative Breakdown Appendix spreadsheet (included as an attachment to this handbook) while organizing and compiling the transcripts. This appendix quantifies the prevalence of discussion themes across the fieldwork, broken down by gender, age and region, allowing the reader to more quickly identify the most pressing issues and topics of discussion.

A tally of the boxes checked in the course of each interview should be used to populate a spreadsheet to reflect the regions of the fieldwork and the composition of the fieldwork participants (for example, three FGDs – men, women and youth – and four KIIs in Region A). If there is a particularly important topic that is not reflected in the thematic headings (for example, elections or disarmament), that topic can be added as an additional thematic heading to the relevant human security pillar in the spreadsheet. Then, while organizing and condensing the transcripts, the writer should simply mark an X in the appropriate row and column when a topic appears as a significant point of conversation in the transcript. An example of the completed Economics and Resources pillar from the Alibori region of Benin is below:

A	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	н
1	Economics/Resources							
2	Stakeholder Group	Wher	Specific	Economic Inequality	Undernourished Population	Economic Productivity	Gender: Education and Employment	Land/Natural Resources
3	FGD - Youth					x	X	х
4	FGD – Women						X	х
5	FGD - Men						X	х
6	KII - Development Worker			x			X	х
7	KII – Lawyer						X	
8	KII – Business Owner							х
9	KII – CSO/NGO A						X	
10	KII – CSO/NGO B				x		X	
11								
12								
13								
13								

Step 4: Reporting

After completing the field research and compiling the transcripts, the next step is drafting the final HSRVA report, which will synthesize all of the information collected thus far (including the HSRVA Index scores, Desktop Study research, event data and field research). The final HSRVA report analyzes conflict risks, vulnerabilities and resilience factors at both the national and sub-national levels, giving the end-user a more nuanced understanding of local and regional variations in dynamics across the five human security pillars. This section will provide an overview of the content of each section of the HSRVA report as well as guidance on the process of writing recommendations and validating and disseminating the report.

A. Approach and Structure

The final HSRVA report contains the following sections:

- 1. Acronyms and abbreviations
- 2. Foreword, preface and acknowledgements
- 3. Executive summary
- 4. Introduction
 - a) Research Process
 - b) Terminology and Conceptual Definitions
 - c) Literature Review
 - d) Research Questions
 - e) Description of the Sample
 - f) Data Analysis
 - g) Scope and Limitations of the Study
- 5. Country background
- 6. National-levels risks, vulnerabilities and resiliencies
 - a) Most vulnerable human security pillar
 - b) Second-most vulnerable human security pillar
 - c) Third-most vulnerable human security pillar
 - d) Fourth-most vulnerable human security pillar
 - e) Least vulnerable human security pillar
 - f) External factors
 - g) Gender considerations
- 7. Subnational level risks, vulnerabilities and resiliencies
 - a) Fieldwork Region
 - b) Fieldwork Region
 - c) Fieldwork Region
- 8. Conclusion and Recommendations
- 9. Appendices
 - a) Data Sample
 - b) Vulnerability Index
 - c) Additional References
 - d) Quantitative Field Research Breakdown

e) Matrix of Vulnerabilities, Risks, Resilience Factors and Recommendations by Human Security Pillar

Section 1: Acronyms and abbreviations

This section should include a table of all acronyms and abbreviations used in the final HSRVA report, to aid the reader.

Section 2: Foreword, preface and acknowledgements

This section should include messages from relevant ECOWAS officials, such as the director of the Early Warning Directorate, the Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, and the ECOWAS president. The acknowledgements section should also thank relevant member state authorities and ECOWAS or partner organization staff who participated in the HSRVA mission.

Section 3: Executive summary

The executive summary should provide a short (approximately one page) overview of the purpose and broad findings of the HSRVA report.

Section 4: Introduction

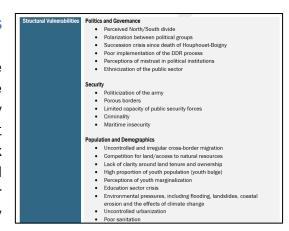
This section provides the reader with a background on the HSRVA process and methodology, to provide a framework for understanding the national and sub-national level content which follows. The Introduction section should include a description of the HSRVA research process thus far, definitions of key terms and concepts (including "risks", "vulnerabilities" and "resiliencies"), and a literature review to position this report within the evolving global understanding of human security. The Introduction also provides the reader with the research questions used to frame the field research and a brief analysis of the GIS event data obtained during the Desktop Study research. Finally, the Introduction should clearly define the scope and purpose of the report for the reader, while also acknowledging any shortcomings or limitations of the research or fieldwork processes.

Section 5: Country Background

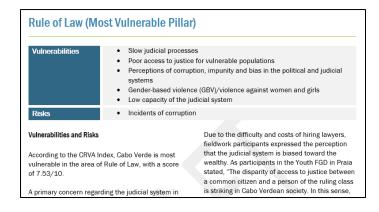
Similar to the Desktop Study, this section should give a brief but comprehensive overview of 1) the social and political history of the country, and 2) the salient points from the HSRVA research that help to give a fuller picture of the country. To ensure usability of the study by a broader range of stakeholders, assume that your reader does not have a deep background in the country.

Section 6: National-level vulnerabilities, risks and resilience factors

This section provides an analysis of the country's vulnerabilities, risks and resilience factors at the national level, organized by human security pillar from most to least vulnerable according to the HSRVA Index scores, as well as an assessment of external gender considerations. and readability, it is useful to provide a summary table at the beginning of the section, as well as at the beginning of each human security pillar sub-section. detailing the country's vulnerabilities, risks and resilience factors.



Above: an excerpt of the summary chart from the Côte d'Ivoire HSRVA report



Left: an excerpt of the Vulnerabilities and Risks chart at the beginning of the Rule of Law sub-section from the Cabo Verde HSRVA report

Each sub-section of the National-Level Vulnerabilities, Risks and Resilience Factors section should synthesize the findings of the Desktop Study with the information gained from KIIs and FGDs during the fieldwork, broken out by vulnerabilities/risks and resilience factors. In general, while it can be useful to discuss variations across regions, this section should provide information on national-level dynamics or trends which appeared across most or all regions.

The External Factors sub-section details the various regional and international relationships and pressures which may affect a country. For example, salient external factors may include major infrastructure projects or loans by institutions such as the World Bank, regional organization memberships, international trade and commodity dependency, trends in migration, the porosity of borders, or the effects of climate change.

The Gender Considerations sub-section should synthesize the Desktop Study research with the findings from the KIIs and FGDs to better shed light on gender-based disparities in the country or conflict dynamics which may uniquely affect women and girls. While gender should be mainstreamed throughout the report, it is useful to also highlight these findings in a dedicated section.

Section 7: Subnational-level vulnerabilities, risks and resilience factors

This section provides an analysis of the country's vulnerabilities, risks and resilience factors at the subnational level, broken out by the regions where fieldwork was conducted during the HSRVA field mission. Each regional sub-section should begin with a brief summary of the region's location, economy and demographic makeup, followed by a chart detailing the vulnerabilities, risks and resilience factors identified in that region.

The regional sub-national section then summarizes the fieldwork findings in each of the five human security pillars, organized in order from most to least vulnerable, as well as identified social and institutional resilience factors.

When writing the HSRVA report it is important to remember that, while fieldwork participants can provide invaluable local context and perspectives, interviewees are also articulating their personal beliefs, perspectives and experiences, which may or may not be generalizable. Thus, it is important to look for trends in perspectives or ideas articulated across multiple interviews, or confirm assertions against third-party sources, when reporting fieldwork findings. Utilizing language such as "participants reported..." or "interviewees expressed the opinion that..." also helps to clarify assertions versus facts.

Section 8: Conclusion and Recommendations

The conclusion should offer a short (approximately one page) summary of the major vulnerabilities, risks and resilience factors identified in the HSRVA report. This section should also offer succinct, actionable recommendations across the five human security pillars to relevant stakeholders based on the findings of the HSRVA research process. For additional guidance on formulating recommendations, see the next section of this chapter.

Tips for research and writing the final HSRVA report: □ Where possible, use reliable sources and data to confirm and contextualize the information reported by fieldwork participants. An example from the Cabo Verde HSRVA report: "Respondents reported that urban areas, particularly those on Sal and Santiago Islands, have experienced an increase in migration from rural areas or less-populated islands by those seeking improved employment opportunities and access to services and infrastructure. Cabo Verde has seen a steady increase in the percentage of the population living in urban areas in recent decades, from 44.12 percent in 1990 to 66.19 percent in 2016, according to data from the World Bank. In some areas such as Santa Maria, this population influx has reportedly resulted in the growth of urban slums with inadequate housing and sanitation, and pressures on services such as schools and health centers." ☐ When reading through the fieldwork transcripts, identify direct quotes that can be used to illustrate or provide additional context. ☐ Recognizing that interviewees are expressing personal opinions and perspectives, and are subject to conscious or unconscious biases, use phrases such as "interviewees expressed perceptions of" or "participants alleged" when relaying information from interviewees. ☐ To ensure anonymity, remove identifying characteristics or organizational affiliations when describing fieldwork participants. For example, use phrases such as "One civil society leader interviewed stated that..." or "A women's leader in Conakry described..." ☐ Be sure to use the most recent data available, and note the year of the data in your writing to provide a sense of temporal context (for example, write "As of 2012, 52 percent of the population lived below the poverty line" rather than "52 percent of the population lives below the poverty line"). ☐ Confirm your statistics and findings against multiple sources. ☐ Whenever possible, cite the original data source rather than relying on secondary sources. Endeavor to use politically neutral language and avoid adding in your own judgement or editorializing.

Appendix A: Data Sample

This appendix offers a comprehensive list of all the data sources utilized in the Desktop Study research (data sources for the HSRVA Index, the number of ACLED and ECOWARN incident reports, and the number of peace actors identified in the SNA) and field research (the number of FGDs and KIIs). The table should include information on the research phase, the dimension the data is intended to capture (vulnerability, risk or resilience), the source, the metric used, and the size of the sample.

Appendix B: Vulnerability Index

This appendix provides a step-by-step explanation of the process of normalizing, scaling and aggregating the data used to create the HSRVA Index. See Appendix B of this handbook for instructions on this process.

Appendix C: Additional References

This appendix should include a list of useful reports, studies or other materials relevant to the country context or the broader topic of human security, should the reader require additional information. Potential sources could include reports by international organizations or NGOs, academic studies, government strategy papers, or policy documents.

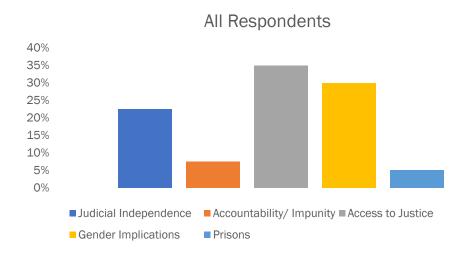
Appendix D: Quantitative Field Research Breakdown

In order to identify the most pressing issues or most frequently discussed topics during the FGDs, this appendix quantifies the prevalence of discussion themes across the fieldwork, broken down by gender, age and region.

To create this appendix, the writer should begin with the Excel document completed during the transcript compilation, which codes the transcripts according to how much emphasis respondents put on each topic. First, calculate the number of times that each topic is discussed, as a percentage, for the Men's, Women's and Youth FGDs across all regions. Then, the writer will calculate the number of times each topic is discussed, as a percentage, for each region (without disaggregating age and gender). This will allow the writer to prepare a chart similar to the one below (produced for the Rule of Law section of the 2017 Benin HSRVA report appendix) for each human security pillar.

	Judicial Independence	Accountability/ Impunity	Access to Justice	Gender Implications	Prisons
Men	0%	0%	50%	50%	0%
Women	29%	14%	14%	43%	0%
Youth	0%	0%	50%	50%	0%
Littoral	18%	0%	36%	27%	18%
Alibori	33%	0%	44%	22%	0%
Borgou	17%	17%	33%	33%	0%
Plateau	25%	13%	25%	38%	0%
AII	23%	8%	35%	30%	5%

From there, the writer can produce a bar graph visualizing the percentages aggregated across all respondents.



By quantifying and visualizing the broad themes of the fieldwork discussions, this appendix can provide a sense of proportionality and aid analysts and planners in identifying the most salient issues identified by interviewees.

Appendix E: Matrix of Vulnerabilities, Risks, Resilience Factors and Recommendations by Human Security Pillar

To increase the usability of this report, it is helpful to provide a chart summarizing the national-level vulnerabilities, risks, and resilience factors identified across the five human security pillars, as well as the recommendations in each area. This can be used by the enduser as a quick reference guide to supplement the full report.

B. Writing Recommendations

The recommendations section of the HSRVA report is one of the most important, as these recommendations can assist policymakers and donors with identifying priorities, allocating funding and developing programming to concretely mitigate the risks and vulnerabilities identified in the report.

Tips for writing effective recommendations:

- ☐ **Know your audience:** Who is this recommendation for? What is their sphere of influence? What changes can they reasonably affect?
- ☐ Make them specific and actionable: Rather than making vague or broad statements, consider the following questions when writing recommendations:
 - Who? Who should be carrying out this recommendation? (For example, name the department within the government who should be carrying out the action, rather than simply saying "the government")
 - What? What should be done? Be as specific as possible for example, does the recommendation require increased funding? Expertise? New programming?

- When? What is the timeline for this recommendation? Are there funding cycles or events such as elections which may impact the recommended action?
- Where? Is the recommendation targeting a specific region, or does it apply to the country as a whole?
- Why? Why is this recommendation important? How does the recommendation effectively address the vulnerabilities and risks identified in the report, compared to the status quo?
- o How? How should the recommendation be carried out? What steps are involved?
- Make them politically or practically feasible: In addition to tailoring the recommendation to your audience, it is important to recognize potential political pressures or limitations facing governments, donors or other institutions which may hinder the implementation of recommendations. Considering the motivations, purview and policy priorities of the targeted institution can help increase the likelihood that recommendations are accepted and implemented.
 Make them timely: Are there specific events, funding cycles, or policy
- development timelines which may affect the recommendations? For example, a recommendation to deploy election observers is unlikely to be implemented if the recommendation or report is issued too close to the election, giving observer groups inadequate time to prepare and deploy a team.
- ☐ **Keep them concise**: Recommendations should be succinct, readable and easily understandable. Avoid jargon and limit the recommendation to 1-3 sentences.
- Build on identified resiliencies: Given the fact that the HSRVA report identifies resilience factors that help mitigate risks and vulnerabilities, consider building on these sources of resilience when developing recommendations. For example, if traditional leaders were named as a source of resilience, how can they be leveraged in implementing programming? If a specific government or NGO initiative was identified as being particularly effective, should that program be scaled up, adapted or implemented in other regions in the country?

C. Validation

Following the completion of the first draft, the HSRVA report should be circulated to all relevant stakeholders within ECOWAS and (if applicable) external partners to solicit edits. It may also be useful to circulate the initial findings to national experts, including those engaged during the Scoping Workshop, for confirmation and to identify any mischaracterizations or inaccuracies in the final report.

Once all edits have been returned, reviewed and incorporated into the draft, the report findings should be validated by a committee of ECOWAS stakeholders. To facilitate this validation, it is helpful to use the matrix in Appendix E to frame the discussion.

This participatory process of validation is a critical step in the HSRVA process, in that it provides an additional level of rigorous vetting of the findings, as well as the opportunity

to eliminate unconscious biases or assumptions by soliciting input from a wide range of stakeholders.

D. Report Dissemination

Once the HSRVA report has been edited, validated and approved by all parties, the report can be published and disseminated. Key parties for dissemination include ECOWAS bodies, the National Coordination Centers for Response Mechanisms (NCCRMs), donor partners (if applicable), member state governments and other national and regional stakeholders.

Ethics and Proper Use

Due to the sensitive nature of some of the information collected during the HSRVA process, it is critical for researchers to consider the ethical implications of the research process and maintain a high level of ethical integrity. Particularly when conducting KIIs and FGDs, researchers should, at a minimum, endeavor to 1) do good, 2) minimize harm, and 3) protect "the autonomy, wellbeing, safety and dignity of all research participants."⁴

Researchers should also clearly understand the scope and purpose of the HSRVA research products, and articulate this to interviewees, stakeholders and end-users. As explained earlier in this handbook, the HSRVA reports are not intended to serve as definitive, unchanging assessments of the ECOWAS member states. These reports are also not intended to directly inform funding or programming decisions, but rather provide a baseline assessment of the salient risks, vulnerabilities and resilience factors at the time of research which can spur further inquiry and deeper research. As a country's risk profile is event-driven and can change over time, it is important to regularly update these HSRVA reports in the future.

Below are several principles to keep in mind when conducting fieldwork:

Anonymity

HSRVA reports should not include any information which could be used to identify fieldwork participants, including names, detailed occupations, organizational affiliations or other descriptors. In sensitive contexts, identification of fieldwork participants could potentially put these individuals or organizations at risk of harassment, censure or violence. HSRVA reports should instead use broad descriptors such as "interviewee", "religious leader" or "civil society member" when referring to individuals.

Informed Consent and Voluntary Participation

Fieldwork participants should choose freely whether or not to participate in the KIIs and FGDs and to do so should have a clear understanding of the scope, purpose and use of the research. In order to receive the participants' informed consent, the researchers should begin each interview with a description of the research purpose and use, reassure the interviewee of anonymity, answer any questions the interviewee may have, and explicitly ask whether they agree to take part in the study. If recording devices or cameras will be used during the interviews, researchers should also ask for consent to use these devices and any recordings or images produced. If the interviewee expresses discomfort or refuses to take part in the study, the researcher must respect the decision of the participant.

⁴ "Research Ethics in Ethnography/Anthropology", European Commission DG Research and Innovation, 2015 https://ahrecs.com/resources/research-ethics-in-ethnographyanthropology

Do No Harm

"Do no harm" is a foundational principle of research ethics, and requires researchers to consider the potential negative impacts of their research and take steps to mitigate these risks. Potential concerns could include issues such as the safety of fieldwork participants before, during and after the interviews, or the emotional toll of reliving traumatic experiences.

Data Protection

Related to the principles of anonymity and Do No Harm, researchers should take care to protect fieldwork participant data, including identities, contact information and field notes. In sensitive contexts, researchers may need to take steps to anonymize, code or encrypt fieldwork data.

Identify Interviewer Bias

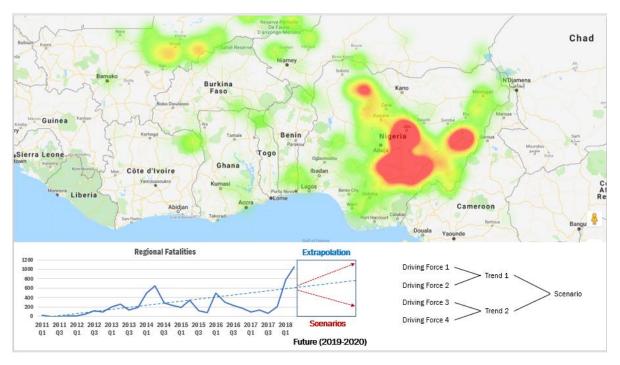
Researchers should also recognize the role that their own identities, experiences and opinions may play in biasing their perceptions toward the research subject, and endeavor to remain neutral and impartial throughout the research process. This is particularly critical in cases where the researcher may have personal connections or knowledge of the context which may result in unintended biases.

Next Steps and Broader Applications

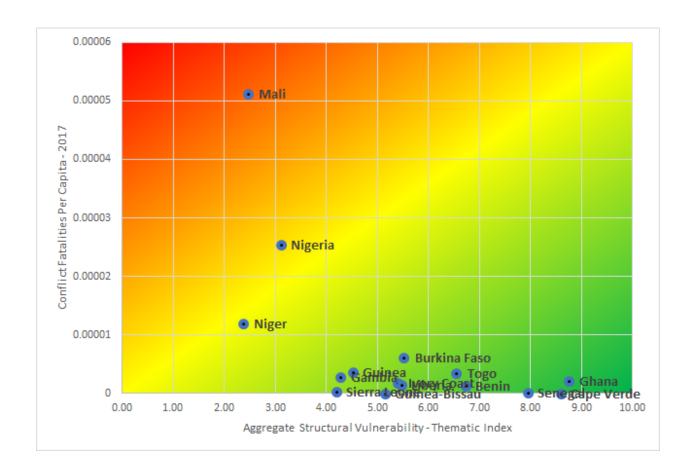
For the Analysts

Inasmuch as the HSRVA is an assessment tool, it is for the purpose of diagnosis, as distinct from the next step which is *analysis* (or prognosis). This Handbook describes in detail a methodology and set of processes that can be scaled to fit the purpose of any assessment product assigned to the EWD, whether at the regional, national, or subnational levels. Assessment products may be focused on a broad multi-sectoral overview, or a narrow problem-specific alert. Data analytics and triangulation and juxtaposing quantitative with qualitative methods are relevant to any such product. These techniques can be used for large products that may include weeks of field research, or even a quick turnaround that needs to be completed in a single afternoon. The main principle is to ensure that the assessment is structured and evidence-based.

Assessment catalogues and prioritizes risks, vulnerabilities, and social/institutional resilience. Analysis extrapolates from the assessment to posit scenarios based on a hypothesis of how the dynamics may play out. This assessment to analysis process is outlined in the ECOWAS Human Security Analysis Framework (HSAF), developed by the USAID REWARD team in partnership with the EWD in 2018.



One way that the quantitative components of the HSRVA findings can be organized and presented that could inform such an analysis is to plot the Structural Vulnerabilities (e.g. Index Scores) against Risk (e.g. conflict fatalities per capita). This positions each country, state, or community within one of four quadrants: High Risk/High Vulnerability; High Risk/Low Vulnerability; Low Risk/High Vulnerability; or Low Risk/Low Vulnerability. In the graph below the dynamics in each quadrant are distinct.



High Risk/High Vulnerability (upper left): Countries in this quadrant tend to be in a vicious cycle of escalation.

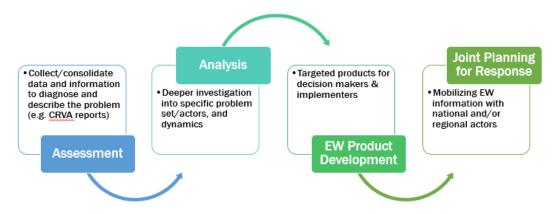
Low Risk/High Vulnerability (lower left): Countries in this quadrant tend to be overlooked because they are not currently in as much crisis. However, they are susceptible to shocks and therefore should be prioritized if the mandate is the prevention of human insecurity.

High Risk/Low Vulnerability (upper right): In the data presented above, no country is emblematic of this category. However, such countries tend to be in a dynamic of oscillation, whereby strong mechanisms, policies, and coalitions follow a script to manage a high baseline of violence within a given range.

Low Risk/Low Vulnerability (lower right): Countries on the far end of this quadrant, tend to be in a more sustainable dynamic of ever-increasing resilience.

This is not to say that one country cannot move from one quadrant to the next due to exogenous factors or miscalculations by key actors, but this illustrates how a HSRVA assessment can be presented to frame the next step in the EWER process which is analysis.

Moving from Early Warning to Response



After Analysis, EWD must then package their findings into a suite of Early Warning Products that answer specific questions that their primary customers need answered in order to be successful in their planning and response. For example:

- Decision Makers. Decision makers need to know the trends and relative severity of structural risks and vulnerabilities, the level of social/institutional resilience, and the stakes of action versus inaction to determine if an intervention or course correction should be approved.
- □ **Planners**. Responders need to know more about the hotspots, interests, and capacities of various actors to design and plan a policy or intervention once it has been approved by the Decision Makers.
- Operations: If an intervention is ongoing, responders may need to evaluate in realtime the impact of an intervention and whether it is moving the situation in the direction of sustainable human security in line with their mandate and objectives.

For Leadership

The HSRVA reports, which do not assign blame or responsibility, are intended to be used in two principal ways by ECOWAS, member state, and donor partners. The first is for strategic prioritization by providing a broad and descriptive overview of the risks and vulnerabilities at the national and sub-national levels. This allows those stakeholders with a mandate to promote human security in West Africa to prioritize their lines of effort and resource allocation. Second, the HSRVA reports can serve as a foundation for deeper, more targeted, monitoring and analysis in cases where risks and vulnerabilities are identified. That more targeted analysis can serve as the basis for tactical and operational planning.

For the Systems Team

Meanwhile, the Systems Team should archive and update the quantitative data collected for the Desktop component of the HSRVA reports so that structural vulnerabilities and event-driven risk factors in the 15 ECOWAS member states can be tracked and maintained. This will provide a baseline against which to measure progress over time and provides a sense of proportionality so that decision makers can better triage and prioritize. These quantitative findings can be used for the development of a suite of Early Warning products, ensuring that the HSRVA methodology and analysis is mainstreamed.

For Partners

Finally, the methodology, tools, data, and analysis should be stepped down to the National Centers and stepped up to the other Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on the continent for compatibility and interoperability. It is only when Early Warning systems are synchronized and integrated that prevention and mitigation become possible.

Appendices

Appendix A: HSRVA Index Indicators and Sources

	Indicator	Measurement	Source
1		Politics and	I Governance
1.1	Elections / Political Participation	In practice, the agency/agencies mandated to organize and monitor national elections is/are protected from political interference	Global Integrity, Africa Integrity Indicators, Question 21 http://aii.globalintegrity.org/scores- map?stringId=rule_law&year=2018
1.2		In practice, the agency/agencies mandated to organize and monitor national elections make/s timely, publicly available reports before and after a national election	Global Integrity, Africa Integrity Indicators, Question 22 http://aii.globalintegrity.org/scores- map?stringId=rule_law&year=2018
1.3		Electoral process and pluralism	Index https://www.eiu.com/topic/democracy-index
1.4		Average Voter Turnout, Parliamentary, last five years	International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, Voter Turnout Database https://www.idea.int/data-tools/question-countries-view/521/20/reg
1.5		Political participation	Economist Intelligence Unit, Democracy Index https://www.eiu.com/topic/democracy-index
1.6		Functioning of government	Index https://www.eiu.com/topic/democracy-index
1.7	Governance / Perceived Legitimacy	Corruption Perceptions Index	Transparency International https://www.transparency.org/news/feat ure/corruption_perceptions_index_2017
1.8		Political and Social Integration	Bertelsmann Stiftung, Status Index, Question 5 https://www.bti- project.org/en/index/status-index/
1.9		Political Rights Score	Freedom House, Freedom in the World https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world-2018-table-country-scores
1.10	Gender Representati on in Politics	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament	World Bank https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG. GEN.PARL.ZS

2		Sec	curity
2.1	Criminal and	Personal Safety	Mo Ibrahim Index
	Collective		http://iiag.online/
2.2	Violence /	Peace Operations	UN, AU, ECOWAS, multi-national military
	Insecurity	(yes/no)	interventions (various websites)
2.3		Conflict Fatalities per	ACLED and ECOWARN
		capita	https://www.acleddata.com/
2.4		Non-state Conflict	Uppsala Conflict Data Program
		(yes/no)	http://ucdp.uu.se/#/
2.5	Political	Political Terror Scale	Political Terror Scale
	Violence and	(Amnesty International)	http://www.politicalterrorscale.org/Data/
0.0	Terror	Delitical Tanas Cools	Datatable.html
2.6		Political Terror Scale	Political Terror Scale
		(U.S. State Department)	http://www.politicalterrorscale.org/Data/ Datatable.html
2.7		Political Terror Scale	Political Terror Scale
2.1		(Human Rights Watch)	http://www.politicalterrorscale.org/Data/
		(Human Rights Water)	Datatable.html
2.8	Refugees &	Refugees by country of	World Bank
2.0	IDPs	origin, per capita	https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SM.P
	.2.0	origin, por oupled	OP.REFG.OR
2.9		IDPs by country of	UNHCR
2.0		asylum, per capita	http://popstats.unhcr.org/en/overview#_
		asyram, per sapita	ga=2.112803521.475752110.1525875
			587-1201926570.1525875587
3		Rule	of Law
3.1	Judicial	In practice, the	Global Integrity, Africa Integrity Indicators,
0.1	Independenc	independence of the	Question 2
	е	judiciary is guaranteed	http://aii.globalintegrity.org/scores-
		, ,	map?stringId=rule_law&year=2018
3.2		In practice, national-	Global Integrity, Africa Integrity Indicators,
		level judges give	Question 4
		reasons for their	http://aii.globalintegrity.org/scores-
		decisions/judgments	map?stringId=rule_law&year=2018
3.3	Accountabilit	In practice, allegations	Global Integrity, Africa Integrity Indicators,
	y / Impunity	of corruption against	Question 12
		senior level politicians	http://aii.globalintegrity.org/scores-
		and/or civil servants of	map?stringId=rule_law&year=2018
		any level are	
		investigated by an	
3.4		independent body In practice, the	Global Integrity, Africa Integrity Indicators,
3.4		body/bodies that	Question 13
		investigate/s allegations	http://aii.globalintegrity.org/scores-
		of public sector	map?stringId=rule_law&year=2018
		corruption is/are	
		effective	
3.5		In practice, the	Global Integrity, Africa Integrity Indicators,
		mechanism for citizens	Question 18
		to report police	http://aii.globalintegrity.org/scores-
		misconduct or abuse of	map?stringId=rule_law&year=2018
		force is effective	

2.6	Condon	0/ of worden an	World Donk Woman Dusings and Law
3.6	Gender	% of women on	World Bank, Women, Business and Law
	Representati	constitutional court	https://wbl.worldbank.org
3.7	on in	Does the law mandate	World Bank, Women, Business and Law
	Legislation	equal renumeration for	https://wbl.worldbank.org
	and Judicial	work of equal value?	
	Institutions	(yes/no)	
3.8		Does the law mandate	World Bank, Women, Business and Law
		nondiscrimination based	https://wbl.worldbank.org
		on gender in hiring?	
		(yes/no)	
3.9		Is dismissal of pregnant	World Bank, Women, Business and Law
		women prohibited?	https://wbl.worldbank.org
		(yes/no)	
4			and Resources
4.1	Economic	Gini coefficient	World Bank
	Inequality		https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.P
			OV.GINI
4.2		Gini WYD	World Bank, All the Ginis Dataset
			https://datacatalog.worldbank.org/datas
			et/all-ginis-dataset
4.3		Income Share Held by	World Bank
7.5		Highest 10%	https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.D
		Trigitest 10%	ST.10TH.10
4.4		Population with	United Nations
4.4		•	
		Improved Sanitation	http://data.un.org/Data.aspx?q=improve
			d+sanitation&d=MDG&f=seriesRowID%3
			a669
			http://data.un.org/Data.aspx?q=improve
			d+sanitation&d=MDG&f=seriesRowID%3
			a670
4.5		Population with	United Nations
		Improved Water Source	http://data.un.org/Data.aspx?q=improve
			d+water&d=MDG&f=seriesRowID%3a666
			http://data.un.org/Data.aspx?q=improve
			d+water&d=MDG&f=seriesRowID%3a667
4.6	Undernouris	Children under 5	United Nations
	hed	moderately of severely	http://data.un.org/Data.aspx?q=underwe
	Population	underweight, percentage	ight&d=MDG&f=seriesRowID%3a559
4.7		Depth of the food deficit	World Bank
		(kilocalories per person	https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SN.I
		per day)	TK.DFCT
4.8		Prevalence of	World Bank
		underweight, weight for	https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.
		age (% of children under	STA.MALN.ZS
		5)	_
4.9	Economic	GDP per capita, PPP	World Bank
	Productivity	(current international \$)	https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.
	, roddodivicy	(σωποπειπεοπαείοπαι ψ)	GDP.PCAP.PP.CD
4.10	Gender	School enrollment,	United Nations
	Education	primary and secondary	http://data.un.org/Data.aspx?q=gender+
	and	(gross), gender parity	parity+index&d=WDI&f=Indicator_Code%
	Employment	index (GPI)	3aSE.ENR.PRSC.FM.ZS
	Lilipioyillelit	muex (uri)	JUOLILININIE INJUITIVILLA

4.11		Employment to population ratio, ages 15-24, female (%) (modeled ILO estimate)	World Bank https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL. EMP.1524.SP.FE.ZS
5		Population and	d Demographics
5.1	Age Distribution	Median age	World Health Organization http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view.main. POP2040
5.2		Population growth (annual %)	World Bank https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP. POP.GROW
5.3	Fertility / Maternal Mortality	Prevalence of underweight, weight for age, female (% of children under 5)	World Bank https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH. STA.MALN.FE.ZS
5.4		Maternal mortality ratio (modeled estimate, per 100,000 live births)	World Bank https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH. STA.MMRT
5.5		Contraceptive prevalence, any methods (% of women ages 15-49)	World Bank https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP. DYN.CONU.ZS
5.6	Female Life Expectancy / Early	Life expectancy at birth, female (years)	World Bank https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP. DYN.LE00.FE.IN
5.7	Marriage Prevalence	Percentage of women aged 20-24 years old who were married or in a union before age 18	World Bank https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP. M18.2024.FE.ZS?view=chart

Appendix B: Construction of the HSRVA Index

- 1. Open the template
- 2. Retrieve and input the raw data
 - Open the source for the indicator from the list of HSRVA Index indicators and sources
 - ii. Input the data into the column for raw data, e.g. (Raw) Electoral process and pluralism EIU
 - iii. There are some indicators which require some preprocessing of the data, which is done in the Raw Calculations tab of the template. These indicators are:
 - i. Conflict fatalities
 - ii. Refugees by country of origin
 - iii. IDPs by country of asylum
 - iv. Population with improved sanitation
 - v. Population with improved water source
 - vi. % of women on constitutional court

Of these, i., ii., and iii. require per capita calculations. This requires dividing the raw data (e.g. total conflict fatalities) by population.

4	А	В	С	D
1			Conflict Fa	talities
		Population, total	Fatalities, last	Fatalities
2	Country	(World Bank)	12 months	per capita
3	Benin	10872298	21	=C3/B3
4	Burkina Faso	18646433	139	
5	Cape Verde	539560	0	
6	Cote d'Ivoire	23695919	44	
7	Gambia	2038501	3	
8	Ghana	28206728	39	
9	Guinea	12395924	57	
10	Guinea-Bissau	1815698	0	
11	Liberia	4613823	3	
12	Mali	17994837	1141	
13	Niger	20672987	239	
14	Nigeria	185989640	5293	
15	Senegal	15411614	31	
16	Sierra Leone	7396190	4	
17	Togo	7606374	16	

Indicators ii., iii., iv., and v. involve calculations of differences, either between two years (ii. and iii.) or between the data for rural and urban areas (iv. and v.).

1	Α	Р	Q	R
1		Populatio	on with im	proved sanitation
				Urban-Rural
2	Country	Urban	Rural	Difference
3	Benin	36	7	=P3-Q3
4	Burkina Faso	50	7	
5	Cape Verde	82	54	
6	Cote d'Ivoire	33	10	
7	Gambia	62	55	
8	Ghana	20	9	
9	Guinea	34	12	
10	Guinea-Bissau	34	9	
11	Liberia	28	6	
12	Mali	38	16	
13	Niger	38	5	
14	Nigeria	33	25	
15	Senegal	65	34	
16	Sierra Leone	23	7	
17	Togo	25	3	

For the final indicator (vi.), the data requires a similar procedure to that used for per capita data. However, some of the data is unavailable, and so the formula used is =IF(x="","",# of women on constitutional court / # of justices on constitutional court))

	А	U	V	W
1		Women on the	constitutional court	
		How many justices are on the	Of those, how	% of women on
2	Country	constitutional court?	many are women?	constitutional court
3	Benin	7	2	=IF(V3="","",V3/U3)
4	Burkina Faso	10	2	
5	Cape Verde			
6	Cote d'Ivoire	7	2	
7	Gambia	8	1	
8	Ghana	14	4	
9	Guinea	9	1	
10	Guinea-Bissau			
11	Liberia	5	2	
12	Mali	9	2	
13	Niger	7	1	
14	Nigeria	17	4	
15	Senegal	7	1	
16	Sierra Leone	5	3	
17	Togo	9	1	

After the required processing is completed, the resulting data (in the orange columns in the template) can be copied into the appropriate column for raw data, e.g. (Raw) Conflict Fatalities per capita (last 12 months)

3. Normalize the raw data

The process of normalizing data represents an important step in creating an index. Normalization frames the data within the context of the wider framework of data included in the index, in order to avoid the skew that can otherwise result from comparing datasets predicated on different scales. The process of finding the mean and calculating the standard deviation of the dataset, then calculating the normal distribution around these two elements. The mathematical formula for this Gaussian normalization is:

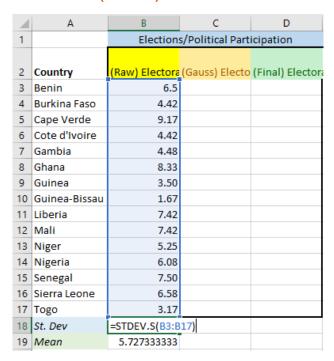
$$X = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

Where:

- µ is the mean of the raw data
- σ^2 is the variance of the raw data
- σ is the standard deviation of the raw data
- x is the raw datum
- X is the normalized datum
- i. Calculate the mean of the raw dataset, using the formula =AVERAGE(dataset)

	Α	В	С	D
1		Elections	s/Political Part	icipation
2	Country	(Raw) Electora	(Gauss) Electo	(Final) Elector
3	Benin	6.5		
4	Burkina Faso	4.42		
5	Cape Verde	9.17		
6	Cote d'Ivoire	4.42		
7	Gambia	4.48		
8	Ghana	8.33		
9	Guinea	3.50		
10	Guinea-Bissau	1.67		
11	Liberia	7.42		
12	Mali	7.42		
13	Niger	5.25		
14	Nigeria	6.08		
15	Senegal	7.50		
16	Sierra Leone	6.58		
17	Togo	3.17		
18	St. Dev			_
19	Mean	=AVERAGE(B3:	B17)	

ii. Calculate the standard deviation of the raw dataset, using the formula =STDEV.S(dataset)



iii. Calculate the normalized data, using the formula =IF(x="","",NORM.DIST(x, mean, standard deviation, cumulative))

The part in blue ensures that blank cells (those where the raw data is missing), remain blank in the normalized dataset by using a formula that checks if a cell (x) is blank (""), then it will stay blank. If this is false (i.e. the cell is not blank), then it will apply the NORMDIST formula (in orange-brown).

Within the formula (in orange-brown), **x** is the cell with the raw data, **mean** is the average calculated above, **standard deviation** is the standard deviation calculated above, and **cumulative** should be set to TRUE to calculate the cumulative distribution.

4	А	В	С	D	E	F
1		Election	s/Political Part	icipation		
2	Country	(Raw) Electora	(Gauss) Electo	(Final) Elector	al process	and plu
3	Benin	6.5	=if(B3="","",N	ORM.DIST(B3,B	\$19,B\$18,	(RUE
4	Burkina Faso	4.42				
5	Cape Verde	9.17				
6	Cote d'Ivoire	4.42				
7	Gambia	4.48				
8	Ghana	8.33				
9	Guinea	3.50				
10	Guinea-Bissau	1.67				
11	Liberia	7.42				
12	Mali	7.42				
13	Niger	5.25				
14	Nigeria	6.08				
15	Senegal	7.50				
16	Sierra Leone	6.58				
17	Togo	3.17				
18	St. Dev	2.034890551				
19	Mean	5.727333333				

The \$ added to the formula ensure that when the formula is copied for the rest of the countries in the list, the references to the mean and the standard deviation will remain correct.

IMPORTANT: For datasets where a higher number is worse (e.g. higher number of battle related fatalities) use **1-NORM.DIST** in place of **NORM.DIST** (i.e. =**IF**(x="","",**1-NORM.DIST**(x, mean, standard deviation, cumulative)) If a higher number is better (e.g. proportion of the population using improved drink water sources), then use the original formula without the **1-**.

4. Scale the normalized data

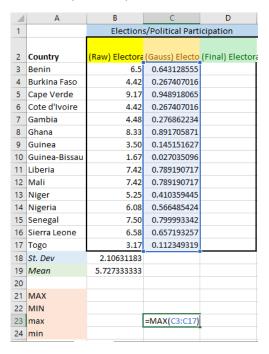
To create an index where countries are scored within a defined range, the datasets must be scaled so they can be integrated. The scaling process transforms the range of the normalized data (the range of the normalized data is 0-1 and the range of the scaled data is usually 1 (most vulnerable) to 10 (least vulnerable)) while preserving the relative distribution and variation of the data. This process facilitates interpretation of the data. The mathematical formula for scaling the data is:

$$X = MIN + \frac{(MAX - MIN)}{(\max - \min)} * (x - \min)$$

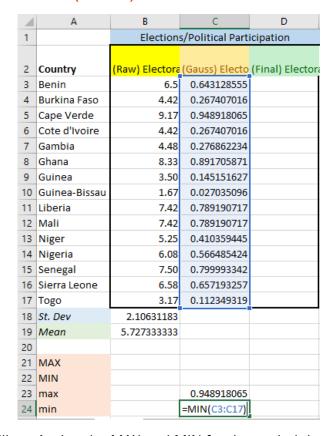
Where:

- MIN = the minimum of new scale (i.e. 1)
- MAX = the maximum of new scale (i.e. 10 in most cases)
- max = the maximum of normalized dataset
- min = the minimum of normalized dataset
- x = the normalized datum

- X = the scaled datum
- i. Calculate the maximum of the normalized data, using the formula =MAX(dataset)



ii. Calculate the minimum of the normalized data, using the formula =MIN(dataset)



iii. Assign the MAX and MIN for the scaled data

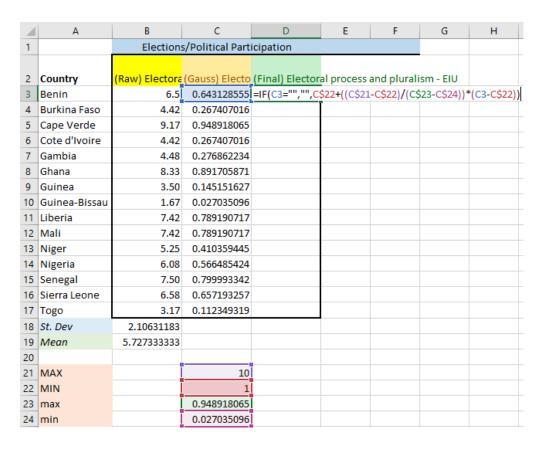
In almost all cases, MAX = 10 and MIN = 1. The only exceptions are for the datasets relating to IDPs, in which case MAX = 4

1	Α	В	С	D
1		Election	s/Political Part	icipation
2	Country	(Raw) Electora	(Gauss) Electo	(Final) Elector
3	Benin	6.5	0.643128555	
4	Burkina Faso	4.42	0.267407016	
5	Cape Verde	9.17	0.948918065	
6	Cote d'Ivoire	4.42	0.267407016	
7	Gambia	4.48	0.276862234	
8	Ghana	8.33	0.891705871	
9	Guinea	3.50	0.145151627	
10	Guinea-Bissau	1.67	0.027035096	
11	Liberia	7.42	0.789190717	
12	Mali	7.42	0.789190717	
13	Niger	5.25	0.410359445	
14	Nigeria	6.08	0.566485424	
15	Senegal	7.50	0.799993342	
16	Sierra Leone	6.58	0.657193257	
17	Togo	3.17	0.112349319	
18	St. Dev	2.10631183		
19	Mean	5.727333333		
20				
21	MAX		10	
22	MIN		1	
23	max		0.948918065	
24	min		0.027035096	

iv. Scale the normalized data, using the formula =IF(x="","",MIN + ((MAX-MIN)/(max - min)) * (x - min))

The part in blue ensures that blank cells (those where the raw data was missing), remain blank in the scaled dataset by using a formula that checks if a cell (x) is blank (""), then it will stay blank. If this is false (i.e. the cell is not blank), then it will apply the scaling formula (in orange-brown).

Within the formula (in orange-brown), **x** is the cell with the normalized data, **MIN** is the minimum of the new scale, **MAX** is the maximum of the new scale, **max** is the maximum of the normalized dataset, and **min** is the minimum of the normalized dataset.



The \$ added to the formula ensure that when the formula is copied for the rest of the countries in the list, the references to MIN, MAX, max, and min will remain correct.

Take care to ensure that all the parentheses are correct. They are easy to mess up but doing so will provide an incorrect answer.

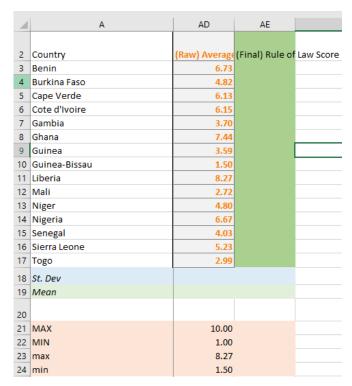
- 5. Repeat steps 2-4 for all indicators within a sub-pillar
- 6. Calculate the sub-pillar scores
 - i. Average the scaled scores from each indicator to get the sub-pillar scores, using the formula =AVERAGE(indicator 1, indicator 2, ...)

1	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	1					
1			Judicial Independence											
								Judicial						
								Indepen						
2	Country	(Raw) In p	(Gauss) In	(Final) In I	(Raw) In p	(Gauss) In	(Final) In	dence						
3	Benin	50.00	0.48	4.51	75.00	0.64	7.13	=AVERAGE	(D3,G3)					
4	Burkina Faso	25.00	0.17	1.00	75.00	0.64	7.13							
5	Cape Verde	100.00	0.96	10.00	75.00	0.64	7.13							
6	Cote d'Ivoire	25.00	0.17	1.00	75.00	0.64	7.13							
7	Gambia	75.00	0.80	8.20	50.00	0.23	2.98							
8	Ghana	100.00	0.96	10.00	100.00	0.93	10.00							
9	Guinea	50.00	0.48	4.51	50.00	0.23	2.98							
10	Guinea-Bissau	25.00	0.17	1.00	50.00	0.23	2.98							
11	Liberia	75.00	0.80	8.20	100.00	0.93	10.00							
12	Mali	25.00	0.17	1.00	50.00	0.23	2.98							
13	Niger	25.00	0.17	1.00	50.00	0.23	2.98							
14	Nigeria	75.00	0.80	8.20	100.00	0.93	10.00							
15	Senegal	50.00	0.48	4.51	75.00	0.64	7.13							
16	Sierra Leone	50.00	0.48	4.51	50.00	0.23	2.98							
17	Togo	25.00	0.17	1.00	25.00	0.03	1.00							

- ii. Repeat steps 2-6 for all sub-pillars within a pillar
- 7. Calculate the pillar scores
 - i. Average the sub-pillar scores, using the formula =AVERAGE(sub-pillar average 1, sub-pillar average 2, ...)

AB	AC	AD	AE	
Gender				
representati		(Raw) Average	(Final) Rule of	Law Score
7.93		=AVERAGE(H3	,R3,AB3)	
3.40				
5.90				
7.93				
2.52				
4.76				
5.50				
1.00				
9.27				
2.36				
5.80				
4.00				
1.30				
5.50				
5.50				

ii. Calculate the maximum and minimum of these average scores, and assign MAX (=10), MIN (=1) as in step 4) parts i) to iii)



iii. Scale the average scores to using the same formula and process as in step 4) part iv)

4	A	AD	AE	AF	AG
2	Country	(Raw) Average	(Final) Rule of	Law Score	
3	Benin	6.73	=IF(AD3="","",	(AD\$22+((AD\$21-AD\$22)/(AD\$23-A	AD\$24))*(AD3-AD\$24)))
4	Burkina Faso	4.82			
5	Cape Verde	6.13			
6	Cote d'Ivoire	6.15			
7	Gambia	3.70			
8	Ghana	7.44			
9	Guinea	3.59			
10	Guinea-Bissau	1.50			
11	Liberia	8.27			
12	Mali	2.72			
13	Niger	4.80			
14	Nigeria	6.67			
15	Senegal	4.03			
16	Sierra Leone	5.23			
17	Togo	2.99			
18	St. Dev				
	Mean				
20					
21	MAX	10.00			
22	MIN	1.00			
23	max	8.27			
24	min	1.50			

iv. Repeat steps 2-7 for all pillars

Appendix C: Data coding guidelines

Coding event data with specific indicators allows the analyst to more easily evaluate event data for the HSRVA process. Coded data can be uploaded to a Geographic Information System (GIS), such as the Beta-Test platform, which allows the user to visualize, question, analyze, and interpret data. This guide provides an overview of how event-data, such as the ECOWARN and ACLED datasets, is coded to inform the desktop report and the field research.



Data Sources

ACLED - Open source datasets for conflict analysis and crisis mapping

GWNO	EVENT_ID	T_ID_NO_E	EVENT_DATE	YEAR II	E_PRECISI	VENT_TYP A	CTOR1 LY_ACTOR	R INTER1 ACTOR2	LY_ACTOR	INTER2 ITE	RACTIO COUNT	RY ADMIN	ADMIN2	ADMIN3	LOCATION	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	O_PRECISI SOURCE	NOTES FA	ATALITIES
438	1GUI	43692	21/11/1997	1997	1	Strategic U	LIMO-J: United Li	2 Military	Forces of (1	12 Guinea	Nzereko	r Nzerekor	Pale	Bonoma	7.99000	-8.88000	1 BBC Mor	30 ULIMC	0
438	2GUI	43693	21/11/1997	1997	1	Strategic U	LIMO-J: United Li	2 Military	Forces of (1	12 Guinea	Boke	Boffa	Tougnifil	Dicka	10.35000	-14.45000	1 BBC Mor	30 ULIMC	0
438	3GUI	43694	21/11/1997	1997	1	Strategic U	LIMO-J: United Li	2 Military	Forces of (1	12 Guinea	Nzereko	r Nzerekor	Bounoun	Yossono	7.55000	-8.82000	1 BBC Mor	30 ULIMC	0
438	4GUI	43695	05/03/1998	1998	1	Violence U	nidentified Arme	e 3 Civilians	(Guinea)	7	37 Guinea	Kindia	Forecaria	Forecaria	Forecaria	9.43000	-13.09000	1 Guinear	Liberian	5
438	5GUI	43696	23/03/1998	1998	1	Riots/Prc R	ioters (Puhlar E	t 5 Military	Forces of (1	15 Guinea	Conakry	Conakry	Dixinn	Ratoma	9.58330	-13.65000	1 Reuters	Riots eru	4
438	6GUI	43697	23/03/1998	1998	1	Riots/Prc R	ioters (Puhlar E	t 5 Military	Forces of (1	15 Guinea	Conakry	Conakry	Dixinn	Ratoma	9.58330	-13.65000	1 Reuters	Riots eru	5
438	7GUI	43698	26/03/1998	1998	1	Non-viol(A	FRC: Armed Force	2		0	20 Guinea	Faranal	Kossaba	Kossaba	Kossaba	9.40000	-10.76667	3 NPWJ p.:	1 borderin	0
438	8GUI	43699	26/03/1998	1998	1	Violence A	FRC: Armed Force	2 Civilians	(Sierra Le	7	27 Guinea	Faranal	Kossaba	Kossaba	Kossaba	9.40000	-10.76667	3 NPWJ p.:	1 borderin	0
438	9GUI	43700	31/08/1998	1998	1	Violence R	UF: Revolutionar	2 Civilians	(Sierra Le	7	27 Guinea	Nzereko	r Guecked	Kassado	Kuelober	8.90889	-10.47306	2 Refugee	RUF attac	7
438	10GUI	43701	01/10/1998	1998	2	Non-viol(E	COMOG: Economi	i 8		0	80 Guinea	Kindia	Forecaria	Farmoria	Mola	9.32085	-12.91199	2 NPWJ p.:	1 Guineam	0
438	11GUI	43702	07/10/1998	1998	1	Violence R	UF: Revolutionar	2 Civilians	(Guinea)	7	27 Guinea	Faranal	Kissidou	Sangardo	Bendou	9.23330	-10.25000	2 Agence	F "Armed b	0
438	12GUI	43703	07/10/1998	1998	1	Violence R	UF: Revolutionar	2 Civilians	(Guinea)	7	27 Guinea	Faranal	Faranah	Faranah-	Koundou	10.03333	-10.73333	3 Agence I	F "Armed t	0
438	13GUI	43704	07/10/1998	1998	1	Violence R	UF: Revolutionar	2 Civilians	(Guinea)	7	27 Guinea	Faranal	Faranah	Kobikoro	Woldou	9.15000	-10.55000	1 Agence I	F "Armed t	0
438	14GUI	43705	15/10/1998	1998	2	Non-viole E	COMOG: Economi	8		0	80 Guinea	Kindia	Forecaria	Moussay	Lantanya	9.44640	-12.71625	2 NPWJ p.:	1 Guineam	0
438	15GUI	43706	16/10/1998	1998	1	Strategic R	UF: Revolutionar	2		0	20 Guinea	Faranal	Kissidou	Fermess	Bondo	9.05000	-10.17000	1 Inter Pre	RECRUITI	0
438	16GUI	43707	23/10/1998	1998	1	Violence R	UF: Revolutionar	2 Civilians	IDPs/Ref	7	27 Guinea	Nzereko	r Guecked	Bolodou	Bondou	8.73000	-10.33000	1 Inter Pre	In the are	15
438	17GUI	43708	31/10/1998	1998	2	Non-viole E	COMOG: Economi	i 8		0	80 Guinea	Kindia	Forecaria	Moussay	Oualia	9.60570	-12.61798	2 NPWJ p.:	1 Guineam	0
438	18GUI	43709	23/11/1998	1998	1	Battle-NcR	UF: Revolutionar	2 Military	Forces of	1	12 Guinea	Nzereko	r Guecked	Kassado	Bilimba	8.93000	-10.57000	1 BBC Mor	RUF raid	16
438	19GUI	43710	23/11/1998	1998	1	Battle-No N	lilitary Forces of	1 RUF: Rev	olutionan	2	12 Guinea	Nzereko	r Guecked	Kassado	Bilimba	8.93000	-10.57000	1 BBC Mor	in clash i	8

ECOWARN Data

	_	_	_	_												
EventID 💌	EventDa 🔧	Event_Tyj *	Event *	Event_Gro ×	Event_Group_Name *	Country_Code	Country_Name	■ Location_Code	 Location_Name 	Locat *	Latitu *	Longi Co	mn 🔧 l	Perpe Yictim		
EC1612233762	12/23/2016	<unsm></unsm>	Armed Att	<unds></unds>	Armed Action	LBR	Liberia	LBR	Liberia		6.445288		Police F	Police have not identif	y the two arme	d robbers by names
EC1612293803	12/29/2016	<unpd></unpd>	Demonstr	(UDEB)	Demonstration - Peaceful	LBR	Liberia	LBR	Liberia	Gbarnga C	6.445288	-9.30727 Bor	ng Cou F	Prison Ad Immates		
EC1612295745	12/29/2016	<unsm></unsm>	Armed Att	<unds></unds>	Armed Action	LBR	Liberia	LBR	Liberia	Pleebo, N	6.445288	-9.30727 Fre:	sh repc /	A Man bel Residents o	of Pleebo city	maryland county
EC1701091383	1/7/2017	«UARR»	Arrest	«UADT»	Arrest / Detention	LBR	Liberia	LBR005001	District #1	Buchanna	6.258363	-10.1528 On	Friday	Momo SF Siah Tamb	9	
EC1701108483	1/10/2017	<unds></unds>	Armed Ac	<usic></usic>	ECOVAS Security Incident Categories	LBR	Liberia	LBR009	Margibi	Silver Cor	6.514745	-10.2087 Ear	ly this	A band of Chief Cyril.	Allen	
EC1702011121	2/1/2017	<unpd></unpd>	Demonstr	<udeb></udeb>	Demonstration - Peaceful	LBR	Liberia	LBR	Liberia	Monrovia	6.445288	-9.30727 Sto	p Killin 1	Fraders,ge Traders and	Government	
EC1702015003	1/31/2017	<unpd></unpd>	Demonstr	(UDEB)	Demonstration - Peaceful	LBR	Liberia	LBR011002001	Monrovia	The Capit	6.3102	-10.7338 Hur	dreds "	The Liberia Business A	ssociation, A	conglomeration of all bu
EC1702019320	2/1/2017	(UNPD)	Demonstr	(UDEB)	Demonstration - Peaceful	LBR	Liberia	LBR	Liberia	Monrovia	6.445288	-9.30727 Mo	nrovia 1	Fraders a Traders and	Government	
EC1702099044	2/9/2017	«UARR»	Arrest	«UADT»	Arrest / Detention	LBR	Liberia	LBR011002	Greater Monrovia	Dokan G	6.3102	-10.7338		A band of		
EC1702138821	2/11/2017	«UARR»	Arrest	«UADT»	Arrest / Detention	LBR	Liberia	LBR011002	Greater Monrovia	NEC Prec	6.3102	-10.7338 On:	Saturd 1	2 Guinean and Sierra L	eonean Natilr	als
EC1702153104	2/14/2017	<urob></urob>	Robbery	(UNPC)	Crimes	LBR	Liberia	LBR009	Margibi	Marshall	6.514745	-10.2087 On	Tuesd /	Armed rubbers		
EC1702155021	2/15/2017	(UNPC)	Crimes	<usic></usic>	ECOVAS Security Incident Categories	LBR	Liberia	LBR014002	Webbo	Webbo Di	5.2155	-7.63642 Six	person S	Six individuals		
EC1702156345	2/10/2017	(UNPC)	Crimes	<usic></usic>	ECOVAS Security Incident Categories	LBR	Liberia	LBR014	River Gee	Fish Town	5.287213	-7.8724 On	he ten S	Samuel Bi The comma	ander of the Fi	sh Town prison facility
EC1702171482	2/16/2017	<uhrb< td=""><td>Natural Di</td><td><usic></usic></td><td>ECOVAS Security Incident Categories</td><td>LBR</td><td>Liberia</td><td>LBR010002</td><td>Pleebo/Sodeken</td><td>Pleebo cit</td><td>4.613725</td><td>-7.6804 Yes</td><td>terday a</td><td>violent ra 150 resident</td><td>s were made h</td><td>omeless uh</td></uhrb<>	Natural Di	<usic></usic>	ECOVAS Security Incident Categories	LBR	Liberia	LBR010002	Pleebo/Sodeken	Pleebo cit	4.613725	-7.6804 Yes	terday a	violent ra 150 resident	s were made h	omeless uh
EC1702172263	2/16/2017	<uafr></uafr>	Fire	«UACC»	Accident	LBR	Liberia	LBR006003	Tohien	Moses P.	6.042883	-8.15638 Yes	terday fi	re qutte Occupants	residing in the	two structures
EC1702173282	2/17/2017	<uafr></uafr>	Fire	(UACC)	Accident	LBR	Liberia	LBR006003	Tohien	MosesP.I	6.042883	-8.15638 On I	he 16 of	February Occupants	of the two hou	ises gutted by the fire
EC1702248362	2/23/2017	(UTRC)	Drugs Tra	(UNPC)	Crimes	LBR	Liberia	LBR011002	Greater Monrovia	Greater IV	6.3102	-10.7338 The	autho I	Mohammed Gray Tito	Johnson, and	Jack Collie all officers of
EC1702249624	2/23/2017	«UTRC»	Drugs Tra	«UNPC»	Crimes	LBR	Liberia	LBR011002	Greater Monrovia	Capitol H	6.3102	-10.7338 Aut	hority	Jack Kollie, Abraham (aray and Tito	lohnson all officers of the
EC1702272984	2/26/2017	<uafr></uafr>	Fire	«UACC»	Accident	LBR	Liberia	LBR011002	Greater Monrovia	Gardners	6.3102	-10.7338 On	Sunday,	February 16 occupant	s of the burnt	structure
EC1702273821	2/25/2017	<utrc></utrc>	Drugs Tra	«UNPC»	Crimes	LBR	Liberia	LBR004	Grand Cape Mount	Bo Water:	7.093505	-11.0354 On:	Saturd 1	Mariama Kromah		
EC1702287763	2/27/2017	(UARR)	Arrest	(UADT)	Arrest / Detention	LBR	Liberia	LBR011002	Greater Monrovia	Johnson	6.3102	-10.7338 On I	Monda I	vfr Amos S. Siebo and	five others no	nt named

Coding Indicators

- ☐ Each incident can be coded with up to three indicators and three sub-indicators
- ☐ There are 8 indicator categories:
 - o Demographic Pressures
 - Land Competition/Cattle Rustling
 - Disease Outbreaks
 - Natural Disasters/ Drought
 - Alcoholism/Narcotic Abuse
 - Food Crisis
 - Refugees/IDPs
 - Displaced by Violence
 - Displaced by Disaster
 - Displaced by Land Seizure
 - General Displacement Issues
 - Economics Pressures
 - Inflation
 - Unemployment
 - Poverty
 - Labor Strikes
 - Illicit Economy/Corruption
 - Extortion/Racketeering
 - Insecurity Hurts Business
 - Group Grievance/Collective Violence
 - Hate Speech
 - Ethnic/Religious Tension
 - Tension or Violence between Political Groups
 - Intra-Communal Tension or Violence
 - Gang Violence
 - Insurgency/Counter-Insurgency
 - Inter-Communal Tension or Violence
 - Separatism

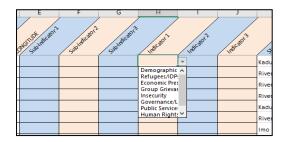
- Insecurity
 - Shootings/Killings
 - Abductions
 - Terrorism
 - Vigilante/mob Justice
 - Violent Protest/Crackdown
 - Armed Clashes
 - Abuses by Public Security Forces
 - Arms Proliferation
 - Bank Robberies
 - Cross-Border Conflict Issues
 - Crime
 - Domestic Violence Fatality
 - Attacks on Energy Infrastructure
 - Ritual Killings
 - Piracy
- Governance/Legitimacy
 - Public Security Forces Corruption
 - Government Corruption
 - Riots/Protests
 - Election Irregularities
 - Intimidation of Political Opponents
 - Unresolved, Delayed, Disputed Elections/Impeached Officials
 - Violent Political Rallies
- Public Services
 - Health System
 - Education System
 - Power Supply
 - Prison System
 - Roads/Infrastructure
 - Water and Sanitation
- Human Rights
 - Sexual Violence
 - Gender-based Human Rights Violations
 - Child Abuse
 - Media Freedom
 - Unlawful Arrest
 - Domestic Violence
 - Forced Marriage
 - Human Trafficking
 - Child Abuse Male
 - Child Abuse Female

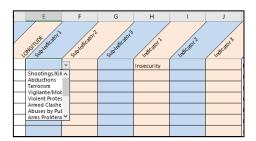
Basics of Coding

☐ If necessary, add data to template. This includes: source, date, state, geo-level 1, geo-level 2, details and fatalities. It should look like this:

South	SHEM, DAR	ATHION	Marinde Subridicator's	Subredicator	Subright ator 3	Indicatori	Indicator 2	redicator 3	Gate.	Country	Capalan	Cardinary.	A. Artife	Surfried	E diditio
NigeriaWa	08/31/2016								Kaduna	Nigeria	Igabi	Rigasa a	A 7-year-old girl wa	Reported: A 7-year-old girl was mutilat	1
NigeriaWa	08/30/2016								Rivers	Nigeria	Port-Hard	Federal j	Unidentified gunm	Reported: Unidentified gunmen shot a	1
NigeriaWa	08/30/2016								Rivers	Nigeria	Obio/Ak	Rumuem	Unidentified gunm	Reported: Unidentified gunmen killed	1
NigeriaWa	08/29/2016								Rivers	Nigeria	Ikwerre	Aluu con	A human rights law	Reported: A human rights lawyer was s	1
NigeriaWa	08/29/2016								Kaduna	Nigeria	Kaduna !	Kakuri cc	A civilian JTF comm	Reported: A civilian JTF commander in	1
NigeriaWa	08/29/2016								Rivers	Nigeria	Emuoha	Rumuorc	13 cultists lost thei	Reported: 13 cultists lost their lives du	13

☐ Begin with Indicator 1, then Sub-Indicator 1, then Indicator 2 and Sub-Indicator 2, then 3. Color code the columns if that makes it easier to code.





- ☐ Some incidents may fall under only one or two indicator categories
- ☐ Spread out the three categories across as many Indicators as possible. For instance, if you can choose between two Group Grievance categories, or a Group Grievance and a Governance category, select the latter.
- ☐ For fatalities due to violence, always code as Indicator 1: 'Insecurity' and Sub-Indicator 2: 'Shootings/Killings'
 - Do not code fatalities due to natural disasters, accidents, or disease as shootings/killings
- ☐ After prioritizing shootings/killings, identify if there are any group-based factors in the incident. If so, please code under the relevant sub-indicator for "Group Grievance/Collective Violence."

Overview of Coding Rules

Incident Descriptions:

- ☐ Ensure that all personal identifiers (names, addresses, etc.) are removed from the incident description
- Duplicates
 - Delete duplicates when incident descriptions are the same
 - When descriptions of the same incident are different, ensure that relevant details are integrated into a single incident
- □ Delete irrelevant incidents such as traffic accidents, accidental fires, etc.

П	Crime
	 The sub-indicator "Crime" should not be over-used. The sub-indicator should be used in cases where the violence was not group based (political, communal, sectarian, insurgent) or inter-personal (domestic dispute, argument, etc.).
	Armed Clashes
	 An incident that involves a violent clash between a group and security forces or police should be coded as 'Armed Clashes'
	Attacks on Oil Infrastructure
	 If there is attacks on oil infrastructure, the incident should be coded as Indicator 1: 'Insecurity' and Sub-Indicator 2: 'Attacks on Energy Infrastructure'
	Pipeline vandals fall under this indicator Cand Visiones
	 Gang Violence Gang violence is not interpersonal or criminal violence perpetrated by gang members. Incidents should only code as 'Gang Violence' if they involve a clash between gangs, usually over supremacy or gang wars. Incidents involving cultists or cultism should be coded as gang violence. Abuses by Public Security Forces
	 Allegations or protests about allegations of public security force abuse do not amount to coding 'Security Forces Abuse.' An incident should only be coded under this indicator if the incident says the person had been convicted of abuse. Don't use "Unlawful Arrest" unless the arrest was explicitly unlawful. The arrest of protestors is not necessarily unlawful for instance. This map is intended to quantify patterns and trends. Afterwards, users can use qualitative techniques to make inferences and interpretation as to causes and implication
Humai	n Rights:
	When there are incidents involving child abuse, specify gender if possible If a woman is a victim of violence it doesn't automatically make it "gender-based," unless she was targeted because of her gender. If a child dies during a clash/insecurity, code as child abuse in addition to other relevant indicators
Group	Grievance/Collective Violence
	Communal Tension/Violence: Inter-communal violence: Clashes between two community groups (For example: communities and pastoralists in the Middle Belt and land disputes in the Niger Delta)

conflict and should be code as intercommunal violence o Intra-communal violence:

communal violence

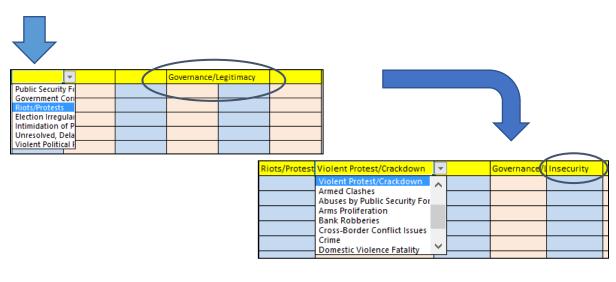
Clashes between members of the same community group.

Pastoral conflicts between farmers and herders constitute inter-

References to "cattle rustlers" is usually related to the pastoralist

	0	Don't code political group clashes under these categories. Intra-communal violence is not interpersonal or criminal violence between members of the same community. It only counts as intra-communal if it is a clash between groups of people within a community, usually over land or kingship titles, etc.
	Insurg	ency
	0	Not necessarily 'terrorism' – should be coded as insurgency/counter-insurgency • If civilians are indiscriminately targeted by insurgents in order to
	0	create chaos and inflame sectarian violence, then an incident of insurgency should also be coded as 'Terrorism.' Insurgency involves incidents perpetrated by organized non-state actors
		 For example: coding data from Northern Nigeria, we would code conflict events between Boko Haram & the Nigerian Military as insurgency; in Southern Nigeria, incidents involving militants would be coded as insurgency
	lensio	on or Violence between Political Groups Any election related tensions or violence should first be coded as "Tensions or Violence between Political Groups" under Group Grievance, then Insecurity and Governance as appropriate.
Gover	nance/	Legitimacy:
	Riots/	Protests For riots and protests, code the theme of the protest where possible (For example: education, health)
Guidel	lines fo	r Coding Incidents Related to Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG)
П	Gener	al
	0	Make sure at least one "woman", "girl" "daughter" "sister" etc. are written into the Description. (e.g. instead of "Physical assault by her husband" add "Physical assault of a woman by her husband". This will help the incident to be picked up by the VAWG filter on the map.
	Gende	er-based Human Rights Violations
	0	This indicator should be used when a woman is financially disenfranchised by family, husband, etc.
		 Ex: "A father abandoned his daughters without any reason. He has refused to pay their school fees"
	Child A	Abuse:
	0	Specify male or female when possible
	0	If the victim is under 18, always code as child abuse

Coding Example



Riots/Protest	Violent Protest/0	rackdown	*	vernance/l	Insecurity (Public Services
		Health System				
		Education System Power Supply				
		Prison System Roads/Infrastructure				
		Water and Sanitation				



Appendix D: Step-by-step guidance for conducting a Stakeholder Network Analysis

- 1. Construct the scoping survey
 - a. An example scoping survey (for Liberia) is attached as Appendix D.
- 2. Compile a list of all known relevant peace and security actors in the target country or region.
- 3. Distribute the scoping survey to all organizations identified in (2). This can be done via email or, in contexts in which there is limited internet service, by contacting local organizations to determine a contextually-appropriate means of getting the necessary information.
- 4. Continue the data collection process in an iterative manner
 - a. This means that when a survey is received which identifies a partner which was not in the original list identified in (2), send a survey to that partner
 - b. Continue this process to the extent that time and resources allow
- 5. Compile survey responses into an Excel book (screenshot + detailed explanation)
 - a. The Excel book should have two sheets, 'Elements' and 'Connections'
 - b. In the 'Elements' sheet (shown to the right):
 - The first row should contain the headers, the first of which must be 'Label'. The others may be whatever is relevant for the project (e.g. 'Country')
 - ii. Each organization should occupy one row.
 - iii. The first column ('Label') should contain the name of the organization
 - iv. Other columns should follow the headers that have been chosen.



- c. In the 'Connections' sheet (shown to the right):
 - i. The first row should contain the headers, the first two of which must be 'From' and 'To'. The others may be whatever is relevant for the project, but often it is not necessary to have more than these two.
 - ii. Each row should contain a connection or



a partnership that exists between two organizations. One of the organizations should be in the 'From' column and the other should be in the 'To' column.

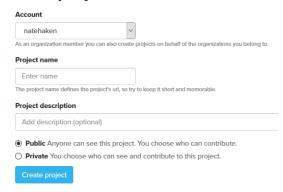
- 6. Create the Kumu project from the Excel book
 - a. Open Kumu and sign in
 - b. Create a New Project by clicking on the green button



c. Enter the Project name, the Project description (if desired), and choose whether the project should be Public or Private



New project



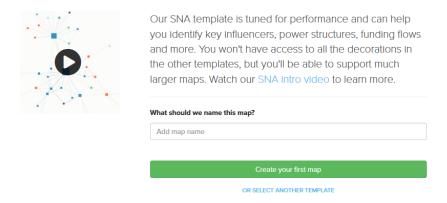
d. Choose SNA as the type of project by clicking on the word 'SNA'

Welcome to Kumu Let's create your first map SYSTEM STAKEHOLDER SNA OTHER Not sure? Watch our 2 minute overview.

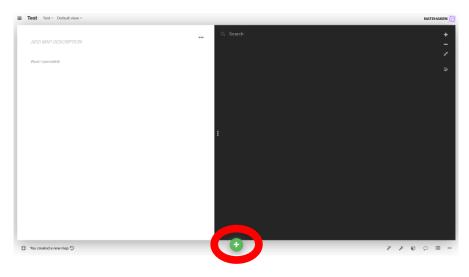
Or import ison blueprint

e. Name the map – this can be the same name as the project. Then click 'Create your first map.'

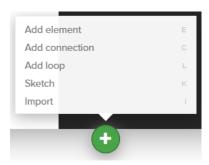
Welcome to Kumu



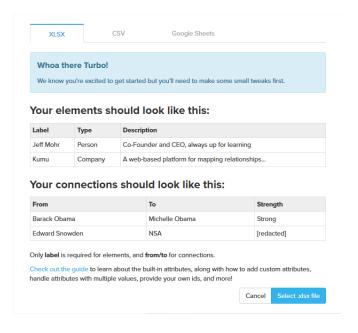
f. To upload the Excel document, click on the white plus sign in the green circle at the bottom of the screen.



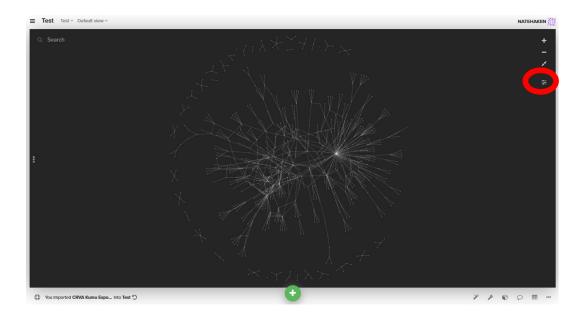
g. Select 'Import'



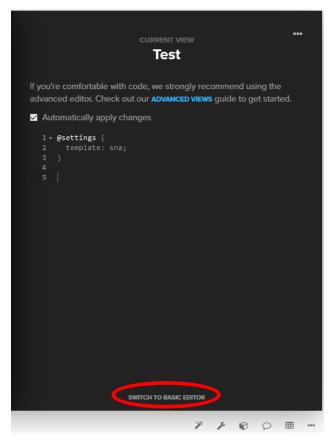
h. An overlay will come up that will give instructions on how the Excel file should be formatted. These directions are the same as those given above. Click on 'Select .xlsx file'. If there are any errors in the formatting of the Excel file, Kumu will flag them.



- 7. Format the Kumu map (optional)
 - a. Select Settings



b. Ensure that you are looking at the Advanced Editor. If the bottom of the sidebar says 'SWITCH TO ADVANCED EDITOR', click that. If it says 'SWITCH TO BASIC EDITOR', go to the next step.



This is the correct view

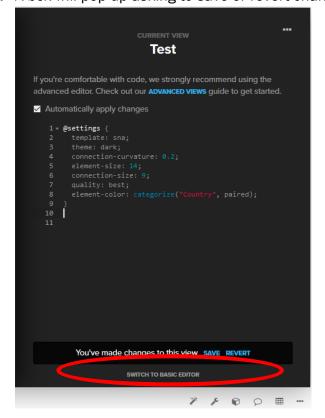
c. Add to the code in that view such that it looks like the screenshot below. This will involve adding one line each for the 1) connection-curvature, 2) element-size, 3) connection-size, 4) quality, and 5) element-color.

```
If you're comfortable with code, we strongly recommend using the advanced editor. Check out our ADVANCED VIEWS guide to get started.

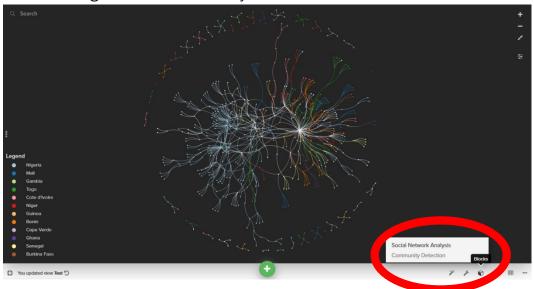
✓ Automatically apply changes

1 * @settings {
2 template: sna;
3 theme: dark;
4 connection-curvature: 0.2;
5 element-size: 14;
6 connection-size: 9;
7 quality: best;
8 element-color: categorize("Country", paired);
9 }
10 |
```

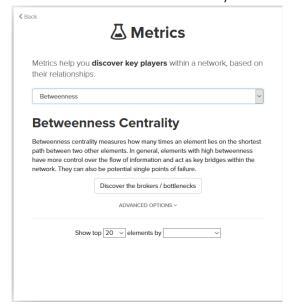
- i. The elements will be colored along a 12 color spectrum. For other spectrum options and for more advanced coloring help, see here.
- ii. This example uses the 'Country' field as the basis to color the map. If 'Country' is not included or if coloring should be based on another field, replace "Country" with "FieldName"
- d. A box will pop up asking to save or revert changes. Select 'Save'



- 8. Conduct Social Network Analysis
 - a. Open Social Network Analysis by clicking on the cube in the lower right and then selecting 'Social Network Analysis'



b. In the SNA sidebar that comes up on the left of the screen, select 'Betweenness' and click on 'Discover the brokers/bottlenecks'



- c. After Kumu finishes calculating, record the top 10 organizations
- d. Repeat 8) (b) and (c) with 'Eigenvector' and 'Reach' in place of 'Betweenness'
- e. Compile and consolidate the combined list from Betweenness, Eigenvector, and Reach

9. Outreach

a. Use the combined and consolidated list from step 8) as the list of organizations to contact first as part of the planning for the HSRVA technical workshop

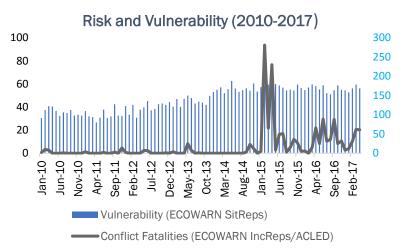
Appendix E: Example Scoping Survey – Liberia

- 1. What is the name of your organization?
- 2. What District/s and Region/s does your organization work in?
- 3. List 3-5 other organizations that your own organization has partnered with in any capacity over the last two years (2014-2016) on issues of peace and security. If you are willing, please include a contact email address along with the name so that we can extend this survey to them as well. Otherwise, just write the name of the partner organizations.
 - Name of Organization 1:
 - Name of Organization 2:
 - Name of Organization 3:
 - Name of Organization 4:
 - Name of Organization 5:
- 4. What type of organization do you represent, with regards to risk and vulnerability?
 - o Media
 - United Nations and other intergovernmental agencies
 - Non-Governmental/Civil Society
 - o Community-Based Organization
 - Security Services
 - Political Party
 - Government
 - Youth Group
 - Women's group
 - Faith based organizations/Group
 - Private Sector/Business Association
 - Traditional Leadership
 - Other (please specify)
- 5. Did your work directly target any of the following:
 - o Gender based violence
 - Youth and Youth Violence
 - Election/Political Violence Mitigation
 - Sectarian/Communal/Ethnic Tensions
 - Criminal Violence
 - Conflict over land and resources
 - Other (please specify)
- 6. What type(s) of conflict mitigation work did you do primarily?
 - Conflict Early Warning

- Conflict Assessment
- Advocacy
- Security
- Conflict Management
- Peace Building
- Peace Messaging
- Others (please specify)
- 7. What areas of human security are most relevant to your work?
 - Political Security
 - Rule of Law / Physical Security
 - Economic Security
 - Climate Change and Environment
 - Food Security
 - Other (Please specify)
- 8. Was your work successful in reducing or preventing conflict?
 - o Yes
 - o No
 - Don't Know
- 9. As a follow-up to Question 8, please explain:
- 10. Describe how your work reduced or prevented conflict.
- 11. In cases where you were unable to prevent or reduce conflict, describe why.
- 12. What key sources of information do you rely on for situational awareness of conflict dynamics to inform your priorities and interventions. Please be as specific as possible. (e.g. radio stations, working groups, early warning systems, local community forums, etc.)?
- 13. In situations where conflict and insecurity may have adversely affected your operating environment, did you have adequate early warning and situational awareness to plan, adjust, and respond
 - Yes
 - o No
 - Don't Know
- 14. (As a follow-up to Question 13) Please Explain:
- 15. Please provide your contact information.

Appendix F: Instructions to complete the Risk and Vulnerability Graph

The Risk and Vulnerability Graph shows the trends in risk layered against vulnerability. The y-axis on the left should show the level of vulnerability, while the -axis on the right should show the number of conflict fatalities by month. ECOWARN SitReps are used to depict vulnerability, while ECOWARN IncReps and ACLED data are used to reflect risk by showing conflict fatalities.



Sample Risk and Vulnerability Graph taken from the Niger HSRVA Report

The graph can be created using the attached Excel

template. Please note, updated SitRep data should be added to the template in the "Formula" tab. This can be done by pasting data into the bottom of columns B to G in the same format. The formula is set up so that infinite data points can be added.

In order to create the graph:

- 1. In the attached excel template, open the "Formula" tab
- 2. In column **I1** (highlighted yellow) type the name of the desired country and everything else will automatically populate
- 3. Copy and paste the dates (column I) and the Overall Score (column J) into a new excel document. Make sure to right click and select paste Values (V)
- 4. Where the "#DIV/O" error appears, it means there is are zero data entries for that time period. For the purposes of the Risk and Vulnerability Graph where there is an error, take the average of the scores for the prior and following months.
- 5. After pasting the SitReps scores into a new document, enter the number of conflict fatalities for each month in column C.
- 6. Once all the data has been entered into the excel spreadsheet, highlight the appropriate columns and insert a **Clustered Column Line on Secondary Axis** chart.

Templates and Example Reports

- 1. HSRVA Index spreadsheet (as attachment)
- 2. Data coding spreadsheet (as attachment)
- 3. Desktop Study
- 4. KII and FGD Instrument
- 5. Risk and Vulnerability (IncRep/SitRep) Graph spreadsheet (as attachment)
- 6. Quantitative Breakdown Appendix spreadsheet (as attachment)
- 7. Final Report
- 8. Example Report (as attachment): Niger Desktop Study
- 9. Example Report (as attachment): Niger HSRVA Report





[insert country flag]

Country Name

Country Risk and Vulnerability Assessment

Desktop Study and Planning Document

Date

Contents

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H	lealth - Fourth Most Vulnerable Category	91
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٧.	Key Risk Factors	92
VI.	Regional Breakdown	92
VII.	Key Stakeholders	93
VIII.	. Conclusion	93

Country Background

This section should give a brief but comprehensive overview of 1) the social and political history of the country, and 2) the salient points from HSRVA Index and the human security pillars that help to give a fuller picture of the country. To ensure usability of the study by a broader range of stakeholders, assume that your reader does not have a deep background in the country.

Key Incidents or Events

This section analyzes the GIS event data to identify key incidents or events that took place in the preceding two years. The writer may also wish to include an analysis of trends in conflict incidents compared to fatalities, as well as a comparison of reported incidents or fatalities by region.

Conflict Risk and Vulnerability Factors

This section uses the results of the HSRVA Index and the five human security pillars to structure a deeper examination of conflict risk and vulnerability factors in the country. This section can begin with a short paragraph summarizing the HSRVA Index findings and a graph visualizing the HSRVA Index scores for the country. It is also useful to compare the scores of the country in question with the scores of two neighboring or comparable countries to provide a sense of proportionality.

Currently, based on an aggregation of dozens of datasets, indexed according to the categories of Governance, Security, Crime, Environment, and Health, X COUNTRY is most vulnerable in the area of X and most resilient in Y. X COUNTRY also received an overall Gender score of #. In the graph below, scores for [two other countries] are provided for comparison.

[Insert graph visualizing the HSRVA Index scores for the country and two neighboring or comparable countries]

This section then delves into an examination of the country through the lens of the five human security pillars, organized from most to least vulnerable. The guidance below includes some common topics of research within each pillar, as well as useful resources. However, these lists are by no means exhaustive, and researchers are encouraged to expand or tailor these subjects according to the country context.

Crime - Most Vulnerable Category

X Country is currently most vulnerable in the area of Crime. X Country receives an aggregate score of 1.0 for Crime, which is significantly above/below the regional average of #.

[Insert graph with Crime sub-indicators]

Text analysis of Crime category

Environment - Second Most Vulnerable Category

Environment is X Country's second most vulnerable category, with an aggregate score of #. Across the five indicators, X and Y are the most vulnerable areas with scores of # and #, respectively, followed by Z with a score of #.

[Insert graph with Environment sub-indicators]

Text analysis of Environment category

Governance - Third Most Vulnerable Category

Governance is X country's third most vulnerable category, with an aggregate score of #. The country is most vulnerable in the area of Y, with a score of #, and most resilient in the area of Z (score of #).

[Insert graph with Governance sub-indicators]

Text analysis of Governance category

Health - Fourth Most Vulnerable Category

X country scores # in the category of Health, slightly below the regional average of #.

[Insert graph with Health sub-indicators]

Text analysis of Health category

Security - Least Vulnerable Category

X country is least vulnerable in the category of Security (score of X), placing the country marginally ahead of the regional average of #.

[Insert graph with Security sub-indicators]

Text analysis of Security category

Gender Considerations

In addition to mainstreaming gender into the human security pillar sections above, the Gender Considerations section provides a summary of gender roles in the country and additional information to give an overview of the general position of women in the country. What different social, economic or political roles do men and women play in the country? How have women been uniquely affected by the trends discussed in the report? What disparities exist? How has the government worked to address these disparities? Are things improving?

Key Risk Factors

This section identifies the leading types of conflict risks in the country, based on an analysis of GIS event data. Examples of conflict risks could include Criminality, Political Tensions, Riots and Protests, or Communal Tensions and Violence. For each type of event-driven risk, the report should identify hotspots, trends in incidents compared to fatalities, and a summary of the incidents in the event data.

Regional Breakdown

Region	Salient Issues	Key Areas
Agadez	☐ Violent clashes involving the Nigerien military	□ Tchirozerine
Diffa	☐ Clashes between military and Boko Haram	□ Diffa□ N'Guigmi
Dosso	□ Farmer/herder clash resulting in 7 fatalities□ Armed clash between soldiers and the police	□ Dosso□ Boboye (communal clash)
Maradi	☐ Riots/protests	MadarounfaDakoro
Niamey	□ Riots/protests□ Political tensions□ Labor strikes	□ Niamey
Tahoua	□ Farmer/herder clashes resulting in fata violence□ AQIM attacks	□ Tahoua
Tillabery	 Boko Haram insurgency Riots/protests Displacement issues related to violence in Mali 	□ Ouallam Tera
Zinder	 Riots/protests related to education system Riots/protests related to Boko Haram insurgency 	☐ Tanout☐ Mirriah

Using GIS event data, this section analyzes the types of conflict risks occurring in each region of the country and identifies key hotspots within each region. For usability, this information is best presented in a table format. For example:

Key Stakeholders

Based on the research conducted over the course of the Desktop Study, this section identifies international, national, and local stakeholders who should be engaged during the next phase of field research. It is important to identify key actors across the five human security pillars, as well as think through the types of stakeholders (such as political opposition groups, religious leaders, or traditional leaders) who may contribute critical insights during the field research phase. Be sure to identify stakeholders at the international, regional, national and local levels.

Conclusion

This section provides a brief summary of the findings of the Desktop Study and identifies gaps or areas for additional research which can be filled during the next phase of field research.

Key Informant Interview (KII) or Focus Group Discussion (FGD)

Note that the questions below are the framing questions from the Cabo Verde HSRVA in 2018 and are organized according to the old five human security pillars. The questions should be updated with the relevant framing questions for the country in question and in alignment with the new five human security pillars.

Name of Respondent (If KII):	Click or tap here to enter text.
Facilitator(s):	Click or tap here to enter text.
Role of Respondent (if KII) or Stakeholder Group (if FGD):	Click or tap here to enter text.
Research Site (Area of Focus):	Click or tap here to enter text.
Date:	Click or tap here to enter text.
(Note: After every question, ask follow up question if it seems si	people for EXAMPLES. If they give an example, ask a gnificant)
I. Introduction	

II. Economics & Resources

Checklist: ONLY check items that the respondent cited as a significant risk or vulnerability in the interview.

Inequality	Undernourishment	Economic Productivity	Gender (Education and Employment)	Land and Natural Resources

How have international events (e.g. the global economic crisis) affected the economy? To what extent is food insecurity a concern? In what ways do climate change or environmental pressures affect local communities? Are there disparities between urban and rural areas in terms of service provision? What role do women play in the economy? What role do youth play in the economy? What role do illicit economic activities (including smuggling and drug trafficking) play in the local and national economy? What role does natural resource management and land tenure play in social cohesion?

III. Population & Demographics

Checklist: ONLY check items that the respondent cited as a significant risk or vulnerability in the interview.

Youth	Migration	Public	Gender	Ethnic/Communal
Population		Health	Issues	

What impact(s) has migration (rural-urban, to the U.S. or Europe, or immigration to Cabo Verde from the West African region) had on Cabo Verde? What role do women play in social, economic, and political life? What role do youth play in social, economic and political life? Are there specific issues facing the youth (e.g. Disenfranchisement, access to opportunity and resources? Are there tensions or conflicts between religious or ethnic groups? To what extent does geography (ex: rural vs urban areas) affect access to social services and infrastructure? How effective is family planning in terms of access and policy? How prevalent is gender-based violence (GBV) and child abuse? To what extent is the health system capable of responding to health threats such as the Zika virus?

IV. Security

Checklist: ONLY check items that the respondent cited as a significant risk or vulnerability in the interview.

Political/Electi on Violence	Gender- Based Violence	Criminality	Communal /Ethnic Violence	0 ,	Functioning of security forces

What role do the security forces play in managing or worsening criminality? Are they legitimate, representative, and professional? Are there other conflict drivers such as land disputes, succession or inheritance, or resource competition? What role do communities or non-state actors play in security provision? To what extent have illicit markets (e.g. drug trafficking) contributed to issues of criminality and violence? Are there cross-border, maritime, or transnational threats? Are there concerns around radicalization or violent extremism?

V. Politics & Governance

Checklist: ONLY check items that the respondent cited as a significant risk or vulnerability in the interview.

Elections	Functioning of Gvt	Corruption	Gender	Civil Society

What role(s) do women and youth play in politics and decision-making? What role(s) do civil society groups, the media and social movements play in politics? To what extent do perceptions of corruption and nepotism in government erode the legitimacy of state institutions and electoral process? Are there concerns around future elections?

VI. Rule of Law

Checklist: ONLY check items that the respondent cited as a significant risk or vulnerability in the interview.

Judicial	Accountability/	Access to	Gender
Independence	Impunity	Justice	

To what extent is the judiciary independent of the executive? What role does the judiciary play in regard to questions of justice and impunity? Is there access to legal and judicial services throughout the country? To what extent do communities rely on police and security forces to provide justice? To what extent are women's rights protected in practice? Is there reliance on alternative/traditional dispute resolution mechanisms? Do people resort to popular justice?

Insert country-relevant picture

Country Risk and Vulnerability Assessment

[Country Name]

[Month Year] that Fieldwork was conducted

ECOWAS COMMISSION COMMISSION DE LA CEDEAO COMMISSÃO DA CEDEAO





Insert map of the country

Insert references for the country map and the picture from first page

Table of Contents

Acronyms and Abbreviations

List of all the acronyms and abbreviations that are used in this report, including those that are considered widely known and understood.

Foreword

Preface

Acknowledgements

Executive Summary

This section should be a relatively brief (~1 page) high level overview of the HSRVA that took place and the findings that were gleaned from the assessment.

Introduction

Research Process

This section should cover an overview of the HSRVA research process, as described in the Background and Context of the HSRVA Process section.

Terminology and Conceptual Definitions

Define important terms as they are used in this report, e.g. Vulnerability, Risk, Resilience.

Define the framework that underlies the HSRVA analysis and how it relates to the rest of the ECOWAS conflict prevention framework.

Literature Review

This section is a review of the academic literature on conflict prevention and early warning, specifically on the rise and use of a human security lens in conflict early warning.

Research Questions

This section covers the framing questions developed based on the initial desktop findings, broken out by the five human security pillars. These framing questions inform the design of the KII and FGD instruments, as described in section 3.D, Conducting KIIs and FGDs within Implementation Steps.

Description of the Sample

A brief description of the data types and sources utilized in the creation of this report.

Data Analysis

A high level analysis of the data – including SitReps, IncReps, event data, and the HSRVA Index – on the country in question, including conflict patterns and trends and relative vulnerabilities across the five human security pillars. This can be supplemented by graphs and maps to help illustrate the analysis, including heatmaps and a map of the locations where fieldwork took place.

Scope and Limitations of the Study

This section describes the scope of the study in this report and its limitations, including limitations based on data availability and representativeness, as well as the purpose of the report and the ways it will be used to strengthen ECOWAS's conflict prevention and early warning efforts.

Country Background

This section should cover a background of the country, including its history, its economic situation, its sociopolitical context, and its position in the regional environment.

National-Level Vulnerabilities, Risks and Resiliencies

Based on desktop research using the ECOWARN and ACLED data sets, surveys of peace and security actors in key regions in [Country Name], field research that included KIIs and FGDs, and participatory analysis by the HSRVA field research team, the following national-level risks, vulnerabilities, and resilience factors were identified:

Structural Vulnerabilities	Crime ☐ List of Structural Vulnerabilities within Crime Dimension
	Environment
	 List of Structural Vulnerabilities within Environment Dimension
	Governance
	 List of Structural Vulnerabilities within Governance Dimension
	Security
	 List of Structural Vulnerabilities within Security Dimension
	Health
	☐ List of Structural Vulnerabilities within Health Dimension
Event-Driven Risks	Crime
	☐ List of Event-Driven Risks within Crime Dimension
	Environment
	☐ List of Event-Driven Risks within Environment Dimension

	Governance List of Event-Driven Risks within Governance Dimension Security List of Event-Driven Risks within Security Dimension
	Health List of Event-Driven Risks within Health Dimension
Social and Institutional Resilience Factors	Crime ☐ List of Social and Institutional Resilience Factors within Crime Dimension
	Environment ☐ List of Social and Institutional Resilience Factors within Environment Dimension
	Governance ☐ List of Social and Institutional Resilience Factors within Governance Dimension
	Security ☐ List of Social and Institutional Resilience Factors within Security Dimension
	Health ☐ List of Social and Institutional Resilience Factors within Health Dimension

[Dimension Name] (Most Vulnerable Pillar) calculated in HSRVA Index

Vulnerabilities	 List of Structural Vulnerabilities within this Dimension from the list of National-level vulnerabilities, Risks, and Resiliencies above
Risks	☐ List of Event-Driven Risks within this Dimension from the list of National-level vulnerabilities, Risks, and Resiliencies above

Vulnerabilities and Risks

According to the HSRVA Index, [country] is most vulnerable in the area of [this dimension], with a score of X.XX/10.

Description of the Structural Vulnerabilities and Event-Driven Risks present in this dimension at the national level. Include results from the Field Research and Desktop Research, including quotes from KIIs and FGDs as well as quantitative figures. If there are particularly striking or illustrative quotes, include them in breakout quote boxes.

Social and Institutional Resilience Factors

Description of the Social and Institutional Resilience Factors that are present in this dimension at the national level. Include results from the Field Research and Desktop Research, including, where possible, quotes from KIIs and FGDs as well as quantitative figures.

[Dimension Name] (Second Most Vulnerable Pillar) from HSRVA Index

Vulnerabilities	☐ List of Structural Vulnerabilities within this Dimension from the list of National-level vulnerabilities, Risks, and Resiliencies above
Risks	☐ List of Event-Driven Risks within this Dimension from the list of National-level vulnerabilities, Risks, and Resiliencies above

Vulnerabilities and Risks

According to the HSRVA Index, [country] is most vulnerable in the area of [this dimension], with a score of X.XX/10.

Description of the Structural Vulnerabilities and Event-Driven Risks present in this dimension at the national level. Include results from the Field Research and Desktop Research, including quotes from KIIs and FGDs as well as quantitative figures. If there are particularly striking or illustrative quotes, include them in breakout quote boxes.

Social and Institutional Resilience Factors

Description of the Social and Institutional Resilience Factors that are present in this dimension at the national level. Include results from the Field Research and Desktop Research, including, where possible, quotes from KIIs and FGDs as well as quantitative figures.

[Dimension Name] (Third Most Vulnerable Pillar) from HSRVA Index

Vulnerabilities	☐ List of Structural Vulnerabilities within this Dimension from the list of National-level vulnerabilities, Risks, and Resiliencies above
Risks	☐ List of Event-Driven Risks within this Dimension from the list of National-level vulnerabilities, Risks, and Resiliencies above

Vulnerabilities and Risks

According to the HSRVA Index, [country] is most vulnerable in the area of [this dimension], with a score of X.XX/10.

Description of the Structural Vulnerabilities and Event-Driven Risks present in this dimension at the national level. Include results from the Field Research and Desktop Research, including quotes from KIIs and FGDs as well as quantitative figures. If there are particularly striking or illustrative quotes, include them in breakout quote boxes.

Social and Institutional Resilience Factors

Description of the Social and Institutional Resilience Factors that are present in this dimension at the national level. Include results from the Field Research and Desktop Research, including, where possible, quotes from KIIs and FGDs as well as quantitative figures.

[Dimension Name] (Fourth Most Vulnerable Pillar) from HSRVA Index

Vulnerabilities List of Structural Vulnerabilities within this Dimension from the list of National-level vulnerabilities, Risks, and Resiliencies above List of Event-Driven Risks within this Dimension from the list of National-level vulnerabilities, Risks, and Resiliencies above

Vulnerabilities and Risks

According to the HSRVA Index, [country] is most vulnerable in the area of [this dimension], with a score of X.XX/10.

Description of the Structural Vulnerabilities and Event-Driven Risks present in this dimension at the national level. Include results from the Field Research and Desktop Research, including quotes from KIIs and FGDs as well as quantitative figures. If there are particularly striking or illustrative quotes, include them in breakout quote boxes.

Social and Institutional Resilience Factors

Description of the Social and Institutional Resilience Factors that are present in this dimension at the national level. Include results from the Field Research and Desktop Research, including, where possible, quotes from KIIs and FGDs as well as quantitative figures.

[Dimension Name] (Least Vulnerable Pillar) from HSRVA Index

Vulnerabilities	☐ List of Structural Vulnerabilities within this Dimension from the list of National-level vulnerabilities, Risks, and Resiliencies above
Risks	☐ List of Event-Driven Risks within this Dimension from the list of National-level vulnerabilities, Risks, and Resiliencies above

Vulnerabilities and Risks

According to the HSRVA Index, [country] is most vulnerable in the area of [this dimension], with a score of X.XX/10.

Description of the Structural Vulnerabilities and Event-Driven Risks present in this dimension at the national level. Include results from the Field Research and Desktop Research, including quotes from KIIs and FGDs as well as quantitative figures. If there are particularly striking or illustrative quotes, include them in breakout quote boxes.

Social and Institutional Resilience Factors

Description of the Social and Institutional Resilience Factors that are present in this dimension at the national level. Include results from the Field Research and Desktop Research, including, where possible, quotes from KIIs and FGDs as well as quantitative figures.

External Factors

Description of the external factors that affect the country, such as membership in international and regional organizations, exposure to international economic conditions, migration and refugee flows, climate change, and effects of geographic location and neighboring countries.

Gender Considerations

While gender considerations should be mainstreamed throughout the report in both the national and sub-national sections, this section should cover the challenges and sources of resilience for women in the social, economic, and political spheres.

Sub-National Level Vulnerabilities, Risks and Resilience Factors: Observations by Region

[Name of Sub-national region] – section repeated for each sub-national region

Brief (~one paragraph) description of the sub-national region, including population, demographic makeup, and local economy. There should also be a heatmap of incidents within this region.

Structural Vulnerabilities	 A list of structural vulnerabilities that are present within this sub-national region across all dimensions
Event-Driven Risks	 A list of event-driven risks that are present within this sub-national region across all dimensions
Social and Institutional Resilience Factors	 A list of social and institutional resilience factors that are present within this sub-national region across all dimensions

Each of the following sections should include a description of the Structural Vulnerabilities and Event-Driven Risks that are present in the dimension in this sub-national region. The description should be driven by the results of the field research, including quotes from KIIs and FGDs, and should be supported by Desktop Research where possible. If there are particularly striking or illustrative quotes from the KIIs or FGDs, include them in breakout quote boxes.

Crime
Environment
Governance
Security
Health

The following section should include a description of the Social and Institutional Resilience Factors that are present in this sub-national region. The description should be driven by the results of the field research, including quotes from KIIs and FGDs and should be supported by Desktop Research where possible.

Social and Institutional Resilience Factors

Conclusion and Recommendations

This section should include a high level review of the findings covered in the report as well as recommendations based on those findings. As covered in section 4.B of the Implementation Steps section of the Manual, effective recommendations should:

- Know the audience
- Be specific and actionable
 - who should do it or be a part of it?
 - what should be done specifically, where possible?
 - o when should it be done?
 - o where should it be done?
 - how should it be done?
 Address timing and steps as possible
- Be politically feasible
- Be timely
- Be concise
- Build on identified resiliencies

The recommendations should be broken into sections based on the HSRVA dimensions: Crime, Environment, Governance, Security, Health.

Appendix A: Data Sample

This appendix should be a table that includes every data source used in the HSRVA, including those used in the construction of the HSRVA Index, the peace/security actors surveyed as part of the SNA, the SitReps and IncReps, and the KIIs and FGDs. A reduced example of the table is included below.

Phase	Dimension	Source	Metric	Sample
Phase 1:	Risk	ECOWARN	IncReps	Number of IncRep
Desktop				reports used (after
				reducing for duplicates
				and relevance)
Phase 2: Field	Risk and	Focus Group	Broken out by Men,	Number of Focus Group
Research	Vulnerability	Discussions	Women, and Youth	Discussions conducted
Phase 2: Field	Risk and	Key Informant	Prominent	Number of Key
Research	Vulnerability	Interviews	individuals and	Informant Interviews
			local experts,	conducted
			including gvt	
			officials	

Appendix B: Vulnerability Index

Index Data Sources

Very brief discussion of the data sources used in the HSRVA Index.

Process: Calculating the Scores

The process of calculating the scores, divided into the three steps of 1) normalization, 2) scaling, and 3) aggregation and including the mathematical formulas that underlie those steps.

Appendix C: Additional References

This appendix should include a list of useful reports, studies or other materials relevant to the country context or the broader topic of human security, should the reader require additional information. Potential sources could include reports by international organizations or NGOs, academic studies, government strategy papers, or policy documents.

Appendix D: Quantitative Field Research Breakdown

This section should cover the quantitative breakdown of the results of the field research, as described in the Quantitative Field Research Breakdown appendix. The section should first break down the data by human security pillar, and then should break down the data from each pillar into sub-pillars. Each breakdown should include a table and a graph, as well as a very brief (~1 line) analysis.

Appendix E: Matrix of Vulnerabilities, Risks, Resilience Factors, and Recommendations by Human Security Pillar

CABO VERDE	Vulnerabilities		Risks		Resiliencies		Recommendations	
Crime	leve Vulr in C	of national- el Structural nerabilities rime lension	A	List of national-level Event-Driven Risks in Crime Dimension	A	List of national-level Resiliencies in Crime Dimension	A	List of recommendations in the Crime Dimension
Environment	leve Vulr in E	of national- el Structural nerabilities nvironment nension	>	List of national-level Event-Driven Risks in Environment Dimension	A	List of national-level Resiliencies in Environment Dimension	A	List of recommendations in the Environment Dimension
Governance	leve Vulr in G	of national- el Structural nerabilities lovernance lension	\(\rightarrow\)	List of national-level Event-Driven Risks in Governance Dimension	A	List of national-level Resiliencies in Governance Dimension	A	List of recommendations in the Governance Dimension
Security	leve Vulr in S	of national- el Structural nerabilities ecurity nension	<i>\(\)</i>	List of national-level Event-Driven Risks in Security Dimension	A	List of national-level Resiliencies in Security Dimension	A	List of recommendations in the Security Dimension
Health	leve Vulr in H	of national- el Structural nerabilities lealth nension	>	List of national-level Event-Driven Risks in Health Dimension	A	List of national-level Resiliencies in Health Dimension	>	List of recommendations in the Health Dimension