



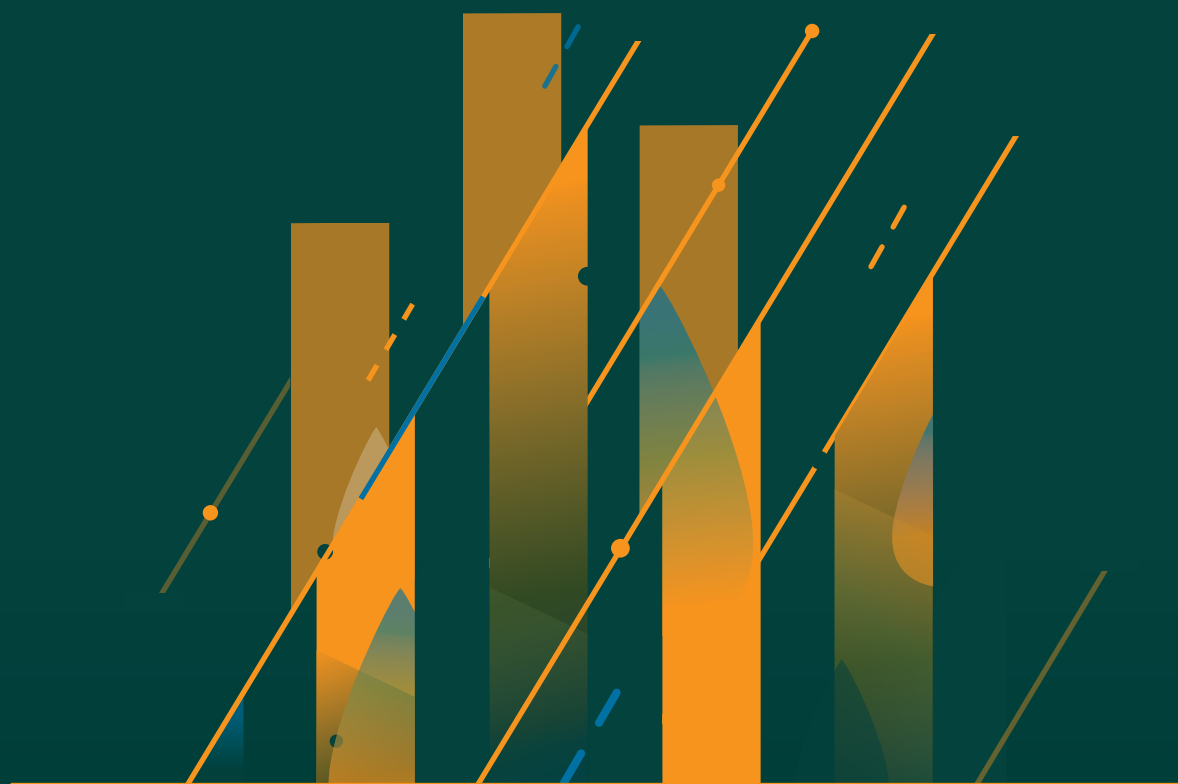
Ecological Threat Report 2024 Briefing

○ Global
Results

○ Water
Risk

○ Non-State
Conflict

○ Food
Security



Ecological Threat Report 2024 Briefing

Analysing ecological threats, resilience & peace

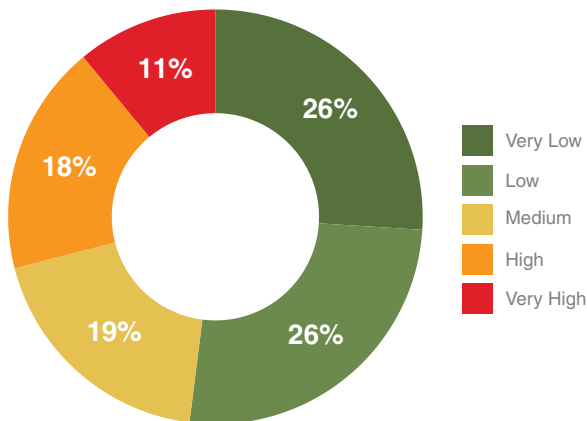
This is the fifth edition of the Ecological Threat Report (ETR), which analyses ecological threats in 207 independent states and territories. The research takes a multi-faceted approach by analysing ecological threats at the national and subnational levels, while also assessing the threats against societal resilience and levels of peace. Comparing ecological threats against societal resilience enables IEP to identify the global regions, countries, and subnational areas most at risk of an ecological disaster, both now and into the future.

2024 Key Findings

- Of the 207 countries and territories in the Ecological Threat Report (ETR), 50 face high or very high levels of ecological threat. Just under 1.3 billion people live in these 50 countries, a number which is expected to grow to almost two billion by 2050.
- There are 62 countries which face a very high threat for at least one of the four ETR indicators.
- The number of people facing food insecurity, defined as insufficient or uncertain daily food consumption, may reach 1.7 billion by 2050. Global food prices remain almost 25 per cent higher than their pre-pandemic levels.
- By 2050, sub-Saharan Africa's population is predicted to rise to 2.1 billion, an increase of over 70 per cent, which will dramatically increase pressure on existing food and water supplies.
- In sub-Saharan Africa, regions with high water stress are more likely to experience communal violence, particularly in areas where local institutions are weak and public trust is low.
- The region's agricultural yield gaps are in part a result of lack of irrigation. It has the lowest irrigation rates in the world, with only 1.8 per cent of cultivated land being irrigated.

Distribution of ETR threats at the subnational level, 2024

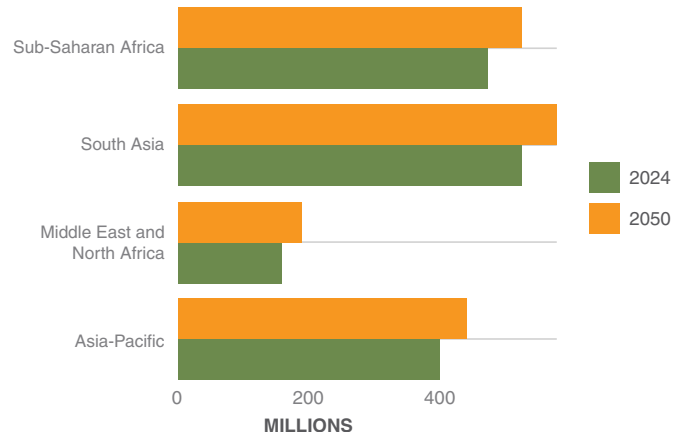
Eleven per cent of subnational areas face a very high level of ecological threat.



Source: IEP Calculations

Projected number of people facing very high food insecurity, 2024 to 2050

The number of people experiencing insufficient food consumption may reach over 1.7 billion people in the next 26 years.



Source: WFP

1 For More Information
See the 2024 Report,
Section 1: Results

RESULTS

50

Of the 207 countries and territories in the ETR, 50 face high or very high levels of ecological threat. Just under 1.3 billion people live in these 50 countries, a number which is expected to grow to almost two billion by 2050.



62

There are 62 countries which face a very high threat for at least one of the four ETR indicators.

+70%

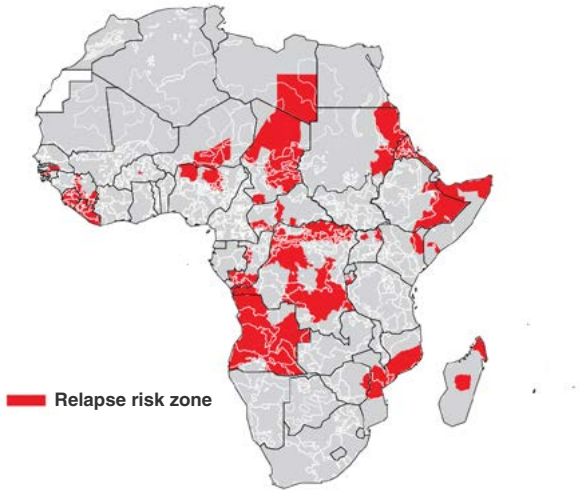
By 2050, sub-Saharan Africa's population is predicted to rise to 2.1 billion, an increase of over 70 per cent, which will dramatically increase pressure on existing food and water supplies.



The impact of natural events is felt throughout the world. There are areas in almost every global region that face high or very high levels of risk from natural events. This impact is likely to increase as the effects of climate change become more prominent.

Conflict relapse risk zones in Africa at the subnational level

Across the continent, there are dozens of subnational areas that face very high levels of ecological threat, cross the historical territories of multiple ethnic groups, and have a history of conflict but currently no major hostilities.



Source: IEP Calculations

2 For More Information See the 2024 Report, Section 2: Non-State Conflict and Ecological Threats

Hotspot countries, 2024

The following countries are classified as “hotspot” countries. This means they have a very high level of ecological threat and are ranked among the 30 countries with the lowest levels of Positive Peace.



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Nineteen of the 27 hotspot countries are in sub-Saharan Africa.

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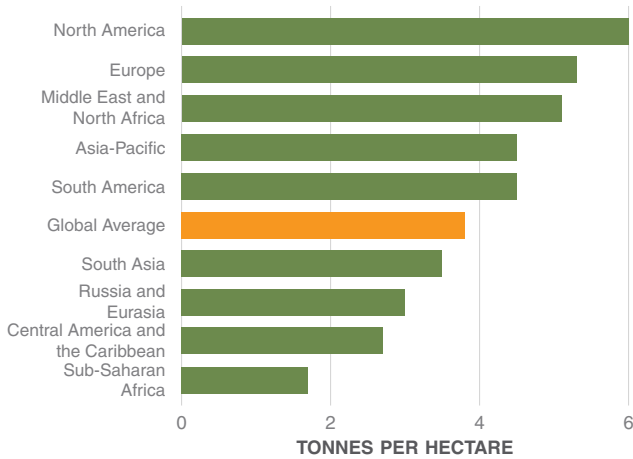
Four of the 27 hotspot countries are in the Middle East and North Africa.

Source: IEP Calculations

1 For More Information See the 2024 Report, Section 1: Results

Tonnes of cereal produced by hectare, regional averages 2018–2022

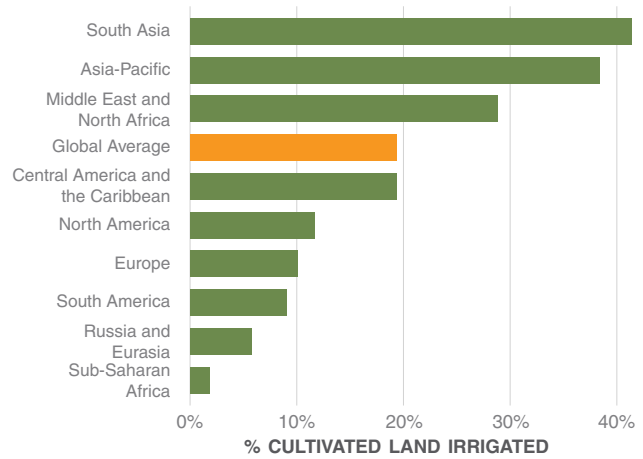
Farms in sub-Saharan Africa produce less than half of the global average.



Source: FAO; IEP Calculations

Percentage of cultivated lands that are irrigated, by region, 2021

Only 1.8 per cent of the lands under cultivation in sub-Saharan Africa are irrigated.



Source: FAO

Note: Only includes countries included in the GPI.

3 For More Information See the 2024 report, Section 2: Towards Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa

NON-STATE CONFLICT & ECOLOGICAL THREATS

+27%

Regions with historical ethnic borders have a 27 per cent higher probability of conflict compared to non-border areas, highlighting the significance of ethnic divisions in conflict dynamics.



In sub-Saharan Africa, regions with high water stress are more likely to experience communal violence, particularly in areas where local institutions are weak and public trust is low.

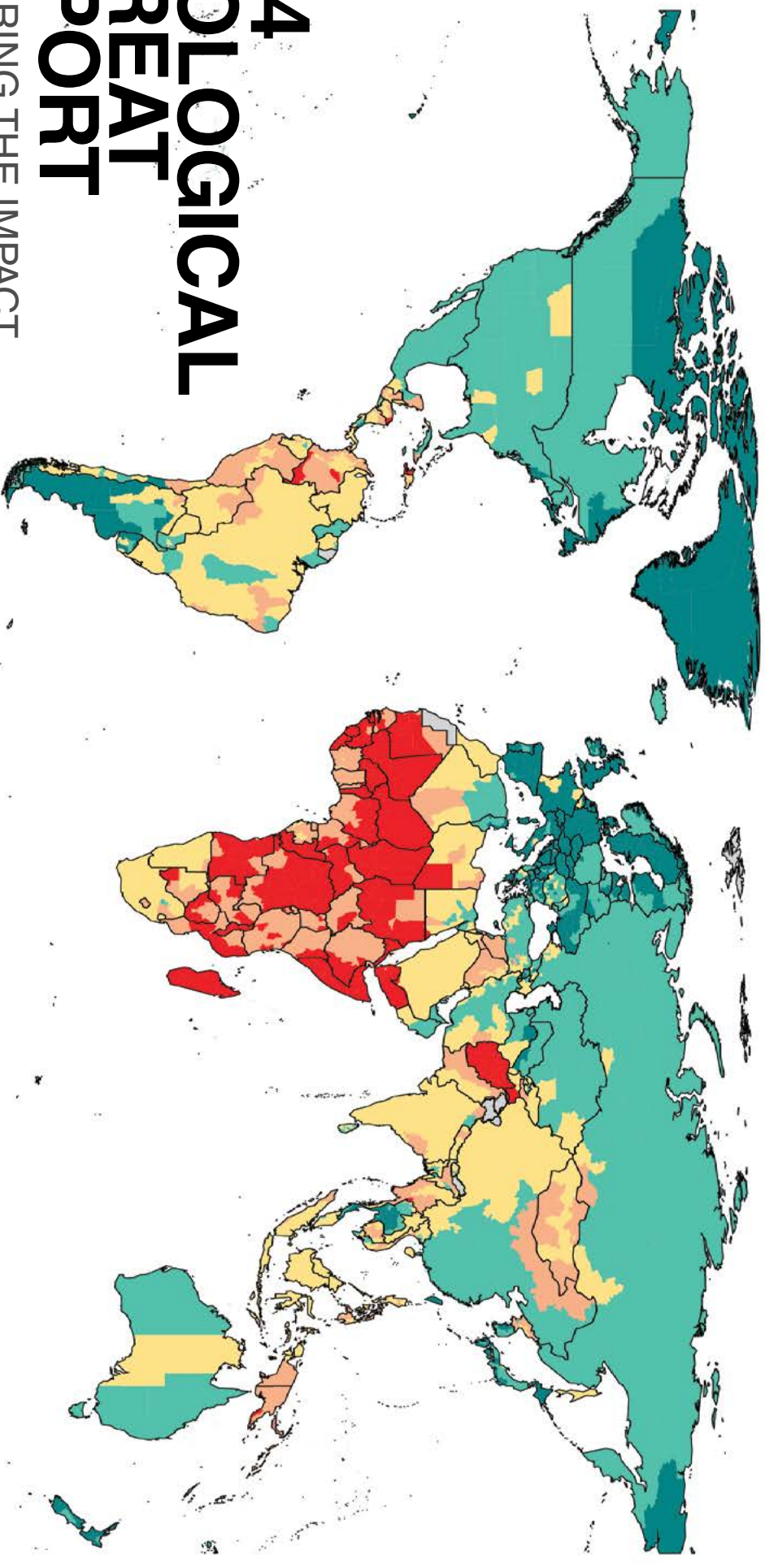
FOOD SECURITY

58%

By 2050, 58 per cent of sub-Saharan Africa's population will live in urban areas, up from 44 per cent today.



Sub-Saharan Africa faces agricultural productivity challenges and large yield gaps. The region's average cereal yield is 1.7 tonnes per hectare, less than half the global average of 3.8 tonnes per hectare.



2024 ECOLOGICAL THREAT REPORT

MEASURING THE IMPACT OF ECOLOGICAL THREATS

ETR SCORE



The ETR is developed by the Institute for Economics & Peace, an independent, non-partisan, non-profit think tank dedicated to shifting the world's focus to peace as a positive, achievable and tangible measure of human wellbeing and progress.

IEP is headquartered in Sydney, with offices in New York, Brussels, The Hague, Mexico City and Nairobi. It works with a wide range of partners internationally and collaborates with intergovernmental organisations on measuring and communicating the economic value of peace.



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