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West Africa Coastal Areas Management Program



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Human Interventions and Climate Change Impacts on the West African Coastal Sand River

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A Preliminary Quantitative Assessment

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A Preliminary Quantitative Assessment

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1210349-000

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Human Interventions and Climate Change Impacts on the West African Coastal Sand River

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Summary

The West African coastal barrier is maintained by a strong wave-driven longshore transport of sand which can be compared to a “sand river”. This sand originates from rivers and from large coastal sand deposits. Today, however, much of the fluvial sand is retained behind river dams and/or interrupted at several locations by port jetties. As a result the sandy coastal barrier is eroding almost everywhere.

The aim of this study is to derive a large-scale sediment budget analysis for the following countries: Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo and Benin. This estimation is carried out using a consistent approach based on numerical modelling. In particular, the model chain is based on: Delft3D-WAVE models (one regional model + 15 nested models) and one UNIBEST-CL+ sediment transport and shoreline evolution model, covering the entire study area. Modelling results are validated by means of shoreline changes derived from historical satellite images and literature values. Scenario runs are carried out aiming at:

- Assessing the effects of the major anthropogenic interventions on the sediment budget and shoreline changes (i.e. port jetties and river dams) and with focus on possible trans-boundary implications between different countries
- Assessing the possible effect of climate change
- Creating awareness on the interdependency of any action taken along the coast and major rivers on the sediment budget and shoreline changes.

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1 Introduction

The West African coast mainly consists of a narrow low-lying coastal strip, over a distance of several thousand kilometers. This coastal strip is protected from the sea by a sandy barrier. Large cities have developed in the past decades in this low-lying back-barrier strip, such as Abidjan, Accra, Lome and Cotonou.

The West African coastal barrier is maintained by a strong wave-driven longshore transport of sand which can be compared to a “sand river”. This sand originates from rivers and from large coastal sand deposits. Today however, much of the fluvial sand is retained behind river dams and/or interrupted at several locations by port jetties. For these reasons the sandy coastal barrier is eroding at several locations; the highest rates of retreat (in the order of 10 m/year or more) occur near river mouths and port jetties, i.e. in the most urbanized areas. Sea-level rise enhances coastal retreat; it may be the major factor for coastal retreat by the end of the century. This will lead to the disruption of the coastal barrier if no erosion control measures are taken.

The problem of West African coastal erosion was investigated by UNDP in 1985. Since that time numerous studies have been completed (Tilmans et al., 1991; Degbe, 2009). In particular, UEMOA has undertaken a regional study for shoreline monitoring with the goal of developing a management plan for the coastal area (UEMOA, 2011). Main outcomes of this extensive study are qualitative maps identifying coastal stretches subjected to a different degree of risk, which can serve as a basis for drawing a large scale management plan from Mauritania to Benin. Egis International (2013) has recently carried out a similar study specifically for the Senegalese stretch of coast, collecting a large amount of GIS data provided by the Centre de Suivi Ecologique (CSE).

Although this information is extremely valuable as a first step assessment of the on-going erosion problems, those studies remain mainly qualitative. Moreover, most of the data is still not homogeneous and/or dispersed among various organizations in the different countries. This makes it very difficult to draw a consistent regional sediment plan and assess the trans-boundary effects of different anthropogenic actions.

For this reason, The World Bank has approached Deltares to derive a quantitative and consistent large-scale sediment budget study for the following countries: Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo and Benin. A sediment budget consists of quantitative information on the volumes of sand moving naturally along the coastline within the “sand river”, which are brought into the coastal systems by rivers and/or are removed from the coastal system due to mining and/or blocked by man-made structures (e.g. harbor jetties).

2 Objectives of the study

The aim of this study is to develop a consistent large-scale sediment budget for the West African Coast which would serve as a first step towards a sub-regional coastal zone management plan for the four targeted countries, i.e. Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, and Benin.

This result is achieved based on:

- Estimation, with a consistent approach and based on numerical modelling, of the annual alongshore transport capacity along the West African coast, from Ivory Coast to Benin. This allows a quantitative assessment of the effects of different human interventions on the coastal evolution and possible trans-boundary implications. The effect of climate change (i.e. increase in storm intensity, change in wave direction and sea level rise) on the large-scale sediment transport capacity is also analysed as part of this study.
- Creating awareness of the interdependency of any action taken along the coast, along the major rivers and on the watershed and its possible consequences. This involves communication and exchange of information and results with local organizations and relevant stakeholders. For this reason, two regional consultation and validation workshops are organized as part of this project. Also, a digital coastal viewer and a brochure are developed within the project, in order to facilitate the communication with local stakeholders.

3 Description of the physical system

3.1 Introduction

This chapter provides a comprehensive general picture of the natural conditions and processes along the west coast of Africa, more precisely for the countries of Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, and Benin. Physically, these coasts are all part of one natural system; the natural processes go across the borders freely, and so do the effects of human intervention. This interdependence requires an overall study of the system as a basis for local studies and for the coordination of human actions in the area.

The four countries are located in the Gulf of Guinea, and especially parts of the following geomorphological units: the concave coast between Cape Palmas and Cape Three Points in Ivory Coast and Ghana; the coast from Cape Three Points to the western extremity of the Niger Delta.

The processes and features which contribute to shape the coastline are very diverse: sediment characteristics, waves, currents, wind, hydrology, geology, subsidence and tectonic processes. On top of them, anthropogenic interventions and climate change have a strong influence on the littoral sediment budget and consequent shoreline changes.

This chapter provides a description of the physical system and the main processes affecting the coastal sediment budget and morphodynamic processes.

3.2 Geography

The relevant part of the coast of the Gulf of Guinea stretches over 1300 km between 8°W and 3°E around the 5°N parallel (Figure 3.1). To the south, it faces the entire South Atlantic Ocean; to the north, it is backed by the vast West African continent, from which rivers, large and small, descend into the ocean.

Many distributaries carry their water across the coast. By far the largest river of the four countries is the Volta in Ghana. Other smaller rivers, without discernible deltas, are the Sassandra, the Bandama and the Comoé in Ivory Coast, and the Mono and the Ouémé in Benin. Moreover, many other secondary rivers flow into the ocean between the mouths of the larger ones. In many cases, they discharge only during the wet season.

Generally, the coastal area is low, with the 100-m contour at a distance of 25-100 km inland. Steep coasts with small bays and narrow beaches exist between Cape Palmas and Fresco and from Cape Three Points almost to the mouth of the Volta. The remaining coast consists of low beach ridges, marshes and lagoons. The width of this zone is 5-10 km, except in the Volta River delta, where it is 25-30 km. Inlets connect the rivers, lagoons and marshes to the ocean.

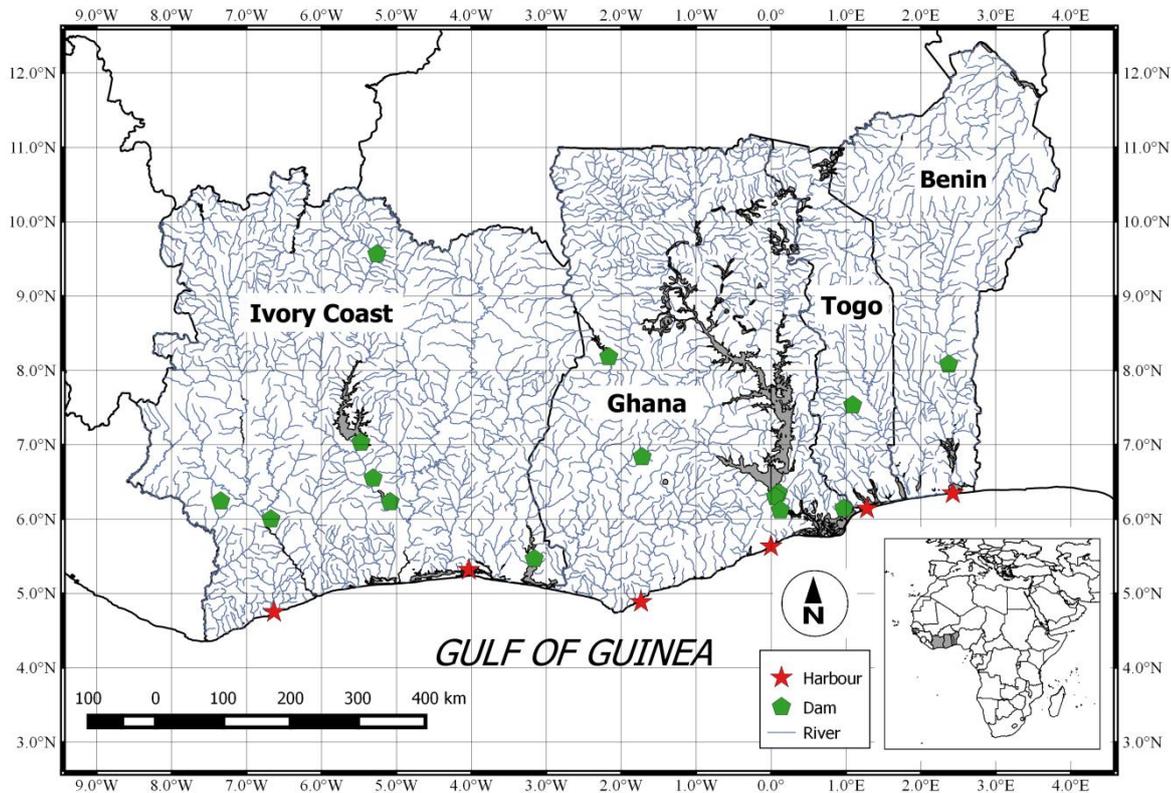


Figure 3.1 Political units of Ivory Coast, Ghana, Benin and Togo. The main rivers, ports, and river dams are also indicated.

3.3 Geology

The coast of West Africa formed at the beginning of the Cretaceous period, about 135 million years ago, when South America broke away from Africa. They gradually drifted apart to form the Atlantic Ocean, which had about half of its present width at the beginning of the Tertiary period at about 65 million years ago (Allersma and Tilmans, 1993).

Tertiary deposits occur behind and beneath the recent coastal plain. These sandy clays form a plateau 20 - 70m high. It is narrow along the coast of the Ivory Coast and wider between the Volta River and the Niger Delta. These formations form bare, soft sandstone cliffs on the coast between Sassandra and Fresco in Ivory Coast and to the east of Accra in Ghana (Figure 3.2).

The Pleistocene and recent deposits form the most seaward coastal zone, consisting of beaches, barriers, lagoons and marshes up to a few metres above sea level. The width of this strip varies between a few metres in small bays to a few kilometres along the sandy parts of the coast of Ivory Coast and of the coasts of Togo and Benin.

The continental shelf is narrow, with widths of 20 - 25 km along Ivory Coast and the coasts of Togo and Benin, and 20 - 80 km between Cape Three Points and the Volta Delta. A submarine canyon exists off the Canal de Vridi in Ivory Coast, the so-called "Trou Sans Fond".

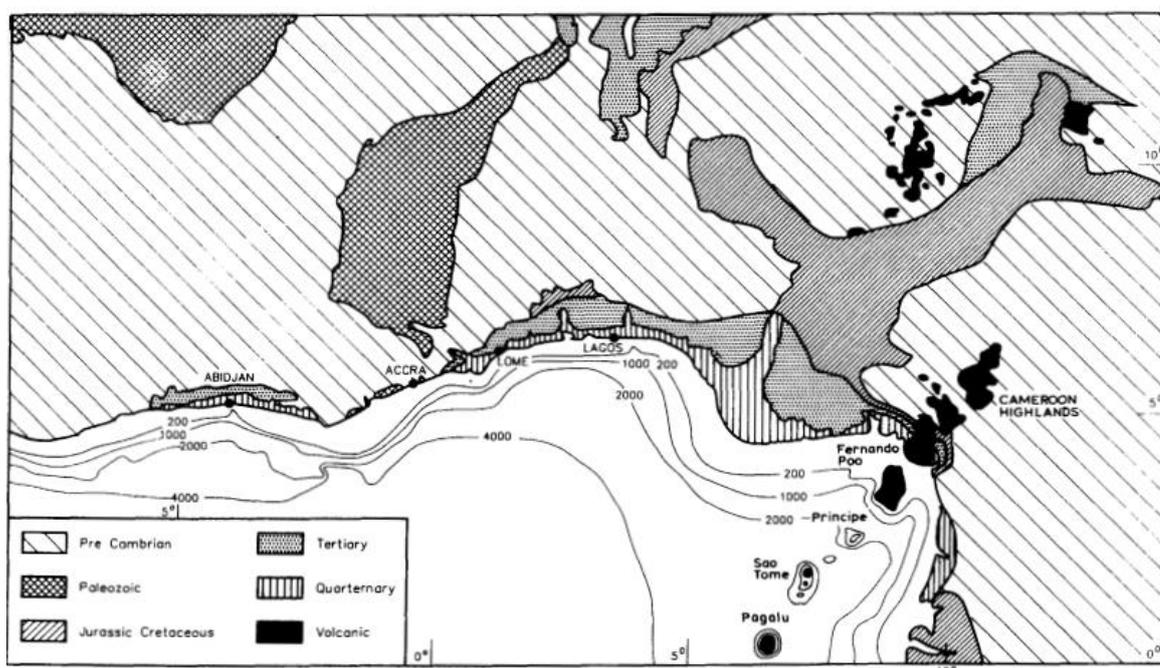


Figure 3.2 Regional geology. From Allersma and Tilmans (1993)

3.4 Climate and hydrology

The climate along the coast of West Africa is of an equatorial type, with considerable differences in the amount and seasonal distribution of the precipitation (Table 3.1, from Allersma and Tilmans, 1993). Rains of more than 2000 mm per year feed tropical rain forests along Ivory Coast and in West Ghana. There are two maxima (May-June and October-November). The eastern part of the coastline (i.e. between Takoradi and Cotonou) is considerably drier than the western part (Figure 3.3).

Table 3.1 Precipitation (in mm) along the West African Coast (from Allersma and Tilmans, 1993)

	Abidjan	Takoradi	Accra	Cotonou
January	31	31	16	22
February	56	38	37	37
March	114	80	73	94
April	167	102	82	129
May	312	250	145	214
June	683	288	193	418
July	274	87	49	161
August	38	35	16	47
September	55	48	40	85
October	194	131	80	169
November	174	77	38	54
December	113	38	18	21
Yearly total	2211	1205	787	1451

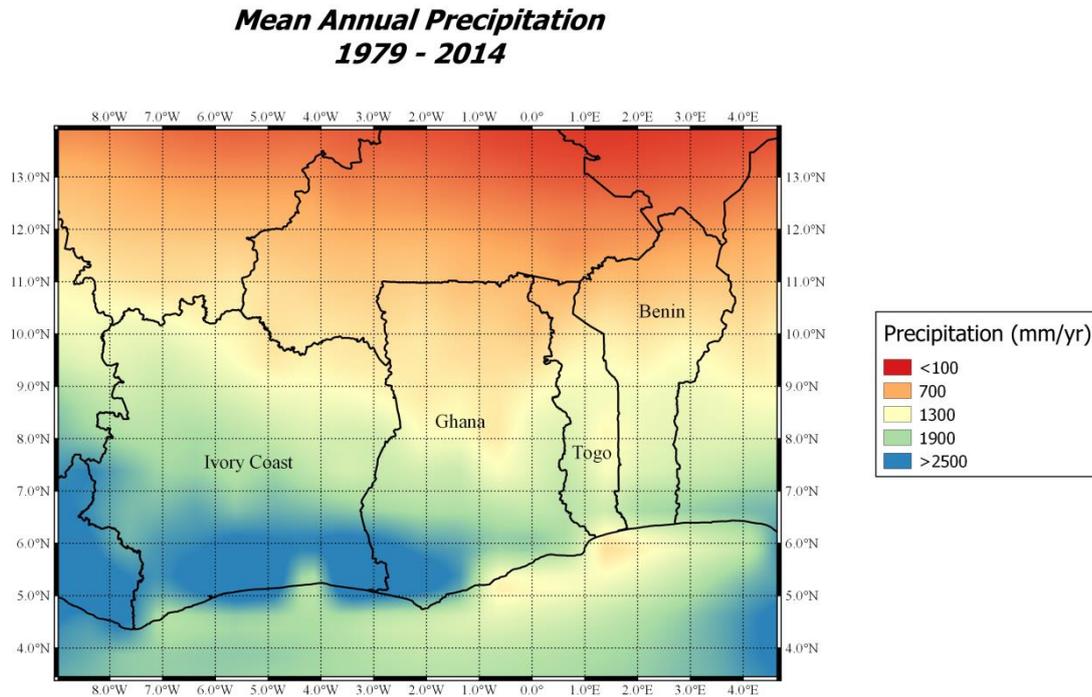


Figure 3.3 Mean annual precipitation computed between 1979 and 2014 (source: <http://www.earth2observe.eu/>).

Variations in temperatures are small. The average daily maximum varies between 27 and 29° in August-September and 31 and 33 ° in February-March. The average daily minima are from 21-22 ° in August to 23-24 ° in March.

3.5 Oceanography

3.5.1 Ocean currents

The West African coast faces the South Atlantic Ocean. The continental shelf is narrow, and no offshore islands protect the coast against oceanic forces.

The Guinea current flows offshore from west to east as a continuation of the Equatorial Counter Current in the middle part of the Atlantic Ocean (Figure 3.4). Its velocity varies between 1 m/s (max. 1.5 m/s) in summer, and 0.5 m/s (max. 0.75 m/s) in winter (Allersma and Tilmans, 1993). It becomes weaker in the east. The current is reinforced by the monsoon and can be modified by the harmattan (northeasterly wind which blows from the Sahara Desert over the West African subcontinent into the Gulf of Guinea between the end of November and the middle of March). Generally, this ocean current is weak near the coast, except near promontories. Upwelling of cold (22-25 °C) water occurs especially off Ghana in summer and in the case of the harmattan. Otherwise, the sea temperatures vary between 27 and 29 °C.

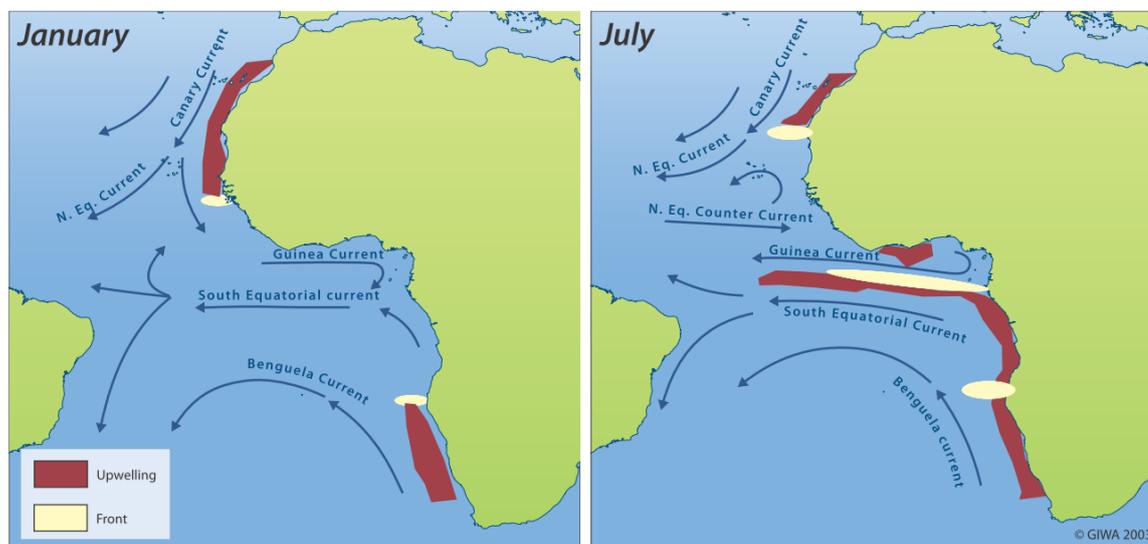


Figure 3.4 Surface currents in the Atlantic Ocean. From Wauthy, 1983

3.5.2 Tides

The semi-diurnal tide occurs almost simultaneously along the relevant part of the coast, with an average range of about 1 m (Table 3.2). The coastal currents caused by these tides are weak. The tide wave is modified (reduced height, deformation, retardation) when it enters lagoons and estuaries. Stronger tidal streams occur only in inlets and estuaries (Allersma and Tilmans, 1993)

Table 3.2 Tides along the West African Coast (Allersma and Tilmans, 1993)

	Tidal range (m)			Phase
	Neap	Mean	Spring	
Canal de Vridi	0.42	0.58	0.84	140°
Takoradi	0.58	0.90	1.22	107°
Accra	0.62	0.94	1.26	107°
Tema	0.64	0.96	1.28	107°
Lomé	0.68	1.00	1.32	108°
Cotonou	0.68	0.98	1.28	133°

3.5.3 Wind and Waves

The wind is a persistent south-westerly monsoon modified by land and sea breezes in the coastal area. Wind speeds vary between 0-5 m/s (night) and 1.5-2 m/s (day) along the Ivory Coast and increase to 0.5-2.5 m/s and 2-6 m/s towards Nigeria. Storms are very rare. Weaker line squalls with heavy rain and strong winds of short duration occur occasionally. During winter, there are some occurrences of the hot, dry, north-easterly harmattan, when the inter-tropical convergence zone deviates from its normal southerly position at 5-7°N.

The waves reaching the coast are of two distinctly different origins: wind-waves generated by the weak, local monsoon; and swell-waves generated by storms in the southern part of the Atlantic Ocean. The locally generated waves rarely exceed 1.25 m in height; the maximum period is 3-4 s. Generally, they are weaker and are generated from the south-west. Storms occur around the 'roaring forties' throughout the year, but their violence peaks in the winter. The periods of these swells vary between 8 and 20 s, with an average of 12-13 s. Their

average height in deep water is 1-1.5 m, although heights of 2-3 m and more can occur. They propagate from directions between south and south-west.

Almar et al (2015) focused on the characterization of the wave climate that governs longshore sediment transport and the ensuing pattern of shoreline evolution of this coastal zone. Similarly to our study, Almar et al. used the 1979–2012 ERA-Interim hindcast to understand the temporal dynamics of longshore sediment transport. By using a simple empirical formula they have separated the respective effect of swell waves and wind waves on the total alongshore sediment transport. Given the predominance of swell waves in the region, they have estimated that the swell waves contribution to the total alongshore transport is an order of magnitude larger than that one of wind waves.

A more in-depth analysis of wind and wave data, used as basis for the numerical modelling work is given in Section 4.3.

3.6 Morphology

The West African coast shows distinct features. First, the Ivory Coast displays a concave shape between Cape Palmas and Cape Three Points. Its western part is rocky, and from Fresco a sandy beach stretches almost to the eastern extremity. Secondly, the coast from Ghana to Benin displays a similar concave shape between Cape Three Points and the western extremity of the Niger Delta. The delta of the Volta River forms an interruption. Here, also, the western part is rocky and beaches prevail from the Volta Delta eastward.

The beaches along this coast (Almar et al., 2014; Laibi et al., 2014) are mostly in the 'reflective-to-intermediate' state classes (Gourlay parameter, $\Omega = 1$, following Short, 1984; Relative Tide Range RTR ~ 1 , Masselink and Short, 1993), and often exhibit an alongshore-uniform low-tide terrace and a steep reflective upper beach face.

3.6.1 Ivory Coast

The Ivorian oceanic zone is bordered to the north by the Gulf of Guinea shoreline stretching from the Cape of Palmes (7°30' W) and the Cape of Three Points (2°W). The shoreline is 566 km long and it is characterized by a series of sandy beaches forming a wide arch opened to the Atlantic Ocean. It can be subdivided into three sections based on the orientation with respect to the north: 70° from Tabou to Sassandra, 85° from Sassandra to Abidjan and 100° from Abidjan to the Cape of Three Points (Figure 3.5) (Le Loeuff and Marchal, 1993).

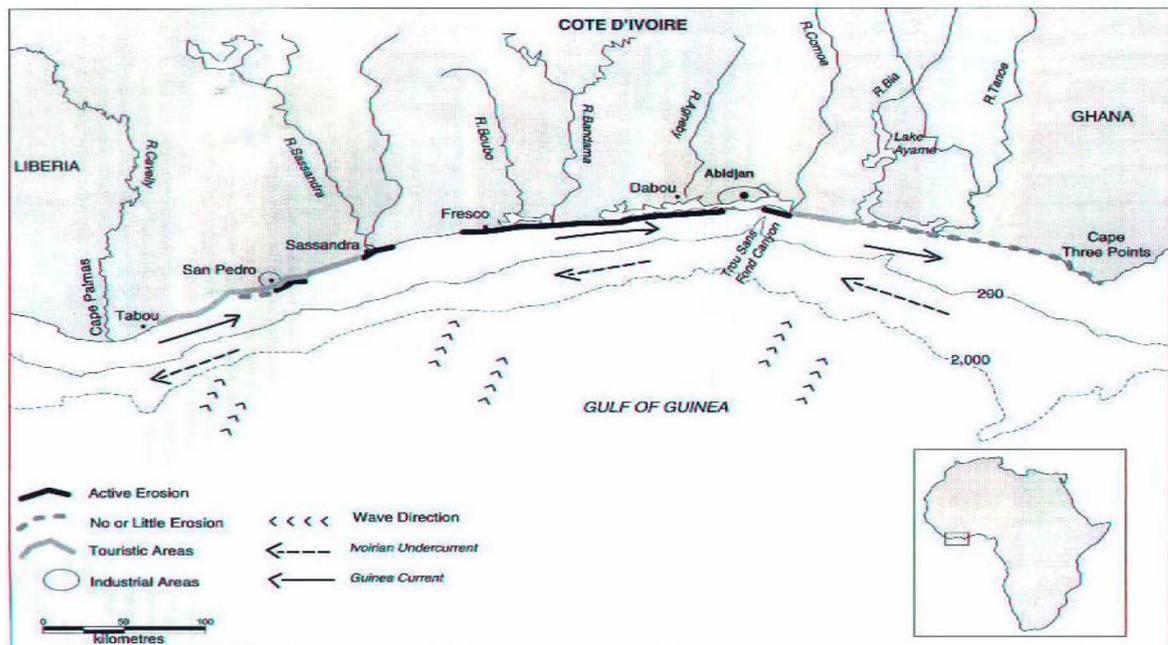


Figure 3.5 The Coastal Zone of Ivory Coast. From Abe et al., 2002

To the West of Fresco, a rocky coast runs practically parallel WSW-ENE. This coast receives a small supply of sediments, which is less than the littoral transport capacity. The Pleistocene ridges, perpendicular to the coast, now appear as rocky promontories. The valleys in between are closed by sandy bars, with lagoons forming in the lower parts of the valleys. Because of the strong eastward sand transport, the short beaches fit against the eastern promontories and form curved spiral beaches behind the western promontories. Essentially, this coast is eroding.

To the East of Fresco, the shoreline is a flat coast, with sandy and monotonous structures of sedimentary origin (Quaternary). Several lagoons (submersed fluvial basins) are separated from the sea by a littoral bar, formed and maintained by waves and currents.

At the southern border of the oceanic area, a continental slope delimits a narrow continental shelf with a width of 25-30 km and a surface area of about 16,000 km². The continental slope is generally smooth but it starts sharply increasing at -120 to -150 m depth (Martin, 1973). A major morphological feature, the Trou Sans Fond canyon, cuts the continental shelf in front of Abidjan. Depths over 1000 m are rapidly reached at few kilometres offshore.

3.6.2 Ghana

Off the eastern Ivory Coast, the continental margin is characterized by a narrow shelf, a broad slope cut by numerous canyons and a wide continental rise characterized by typical deep-sea fan structures (Masclé et al., 1988). Off Cape Three Points as far as Accra, and all along the Ghanaian Platform, a steep NE-SW trending slope extends on average less than 20 km wide. Between these sectors there is an elongated rise (the Ivory Coast-Ghana Ridge, about 50 km wide), exhibiting a NE-SW trend and bounded to the south by a steep narrow slope.

Ly (1981) subdivided the coast of Ghana into three parts: western, central, and eastern coasts (Figure 3.6). The continental shelf west of Cape Three Points is a very flat and featureless surface, 40 km wide. In the central and eastern coasts this shelf represents a strip of

variable width. It is narrow, 22 km wide, at the eastern side near the mouth of the Volta River, and broadens up to 100 km just east of Cape Three Points where irregularities in bathymetry are represented by several peaks of rocky outcrops observed from seismic surveys.

The western coast is a depositional, low-energy beach. The central coast is composed of discontinuous, eroding beaches separated by rocky headlands, similar to those encountered in the rocky coast of Ivory Coast. Except for a few outcrops of friable sandstones and shales, the rocks are usually resistant to wave attack and are thus not a significant source of sand to the beach budget. Beaches in the central coast result from the sand filling between the rocky headlands and older sand cliffs. The eastern coast is a continuous, sandy shoreline and is characterized by an eroding delta.

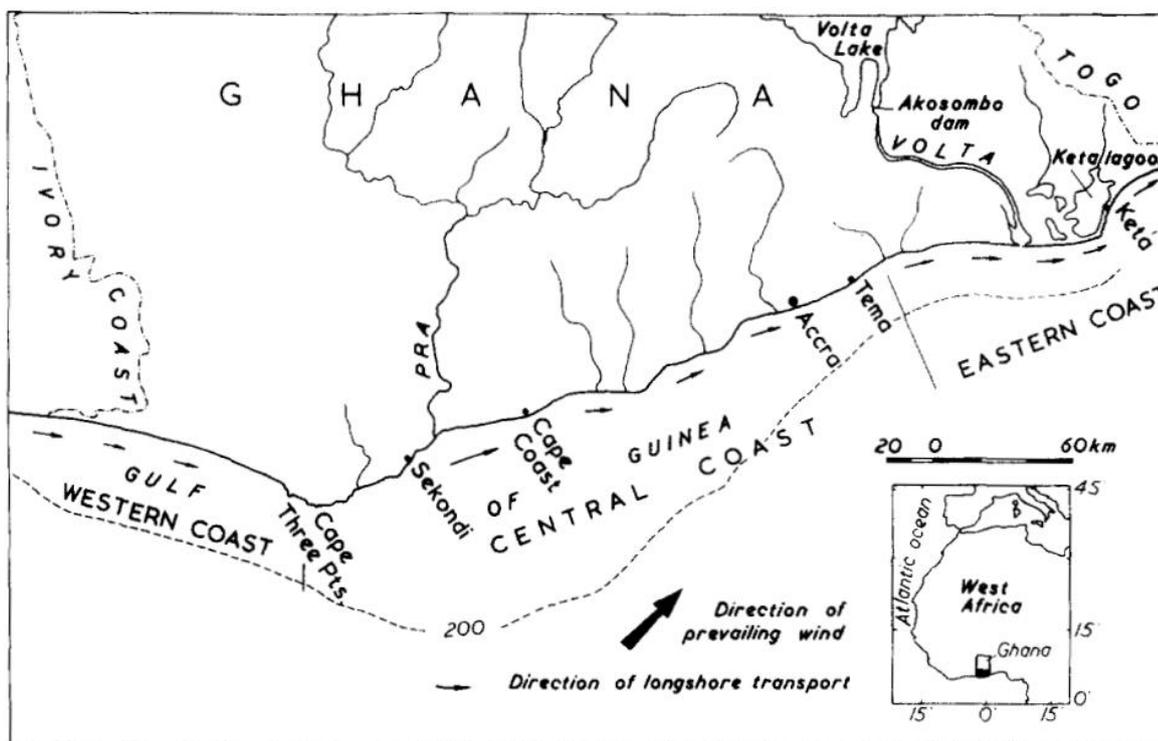


Figure 3.6 Subdivision of the Ghana coast. From Ly (1981)

3.6.3 Bight of Benin, including Eastern Ghana, Togo and Benin

The coast of eastern Ghana and Togo (Figure 3.7) is part of a major regional sand barrier complex in the Gulf of Guinea. A major part of the sediments on the eastern coast of Ghana derived from the main Volta River. This river drains various terrains of sandstones, shales, mudstones, granites, basalts, andesites, quartzites, schists and gneisses.

The greater part of its supply of sand has been accumulating between its mouth and a point eastward from Cape St Paul, where the littoral transport almost ceases because the south-westerly waves cannot reach this area. Active erosion has been occurring more north-eastwards, where the transport capacity increases and feeds the coast of Togo and Benin.

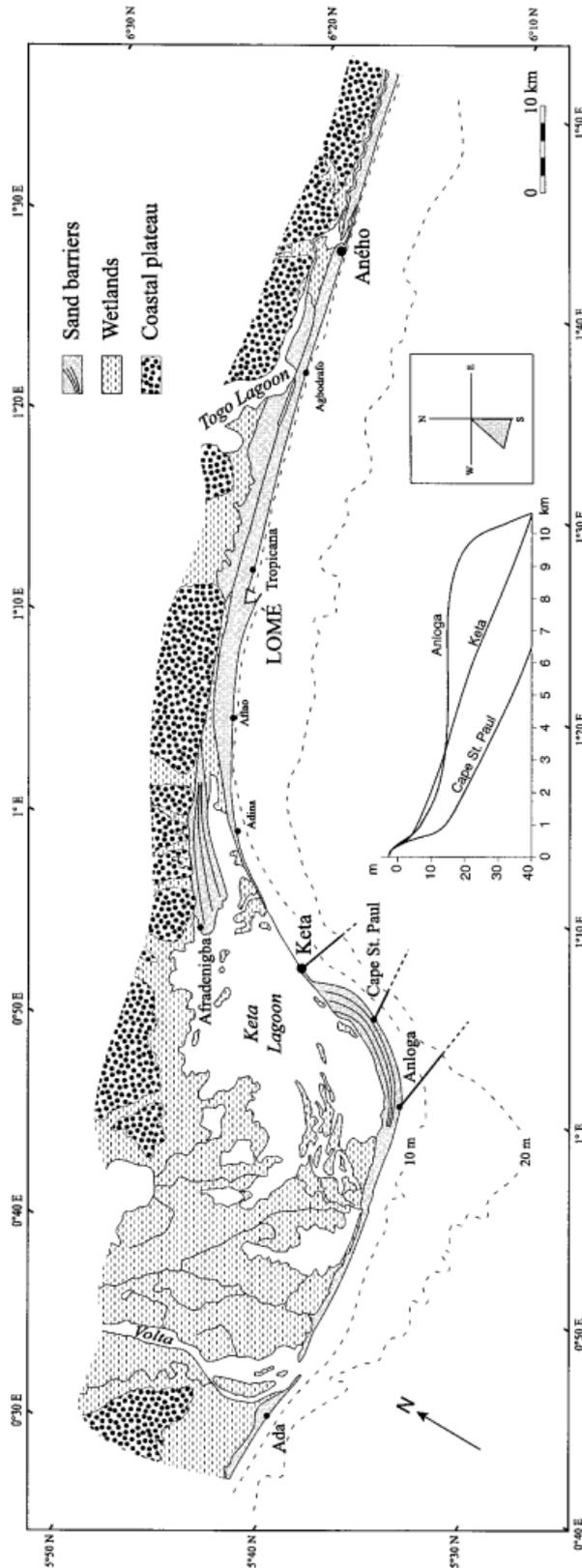


Figure 3.7 The barrier-lagoon system of eastern Ghana and Togo. Insets show shoreface profiles of the western Volta Delta and year-round wave approach window. From Anthony and Blivi (1999)

Kaki et al. (2001) discuss the sedimentary dynamics and coastal environment of the Beninese coast east of the embouchure of the river Mono, distinguishing the following geomorphologic features: plateaux of laterite, yellow sand, swampy areas, grey and brown sand, and urbanized areas (see Figure 3.8)

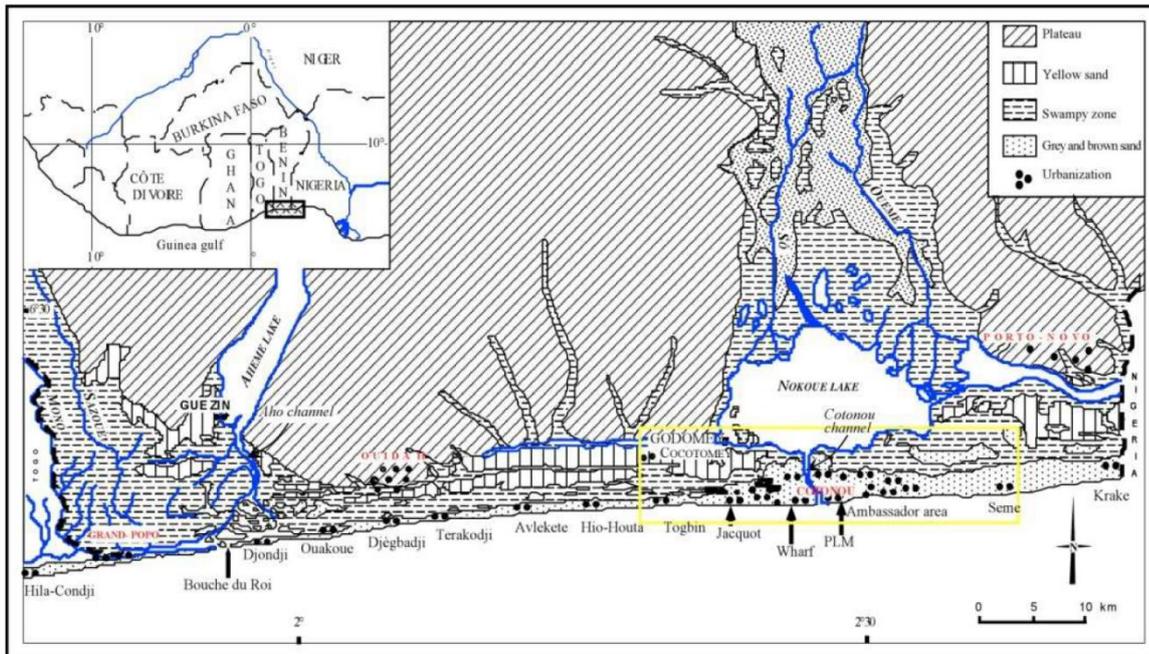


Figure 3.8 Geomorphologic map of the coastal area of Benin. From Kaki et al., 2001

The beaches in Togo and Benin present a longshore-uniform low tide terrace (LTT) and a steep and rather alongshore-uniform lower beachface and persistent upper beachface cusped morphology cut into a well-developed berm. The grain size is medium to coarse ($D_{50} = 0.6 \text{ mm}$). An eastward littoral drift of 0.8 to 1.5 million m^3/yr has been reported in the literature (Anthony and Blivi, 1999), driven by persistent oblique long swells year-round.

3.7 Rivers and streams

3.7.1 Introduction

The small coastal rivers carry little water during the long dry season (Table 3.3). The larger ones show a peak around June-November and low discharges during the rest of the year. Evaporation in the coastal lagoons and marshes takes its toll and reduces the outflow to the sea even more.

Table 3.3 Discharges (in $m^3 s^{-1}$) of the main rivers within the study area
(<ftp://daac.ornl.gov/data/rivdis/STATIONS.HTM>)

	Sassandra	Bandama	Comoe	Pra	Volta	Mono	Oueme
	Station: Semien Period: 1979 - 1983 Lat: 7.71N Lon: 7.06W	Station: Tiassale Period: 1979 - 1983 Lat: 5.88N Lon: 4.81W	Station: Aniassue Period: 1979 - 1983 Lat: 6.65N Lon: 3.68W	Station: Daboasi Period: 1979 - 1983 Lat: 5.13N Lon: 1.65W	Station: Senchi Period: 1936 - 1979 Lat: 6.20N Lon: 0.10E	Station: Athieme Period: 1944 - 1984 Lat: 6.92N Lon: 1.67E	Station: Bonou Period: 1948 - 1984 Lat: 6.90N Lon: 2.45E
	Mean Q (m3/s)	Mean Q (m3/s)	Mean Q (m3/s)	Mean Q (m3/s)	Mean Q (m3/s)	Mean Q (m3/s)	Mean Q (m3/s)
Jan	44.0	65.8	2.6	54.3	267.5	2.6	7.1
Feb	27.0	76.3	0.6	40.0	308.7	1.6	3.4
Mar	15.0	72.7	0.9	60.5	278.4	2.3	3.4
Apr	42.4	113.8	1.5	98.3	309.8	3.6	4.3
May	55.5	133.8	9.8	160.0	279.0	8.0	8.8
Jun	91.7	244.3	62.7	328.0	404.8	55.2	51.3
Jul	249.8	216.8	85.0	388.0	750.3	162.1	168.0
Aug	558.0	215.8	144.3	265.3	1508.9	283.5	395.3
Sep	675.3	316.7	380.7	292.9	3743.4	403.7	610.2
Oct	330.7	270.5	282.9	345.9	3832.7	255.6	591.4
Nov	149.3	124.5	60.6	228.1	1118.5	59.1	188.6
Dec	60.2	85.2	11.1	102.4	465.8	12.6	25.1

3.7.2 Ivory Coast

Three major river systems follow meandering courses from north to south of Ivory Coast, draining into the Gulf of Guinea. From west to east these are the Sassandra, Bandama, and Comoé, all relatively untamed rivers navigable only short distances inland from the coast. In the north, many smaller tributaries are dry streambeds between rains.

The Sassandra River Basin has a length of 650 km and rises in the high ground of the north, where the Tiamba River joins the FéréDougouba River, which flows from the Guinea highlands. It is joined by the Bagbé, Bafing, Nzo, Lobo, and Davo rivers and winds through shifting sandbars to form a narrow estuary, which is navigable for about eighty kilometres inland from the port of Sassandra.

The Bandama River, often referred to as the Bandama Blanc, is the longest in the country, joining the Bandama Rouge (the Marahoué), Solomougou, Kan, and Nzi Rivers over its 800-kilometre course. This large river system drains most of central Ivory Coast before it flows into the Tagba Lagoon opposite Grand-Lahou. In the rainy season small craft navigate the Bandama for fifty or sixty kilometres inland.

Easternmost of the main rivers, the Comoé, formed by the Leraba and Gomonaba, rises in the Sikasso Plateau of Burkina Faso. It flows within a narrow 700-kilometre basin and receives the Kongo, and Iringou tributaries before winding among the coastal sandbars and emptying into the Ebrié Lagoon near Grand-Bassam. The Comoé is navigable for vessels of light draft for about fifty kilometres to Alépé.

3.7.3 Ghana

Ghana is drained by a large number of streams and rivers. In addition, there are a number of coastal lagoons, the huge man-made Lake Volta, and Lake Bosumtwi, southeast of Kumasi and which has no outlet to the sea. In the wetter south and southwest areas of Ghana, the river and stream pattern is denser. Several streams and rivers also dry up or experience reduced flow during the dry seasons of the year, while flooding during the rainy seasons is common.

Extending about 1,600 kilometers in length and draining an area of about 388,000 square kilometers, of which about 158,000 square kilometers lie within Ghana, the Volta and its tributaries, such as the Afram River and the Oti River, drain more than two thirds of the country. The Volta River maintains an estuary, being 15-50 km long, longitudinal, and funnel-shaped almost perpendicular to the coast. The shape is in equilibrium with the tidal flows, the river discharges and (near the coast) wave action.

On the other side of the Kwahu Plateau from Lake Volta we find the Pra River, a 240 km long river which is the easternmost and largest of the three principal rivers that drain the area south of the Volta divide. Rising south of the Kwahu Plateau and flowing southward, the Pra enters the Gulf of Guinea east of Takoradi.

3.7.4 Togo

Approximately 400 km (250 mi) long, and draining a basin of about 20,000 km², the Mono River rises between the town of Sokodé and the border with Benin, and flows south. Along the southern portion of the river towards its mouth, it forms the international boundary between Togo and Benin. The river drains into the Bight of Benin through an extensive system of brackish lagoons and lakes, including Lake Togo.

3.7.5 Benin

The Oueme River (510 km length) drains most of southern Benin. The Ouémé rises in the Atakora Mountains and flows southward; near its mouth it divides into two branches, one draining to the east into Porto-Novo Lagoon and the other to the west into Nokoué Lake.

3.8 Sediment balance

A sediment balance is basically a mass balance of inputs and outputs of sediment for a predefined area, which gives insight into the relative importance of various sources and losses/sinks. By determining the governing processes and quantifying sediment volumes in the coastal zone, an appropriate long-term sediment management strategy can be developed.

Main sources or sinks of sediment are: alongshore sediment transport (littoral transport), cross-shore transport, sediment input from rivers, wind transport, offshore losses (e.g. due to the presence of canyons), sediment nourishments, dredging, sediment input in tidal inlets and relative sea level rise (Figure 3.9). In this section, the two main sources of sediment for the West Africa coastline are described: rivers and littoral transport. These two sources are not only the most important, but also are the ones that have been most largely modified by the anthropogenic interventions which have taken place during the years (section 3.9).

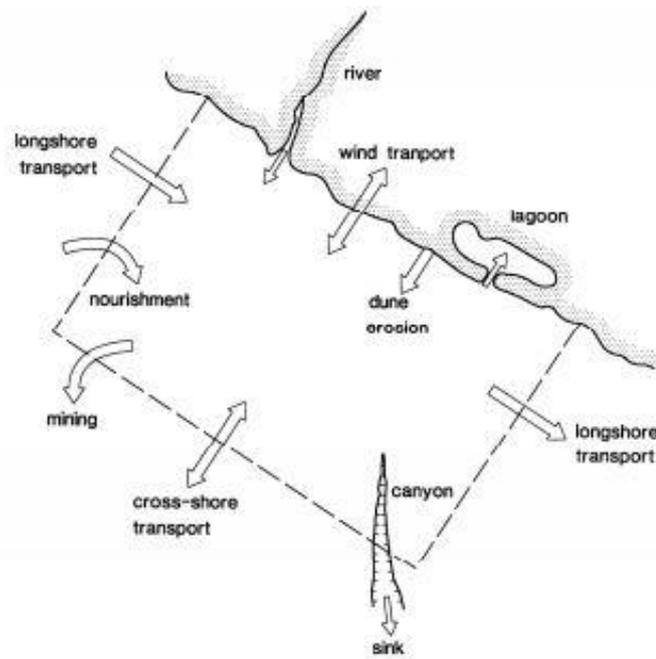


Figure 3.9 Coastal sediment budget (www.simplecoast.com).

3.8.1 Supply by rivers

Relatively little is known about the sediment discharges from rivers feeding the West African Coast. Information about a few local rivers, and about other areas with similar conditions, suggests sediment yields of 30-80 metric tons/km² per year, depending on the area of the catchment and the topographical, geological and climatological situation. Using this knowledge, estimates have been made of the sediment loads of the main rivers and of the small coastal catchments by Allersma and Tilmans (1993); see Table 3.4. Some erosion from cliffs has been included, in the table identified as "Coastal". The percentage of sand in the total load has been estimated at 10-15%, depending on the conditions. Sand and gravels are in general the main building material for beaches. Values in bold represent the total contribution to the coastal sediment budget for each country.

Table 3.4 Holocene sediment supply by rivers and fluvial erosion of hinterland. From Allersma and Tilmans (1993)

Catchments	Catchment (1000 km ²)	Length of coast (km)	Yield (t/km ² per year)	Load (1000 t per year)
Cavally	34	-	70	2400
Coastal	10	170	50	500
Sassandra	66	-	70	4600
Coastal	13	120	50	700
Bandama	91	-	70	6400
Coastal	16	135	50	800
Comoé	78	-	60	4700
Coastal	22	120	60	1300
Coastal	10	75	70	700
Ivory Coast	340	620	65	22100
Coastal	2	60	70	200
Pra	19	-	70	1400
Coastal	17	255	40	800
Ghana Coast	38	315	63	2400
Volta	390	-	40	15000
Coastal	12	150	40	500
Mono	21	-	60	1300
Coastal	5	80	60	300
Ouémé	42	-	50	2100
Coastal	6	90	50	300
Bight of Benin	476	320	50	19500

3.8.2 Littoral transport

While rivers carry most of the sediment to the coast, littoral transport is the main mode of displacement of sand along the coast. Fine sediments are carried in suspension. The coarse material forms the beach and the adjacent bottom of the sea. The mud settles in less turbulent waters, offshore and in lagoons and swamps.

The littoral transport of sand is mainly caused by the incessant action of the waves, particularly Atlantic swell. Its persistence and power lead to high rates of transport. Alongshore gradients in littoral transport lead to local accretion and erosion along the coast.

Allersma and Tilmans (1993) provided information on the potential littoral transport based on information on the relative angle between coastal orientation and offshore wave direction and wave height. The information is summarized in Table 3.5, showing very large alongshore sediment transport rates up to more than a million m³/year and a general transport direction from west to east.

Table 3.5 Observed Littoral Transports and Directions of Coasts and Waves, from Allersma and Tilmans (1993)

Location	Transport (million m ³ per year)	Normal to coast (°E)	Wave direction (°E)	Angle of wave approach φ (°E)
Western Canal de Vridi	0.8	172	200	28
Eastern Canal de Vridi	0.4	188	200	12
Eastern Ivory Coast	0	192	200	8
Lomé Port	1.0 -1.2	160	210	50

Estimates of alongshore littoral transport based on historical shoreline development at different locations within the study area have been computed as part of this study and they are presented in Appendix A. In particular, estimates have been derived for: Abidjan, Keta Lagoon, Lomé port, Cotonou port.

A summary is shown in Table 3.6. These estimates of littoral transport have been used for the model calibration and validation in Chapter 6.

Table 3.6 Net alongshore transport and rates of shoreline development for the four case studies: Abidjan, Keta Lagoon, Lomé port and Cotonou port (Appendix A).

Case-study Parameter	Abidjan / Port Bouet (West of port)	Keta Lagoon	Lomé port	Cotonou port
Year of construction	before 1985	Groyne Field: 2003	Extension: 2013 Port: 1968	Extension west: 2006/2012 Port: 1960-1962
Length of structure (m)	350	-	200	300
Sediment transport ($10^6 \text{ m}^3/\text{yr}$)* - Shoreline analysis** - Literature	0.4 – 0.8 0.6 – 0.8	0.71 0.75 (Anthony and Blivi, 1999)	1 1 – 1.5 (Volta – Lomé; Anthony and Blivi, 1999)	0.95 (west of port) 1.25 (east of port) (Delft Hydraulics, 1992)
Shoreline change (m/yr) - Shoreline analysis - Literature	5 – 10 5	5 – 10 5.5 +/- 0.4 (Anthony and Blivi, 1999)	52 30-35 (Anthony and Blivi, 1999)	15 (west of port) -15 (east of port) (Delft Hydraulics, 1992)
Affected stretch (km)	10 - 15	~13 km	~ 4 km	10 - 15
Sediment characteristics - D_{50} (mm) - D_{90} (mm)	0.4 mm	0.6 (Anthony and Blivi, 1999)		0.25 0.30
Mitigating measures		Keta sea defence project (sea wall and nourishments)		Groynes (since 2013)

* All net sediment transports eastward directed

** Based on active height of 10 m

3.9 Anthropogenic interventions

Human interventions have taken place during the years leading to a modification of the original coastal sediment budget. In this section, the most important interventions which have impacted this sediment balance are described: river dams and ports.

In addition to those, other form of anthropogenic intervention may modify the coastal sediment budget as for example: changes in land use in the river basins, local dredging and dumping of sand, coastal defences (e.g. groynes, seawalls, nourishments), etc.

3.9.1 River dams

River dams affect the coastal sediment budget in different ways. Rivers tend to carry sediment down the river beds, allowing for the formation of depositional features such as river deltas, alluvial fans, braided rivers, and beaches. The construction of a river dam first of all will tend to block the flow of sediment downstream, leading to downstream erosion which can extend for tens of kilometres below a dam. River dams also modify the hydrograph of the rivers, leading to a decrease of the peaks in river flows and an increase of the base flow. Peaks in river flows are generally the ones bringing the largest contribution of sediment downstream the rivers and, in particular, the coarsest fraction. This sediment fraction is often the most important building component of many beaches (Giardino, et al., 2015). The impact of dam development on the downstream river morphology is described, among others, in Brandt et al. (2000), Beck and Basson (2003), Khan et al. (2014).

Large dams were built in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s to control the major rivers of Ivory Coast (Table 3.7). These reservoirs (now referred to as lakes) bear the names of the dams: Buyo on the Sassandra, Kossou and Taabo on the Bandama, and Ayamé on the small Bia River in the southeast. Lake Kossou is the largest of these, occupying more than 1600 square kilometres.

In Ghana, the most important dams are Akosombo, Barekese, Bui and Kpong. The Akosombo Dam (operational since 1961) on the Volta River have suffered a reduction in direct fluvial supply, yielding in erosion of the downdrift delta-mouth barrier and shoreface deposits to fulfil the strong drift requirements (Anthony and Blivi, 1999). The Barakese Dam supplies about 80% of the potable water for the entire city of Kumasi and it is located on the Ofin River. The Bui Dam is a 400-megawatt hydroelectric project. It is the newest dam in Ghana and is the second largest hydroelectric plant after Akosombol. Kpong has a capacity of 160 megawatts and is located on the lower Volta River.

The Mono River is dammed 160 km from its mouth by the Nangbeto Dam, a partnership between Benin and Togo completed in 1987. Studies have reported economic benefits from the dam, including tourism and fishing in the lake behind it. The dam's construction displaced between 7,600 and 10,000 people, however, and studies indicate that it has substantially modified the ecology of the lagoon system at the river's mouth by reducing the natural seasonal fluctuations in river flow. A second dam project, Adjarala Dam, was proposed to be built on the river between Nangbeto and the river's mouth during the 1990s, but has not been constructed as of yet.

In Benin, the largest water storage, Ilauko Dam, has a capacity of 23,500 m³ and is used for irrigation of a sugar cane plantation.

Table 3.7 Overview of the main river dams within the study area.

Name of dam	Country	River	Sub-basin	"Operational since"	Reservoir capacity (million m3)	Reservoir area (thousand m2)	Latitude	Longitude
Ayme II	Ivory Coast	Bia	Comoe	1964	69	1,000	5.467	-3.161
Buyo	Ivory Coast	Sassandra	Sassandra	1980	8,300	895,000	6.241	-7.346
Kossou	Ivory Coast	Bandama	Bandama	1972	27,675	1,780,000	7.031	-5.474
Taabo	Ivory Coast	Bandama	Bandama	1979	621	29,700	6.231	-5.084
Akosombo	Ghana	Volta	Volta	1961	147,960	8,482,250	6.350	0.100
Barekese	Ghana	Ofin	Pra	1969	34	6,400	6.836	-1.721
Bui	Ghana	Volta	Mouhoun	2013	12,570	444,000	8.182	-2.166
Kpong	Ghana	Volta	Volta	1981	200	25,200	6.119	0.125
Nangbeto	Togo	Mono	Mono	1987	1,710	180,000	7.533	1.089
Ilauko	Benin	Ilauko	Oueme	1979	24		8.082	2.371

3.9.2 Ports

The general effect of port moles on the shoreline evolution is to block (part of) the alongshore transport, inducing accretion at the upstream side of the structure and erosion on the leeside (Figure 3.10).

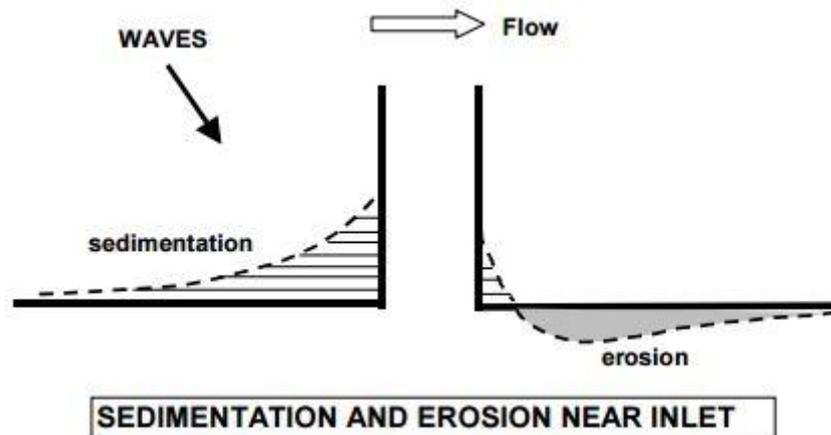


Figure 3.10 Effects of a cross-shore structure (e.g. port jetties) on shoreline development (Van Rijn, 2005a).

In addition, more complex two-dimensional effects can be observed in proximity of the ports (Figure 3.11). In general, large erosion is expected seaward of front of the port moles, due to the increased velocity of the water movement. This increase in velocity is caused by the fact that the current near shore is pushed out towards the sea by the extended port moles. Also, additional turbulence is created at the head of the port mole, leading to additional sediment in suspension.

On the upstream side of the structure the general sedimentation trend can be interrupted by local erosion hotspots. The sedimentation directly at the leeside of the structure is caused by a decrease in velocity and a reduced wave stirring effect. Further away, erosion occurs.

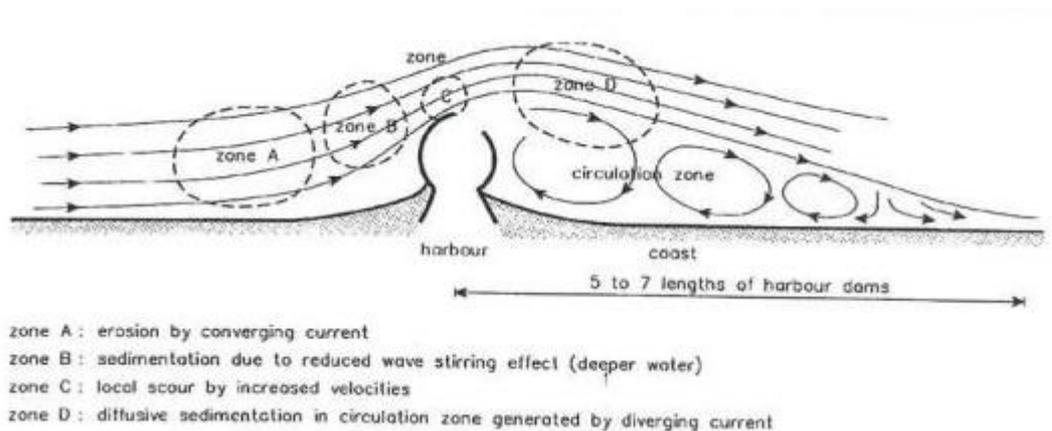


Figure 3.11 Erosion and sedimentation areas near port jetties (Van Rijn, 1995).

Several ports have been built during the years along the coast of Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo and Benin. An overview of the main port is shown in Table 3.8.

Table 3.8 Overview of the main ports within the study area.

Anthropogenic interventions	Country	Date of construction
San-Pédro port	Ivory Coast	1970
Abidjan Port	Ivory Coast	1951
Takoradi Port	Ghana	1928
Takoradi Port extension	Ghana	1955
Tema Port	Ghana	1961
Lomé Port	Togo	1968
Cotonou Port	Benin	1963

Ivory Coast greatly contributed to developing maritime transport by building two ports on its seaside namely, autonomous port of Abidjan, sometimes referred to as "lung of Ivorian economy", and the San-Pédro port.

San-Pédro is a port town located southwest of Ivory Coast. Until the mid-1960s, San-Pédro was a tiny fishing village of fewer than 100 inhabitants, but, following the start of port construction there in 1968, it rapidly grew into a major town. Upon completion of the port in 1970, San-Pédro became the nation's second largest port (after the capital, Abidjan).

Port activity is concentrated at Abidjan (West Africa's largest container port), which has facilities that include a fishing port and equipment for handling containers. The autonomous port of Abidjan was built in 1951. The autonomous port of Abidjan is ranked first in West Africa and second in Africa right behind Burdan port in South Africa. The deepening of the entrance channel implied a modification of the hydrodynamics in the Ebrié lagoon, resulting into the closure of the Comoé inlet at Grand Bassam, 40 km east to Abidjan.

The Takoradi port and the Tema port are the only ports in Ghana. The Takoradi port is located in the industrial district of Sekondi-Takoradi and is the oldest port in Ghana, with construction of the port starting in 1921 and completed in 1928. The Tema port is located in the southeastern part of Ghana. The construction of the port started in the 1950s.

In Togo, modernization of the port of Lomé started in the 1960s, and a deepwater port, completed in 1968, maintains a 3,000,000-ton annual traffic. The construction of the deepwater port has affected the barrier system of the Bight of Benin (Anthony and Blivi, 1999).

Mitigation of coastline retreat up to date has consisted solely of emergency protection of the Lomé port Kpémé and Aného area. No structural mitigation (such as an artificial sediment bypass of the Lomé port) has been considered. In the Kpémé area, the coast is protected with groynes, whereas at Aného a combination of a seawall and groynes has been put in place.

The construction of Cotonou port started in the early 1960s. The area east of the port, called The Crique, has since then suffered from severe erosion, with maximum erosion rates of 10-15 m/ye (Tilmans et al., 1995).

3.9.3 Sand mining

Sand extraction is taking place at several locations in the region and for different purposes; in particular the construction sector is the most demanding one in terms of sand requirement and it has been increasing in recent years.

The practice of coastal sand mining is often very destructive and poorly managed (or unmanaged). This loss of beach and dune sand is a direct cause of erosion along many shorelines. In addition, it is very damaging to the beach fauna and flora, ruinous to beach aesthetics, and frequently causes environmental damage to other coastal ecosystems associated with the beach such as wetlands. A major impact of beach sand mining is the loss of protection against storm surges and wave attack.

Sand extraction becomes however difficult to recognize as the beach readjusts to a new profile after a few storms. But historic accounts of beaches often reveal that beaches have been narrowed considerably after mining. Mining is particularly damaging in a time of rising sea level when sand is sorely needed as a storm energy buffer.

Weighing the risks of mining coastal versus non-coastal sand, most of West African governments have accelerated their hunt for alternative sand. For instance, since 2008, the government of Benin has begun digging up sand at more than 30 places along rivers and lakes in Cotonou and surrounding inland cities Abomey Calavi, So-Ava, Ouidah and Seme Kpodji. Also this practice needs to be assessed with care as rivers are a very important source of sediments for the coastal zone (Section 3.8.1). Offshore sediment mining is a practice not yet widely applied by the local governments. Though banned for several years in some West African countries, coastal sand mining is still very common, requiring law enforcement to see this practice changing.

3.9.4 Possible future human interventions

A regional study for shoreline monitoring and drawing up a development scheme for the West African coastal area was launched by UEMOA and was implemented by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The study provides a management scheme for the entire coast comprising 44 littoral zones containing 176 sectors; each sector defining a relatively uniform portion of the shoreline (UEMOA, 2011; UEMOA, 2015). For each sector, the following items were presented: main set of issues, diagnostics, dynamics, stakes, actions and priority. In addition, the study provides an indication of the possible future human interventions along the coast. A summary is given in Table 3.9.

Table 3.9 Possible future human interventions along the West African coast as indicated by UEMOA (2011, 2015)

Location	Possible human developments
Cavally estuary	Port town at Harper (Liberia)
San Pedro	Port extension, airport area, tourist development
Grand Lahou	Programme for stabilization of urban and tourist installations
Port Bouet	Widening of Vridi pass, protection plan with 8 breakwaters
Grand Bassam	Reopening of Comoé River mouth, protection scheme (groins)
Takoradi-Sekondi	Port extension
Tema	Withdrawal (relocation) of habitants
Keta	Follow-up Keta Sea Defence Project
Lomé	Future new installations
Katanga to Gbojomé	Protection groins and nourishments

3.10 Shoreline development

In this section, information on coastal changes from different literature sources within the study area is summarized. Given the large extension of the study area, literature values from different authors are not always consistent as erosion/deposition rates may be computed following different methodologies or for different periods, making the results often difficult to compare. This asks for the need for a quantitative and homogeneous sediment budget study for the entire region, which is the scope of this study.

3.10.1 Ivory Coast

The shoreline development close to the port of San-Pédro is documented by Abe (2005). At the east side of the port, the coastal retreat between 1972 and 1993 reached 38,8 m. At Grand-Lahou, values of coastal retreat within different periods have been reported by Wognin (2004) and Abe (2005). The erosion rates are summarized in Table 3.10, reading a rate (in m) between 2 years (i.e. the one in the first row versus the one in the first column). For instance, a rate of 0.3 m/yr has been calculated for the period between 1971 and 1957.

Table 3.10 Erosion rates (m/yr) in different periods at Grand-Lahou (Wognin, 2004)

	1971	1986	1988	1993	1995
1957	0.3	0.45	0.72	0.78	1.23
1971		1.23	1.06	1.08	1.77
1986			4.66	2.16	3.74
1988				1.16	3.48
1993					9.28

Analysis of the shoreline position from satellite images and aerial photography has been used by Wognin et al. (2013) to identify the coastline dynamics to the east of Abidjan. At Vridi and Port-Bouet, the dynamics of the shoreline is heavily influenced by the jetties which tend to slow or stop the longshore drift (Figure 3.12). The western channel coastline is advancing at a rate of about 5 m/yr while the east is eroding at 1.5 m/yr (Figure 3.13). At Grand-Bassam, erosion takes place on both sides of the Comoé river outlet. (Figure 3.14).



Figure 3.12 Satellite images at Canal Vridi and Port-Bouet from 1967 and 2009 (Wognin, et al., 2013).

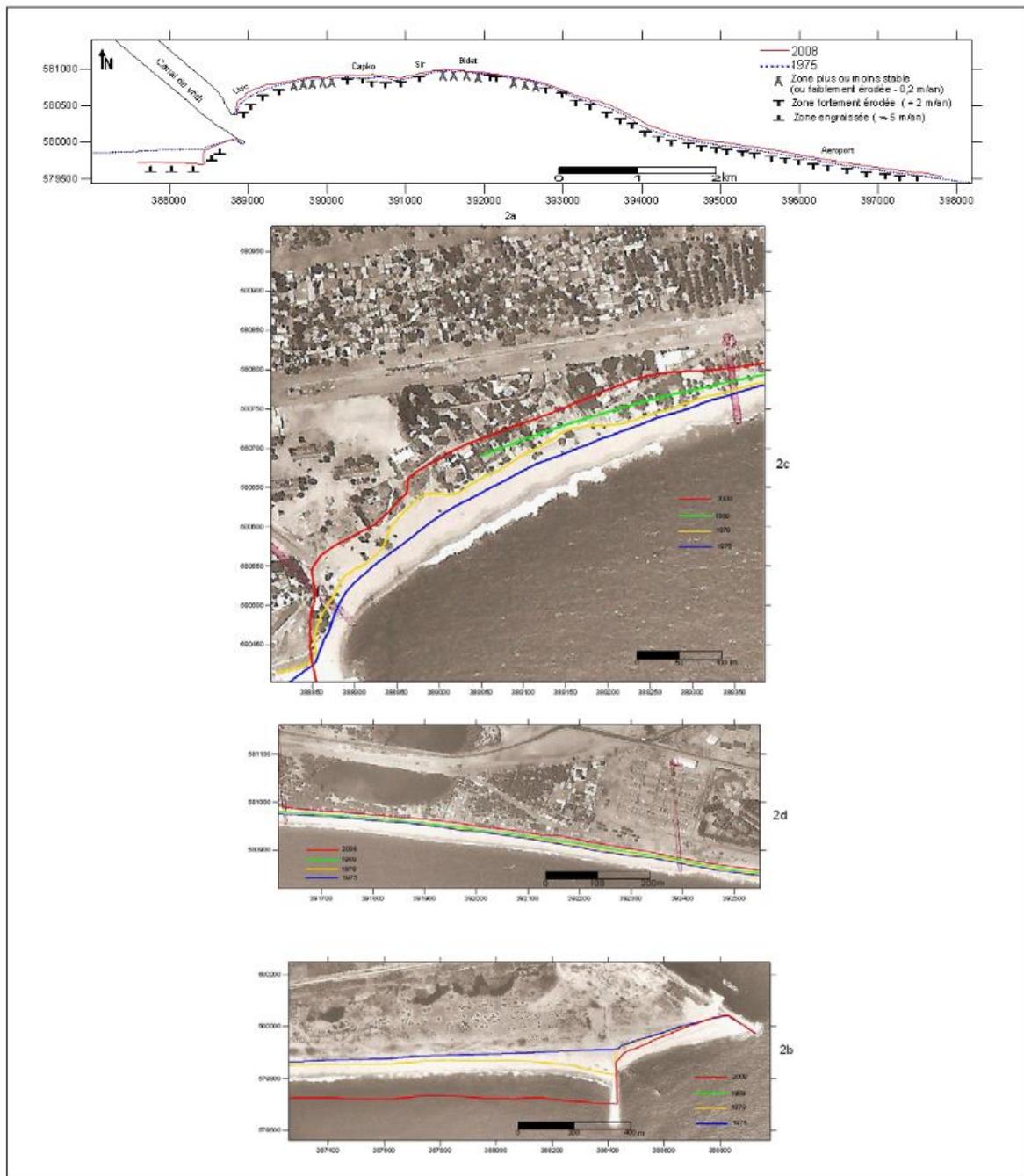


Figure 3.13 Shoreline evolution at Canal Vridi West and Port-Bouet between 1975 and 2008 (Wognin et al., 2013).

At Port-Bouet, values of coastal retreat within different periods have been reported by Wognin (2013). The erosion rates are summarized in Table 3.11.

Table 3.11 Erosion rates between different periods at Port-Bouet (Wognin, 2013)

	1979	2008
1975	21 m 5.2 m/yr	160 m 4.8 m/yr
1979		139 m +4.8 m/yr

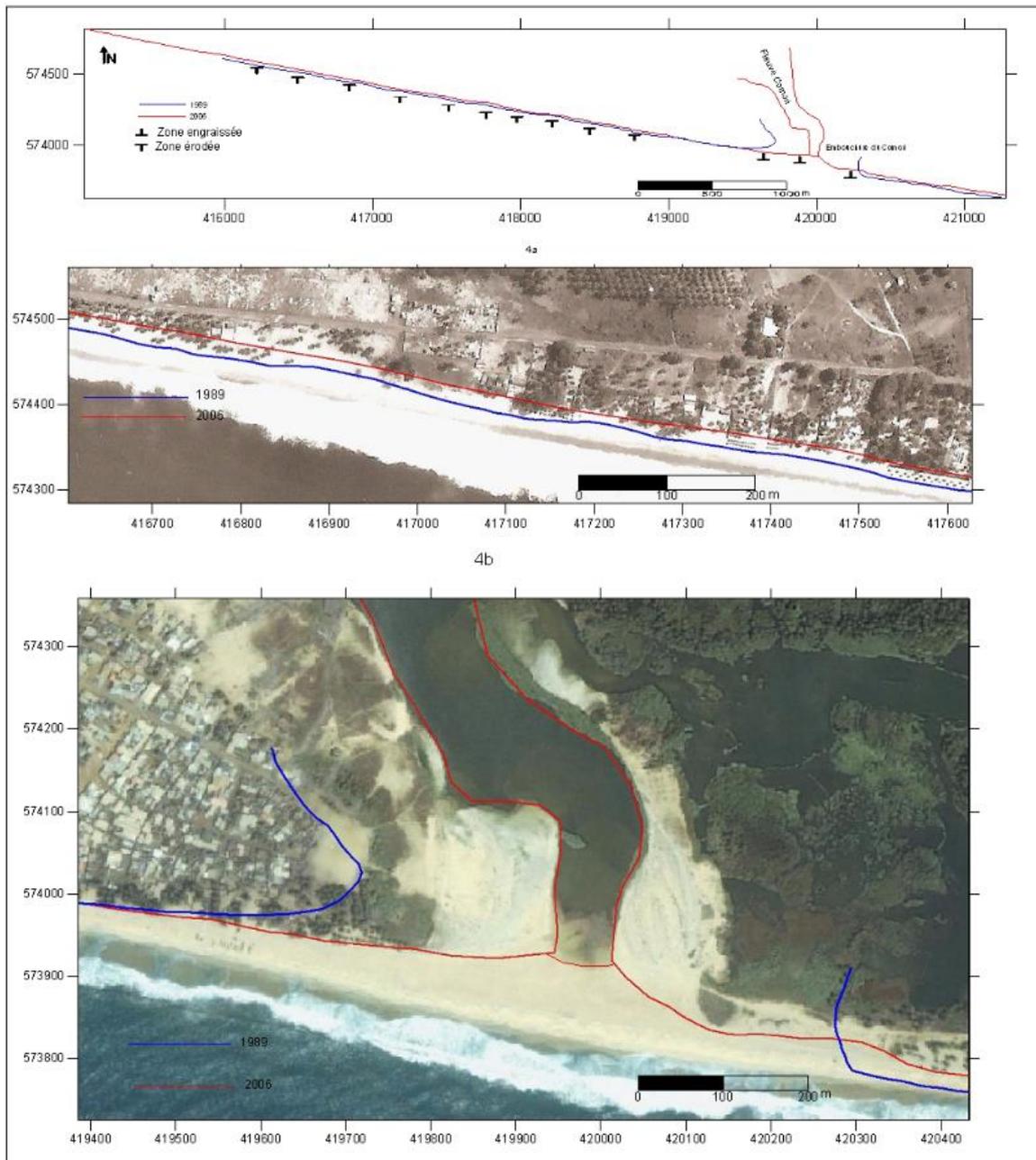


Figure 3.14 Shoreline evolution at Grand Bassam from 1989 to 2006 (Wognin et al., 2013).

3.10.2 Ghana

The general alongshore littoral transport pattern is from west to east (Ly, 1981). This transport is significantly reduced on the immediate west of Cape Three Points where much of the sediment is deposited. Deposition of sediment occurs not only on the beach causing a slight progradation of the shoreline but also in estuaries as tidal deltas.

The central coast of Ghana represents a medium-energy environment with wave heights usually not exceeding 1.5 m in the surf zone. The coast is characterized by a southwesterly prevailing wind causing an oblique wave approach to the coastline.

Evidence of coastal erosion occurs on many parts of the eastern coast of Ghana. The coast is characterized by a medium- to high-energy beach with wave heights often exceeding 1 m in the surf zone. With a smooth and sandy shoreline trending east to northeast and a southwesterly prevailing wind, the coast is characterized by an active littoral transport, generally from west to east (Ly, 1980).

Changes in coastline position in central and eastern Ghana were examined at several locations by Ly (1980). Figure 3.15 illustrates the shoreline changes at Sekondi, Cape Coast, Labadi, Ada, and Keta, especially shortly after the Takoradi Port extension and after construction of the Akosombo dam in the Volta River.

The western portion of the central coast between Cape Three Points and Winneba is characterized by a generally stable shoreline. Changes of coastline in the Sekondi area between 1963 and 1973, and in the Cape Coast area between 1948 and 1973 were not marked (Figure 3.15, A, B). Retreat of shoreline occurs in many areas of the eastern portion of the central coast, and on the eastern coast. At Labadi, the retreat occurs with an average of 3 m per year after dam construction (Figure 3.15, C). At Ada, the existence of 1939, 1961 and 1976 shorelines (Figure 3.15, D) allows a comparison of the average rates of shoreline retreat for the periods before and after dam construction. These rates are almost the same for the two periods. Retreat of shoreline averaged 2.2 m per year between 1939 and 1961, while it increases to an average of 2.4 m per year after 1961. In the Keta area, the rate of shoreline retreat between 1923 and 1949 determined from two town maps averaged 4 m per year (Figure 3.15, E'). This rate increased to about 6 m per year during the 1959-1975 period. Figure 3.15 (E) illustrates that the most rapid retreat of shoreline occurs after 1964 when averages of 8 m to 10 m per year are observed in some portions of the Keta coast, and which can probably be related to the construction of the Akosombo dam (Ly, 1980).

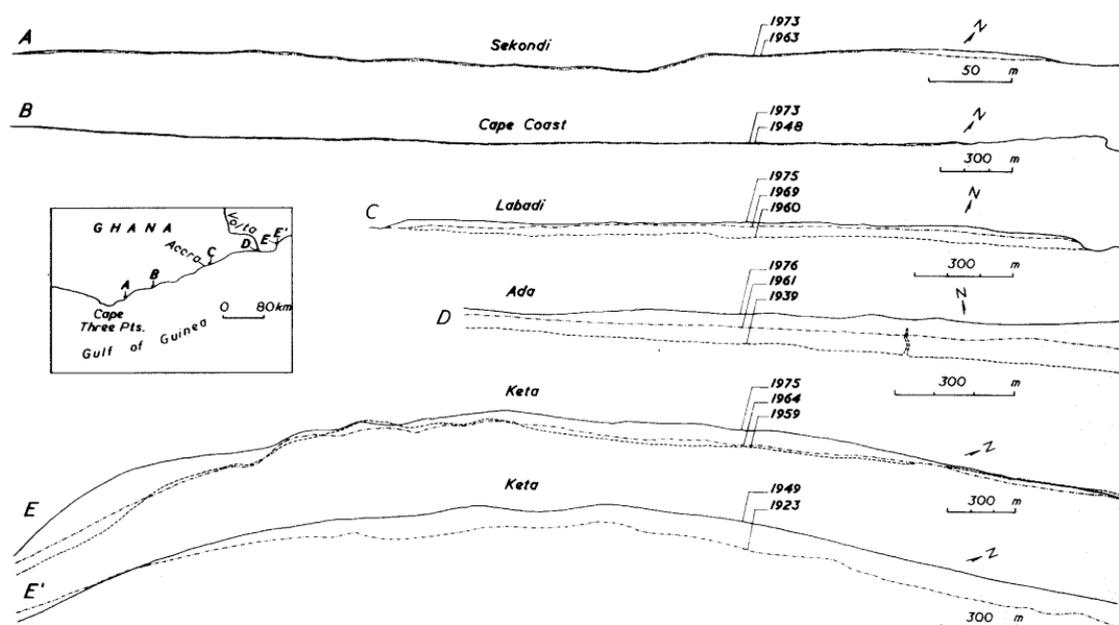


Figure 3.15 Shoreline changes in central and eastern Ghana established from aerial photographs and maps produced between 1923 and 1976. From Ly (1980).

More recently, research studies (Wiafe, 2011) employed satellite remote sensing coupled with field surveys to investigate the processes governing shoreline change in Ghana, leading to a different system of zoning the shoreline, based on the orientation of the shoreline, with four sections namely western corner section (WCS), mid-section (MS), eastern section (ES) and eastern corner section (ECS).

According to Wiafe (2011), between 1974 and 2005 shorelines in Western Ghana retreated at an average rate of 1.58 m/year with considerable variation along the coast. In total, only 8% of the shoreline experienced accretion at an average rate of 1.67 m/year. It was observed that the various zones along the coast exhibited different rates of shoreline changes: ECS (1.79 m/year), MS (1.11 m/year), ES (2.50 m/year), and WCS (2.31 m/year) (Figure 3). The maximum annualised uncertainty was estimated to be 0.29 m/year.

A longer term view on shore erosion is provided by Boateng (2012). Large scale assessment of coastal recession in Ghana was carried out through field investigation, applied coastal geomorphology and GIS techniques to selected case study areas. The assessment covered 203 km out of the 540 km coastline of Ghana. Results of the assessment indicate that coastal erosion is very substantial and wide spread along the coast, but the rate of recession varies across the entire coastline. Results are summarized in Figure 3.16 to Figure 3.19.

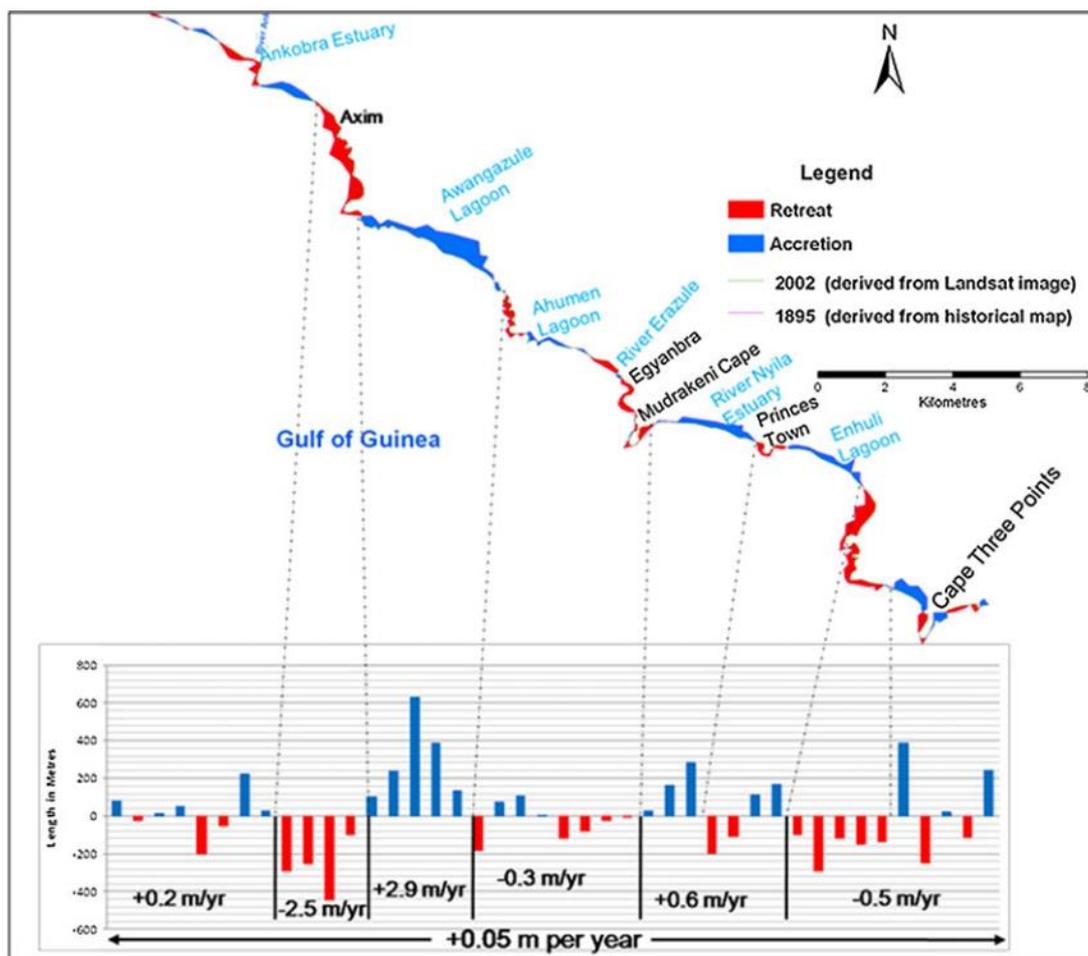


Figure 3.16 Coastline change near Axim over the period between 1895 and 2002 (Boateng, 2012).

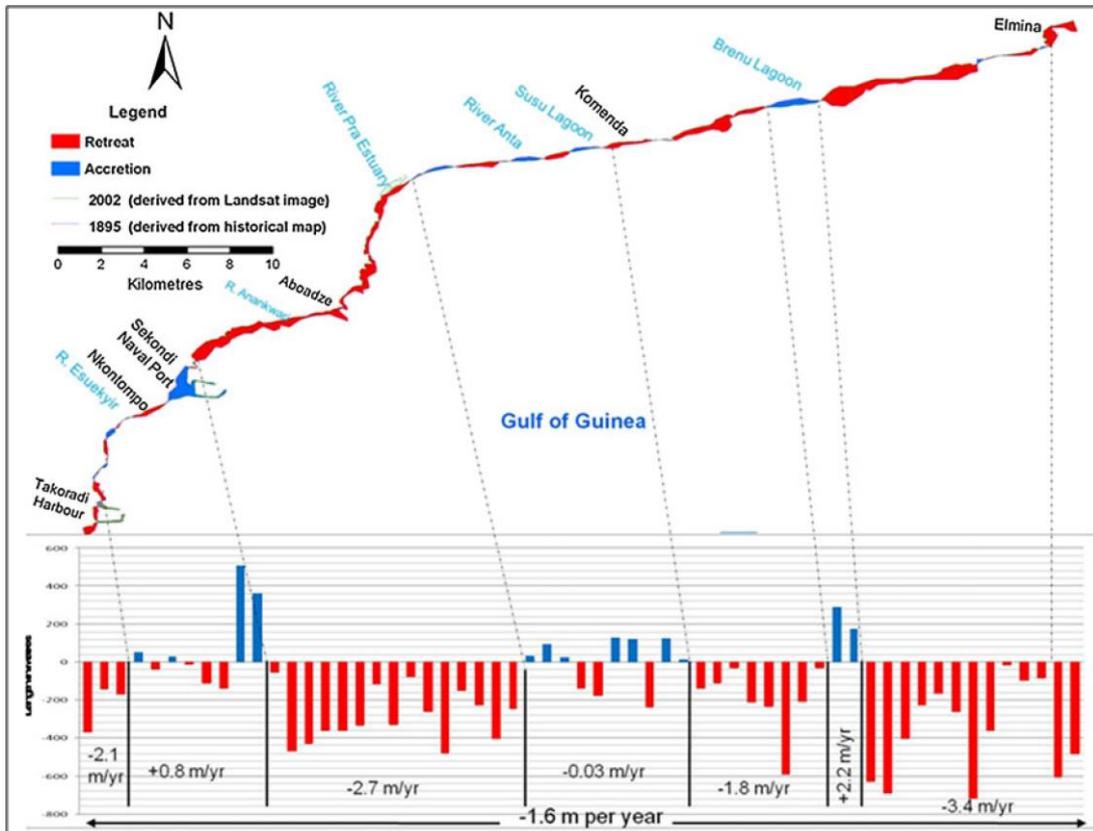


Figure 3.17 Coastline change near Takoradi over the period between 1895 and 2002 (Boateng, 2012).

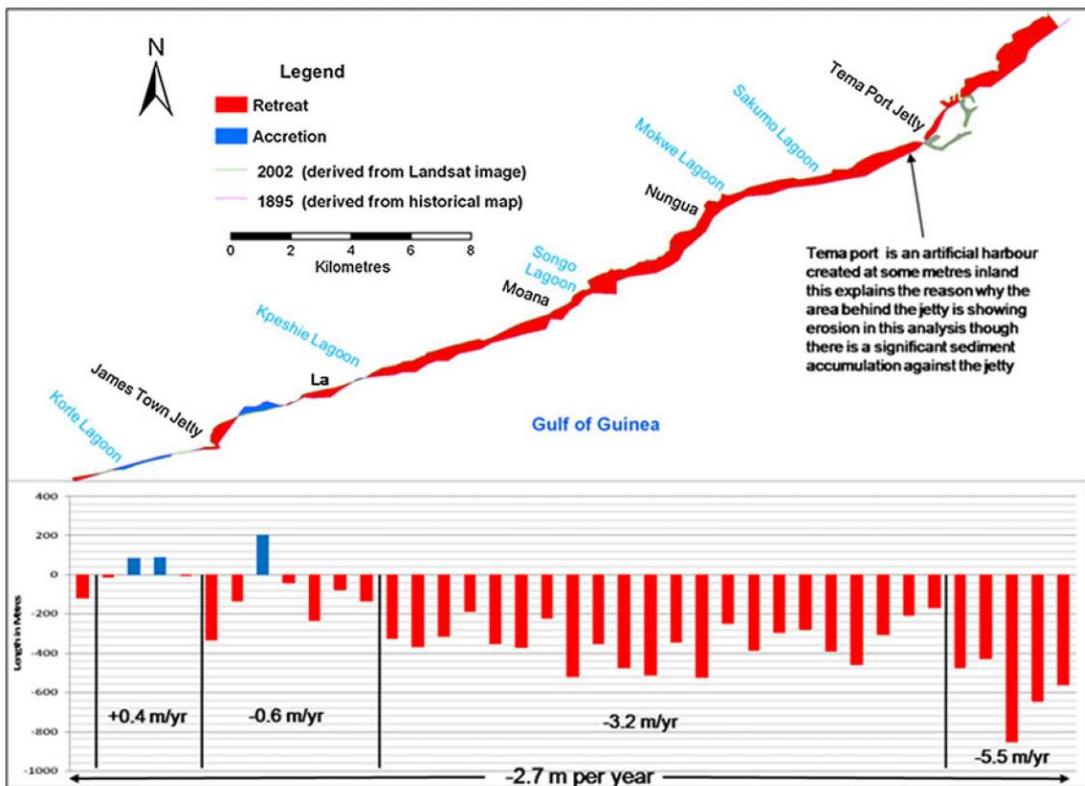


Figure 3.18 Coastline change near Accra over the period between 1895 and 2002 (Boateng, 2012).

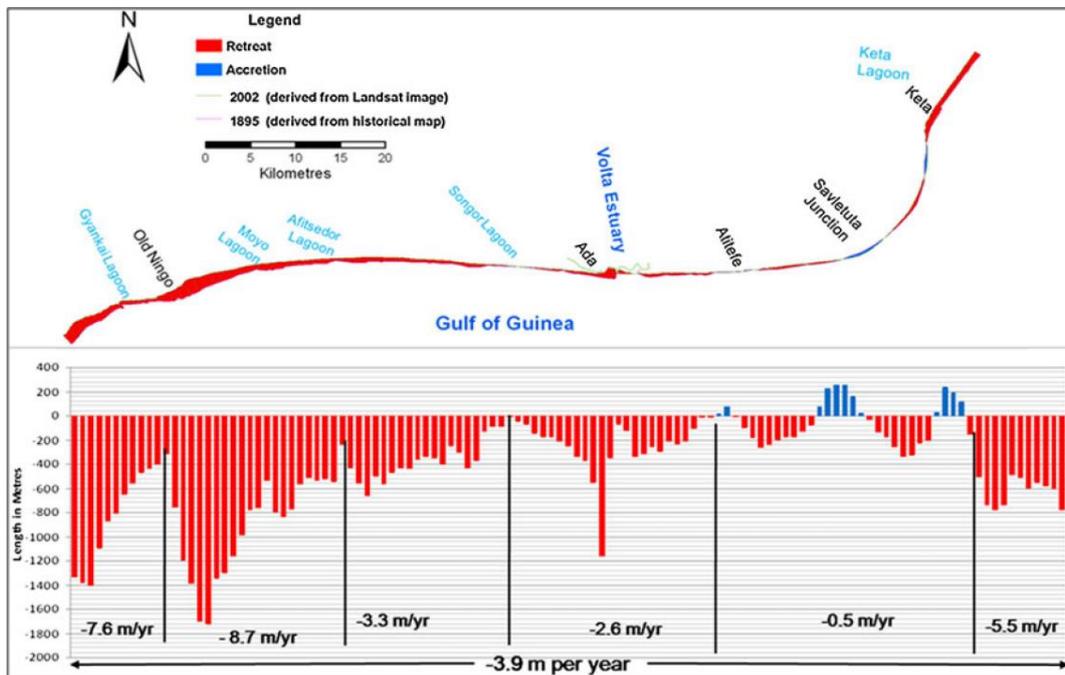


Figure 3.19 Coastline change near Ada over the period between 1895 and 2002 (Boateng, 2012).

3.10.3 Bight of Benin, including Eastern Ghana, Togo and Benin

From an analysis of historical records, both Kumapley (1989) and Blivi (1993) suggested that the area near Keta in the western Bight of Benin has been under fluctuating erosion and accretion since at least 1860. Since the mid-1880s, a realistic estimate of net erosion of this area is probably close to 1 km (Kumapley, 1989). Old maps show that this delta-mouth barrier stretched continuously up to Aného.

According to Anthony and Blivi (1999), this long-term state of equilibrium has been modified since modern dam and coastal infrastructures have been installed. Among others, the construction of the Akosombo Dam on the Volta River in 1961 resulted in a drastic reduction in sand supply to the Bight of Benin coast (Ly, 1980). In particular, the necessity to satisfy the strong longshore drift budget towards Togo has resulted in considerable reworking of the Volta delta-mouth barrier segment itself, including the nearshore zone, threatening coastal settlements, notably Keta (Figure 3.20).

In addition, Anthony and Blivi (1999) suggested that this zone was in relative equilibrium has evolved into a zone of cell segmentation (Figure 3.21). Cell segmentation has involved substantial accumulation of sand on the Volta delta spit complex especially since the 1960s. Anthony and Blivi (1999) have estimated the amount of sand locked up in this prograding spit between 1968 and 1996 at $20 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$.

The most severely threatened area between the prograding Volta barrier and the Togolese coast is now characterised by a narrow (< 100 m wide) eroding transgressive barrier subject to overwash during the summer months of strong swell. In places, muddy backbarrier marshes are now exposed along the beach (Anthony and Blivi, 1999).

Deltaic sand sequestering to the detriment of coasts downdrift is a frequent condition in river deltas under stress from decreasing sediment supply. According to Anthony et al. (2016), complex adjustments (sediment supply from the river, internal delta dynamics and the strong longshore drift on this coast) have notably involved sequestering of sand by the Volta delta, with consequent morphodynamic feedback reflected by erosion that affects the bight coast downdrift of the delta.



Figure 3.20 Aerial photograph (1986) of the barrier in Keta, with levelling of the shoreline in 1992, showing the recent massive sedimentation and downdrift erosion. From Anthony and Blivi (1999).

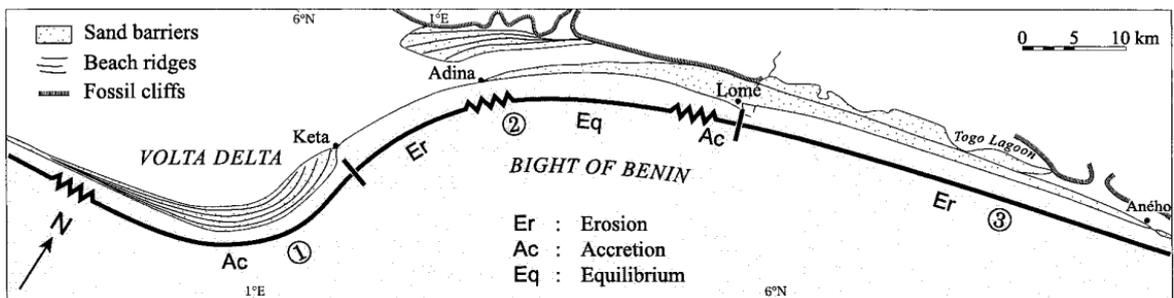


Figure 3.21 Summary of recent changes in longshore barrier front dynamics resulting from both modulation of fluvial and deltaic sand supply by the Volta and construction of Lomé port. From Anthony and Blivi (1999).

West of Lomé port, built in 1967, the erosional sector up to Adina is followed by a sector of overall net shoreline stability (Figure 3.21). Beyond this sector, progradation increases steadily to attain a maximum of close to 1 km in the last 30 years just updrift of the main western port breakwater (Figure 3.22).

Beyond the breakwater, the segmented drift cell once again comprises an erosional sector that affects the Togolose coast up to the Benin border. Erosion has resulted in considerable damage to the former main coastal international highway and in the landward relocation of numerous former coastal villages and fishing communities. This erosion has necessitated the emplacement of a groyne field in 1988 to protect Aného and a nearby phosphate export facility. According to Anthony and Blivi (1999), the shoreline stability assured by this groyne field has exacerbated barrier erosion downdrift in western Benin. It has also resulted in a

longer period of opening of the Aného inlet (up to four months a year), inducing greater saltwater intrusion into the essentially freshwater lagoonal system of Togo.

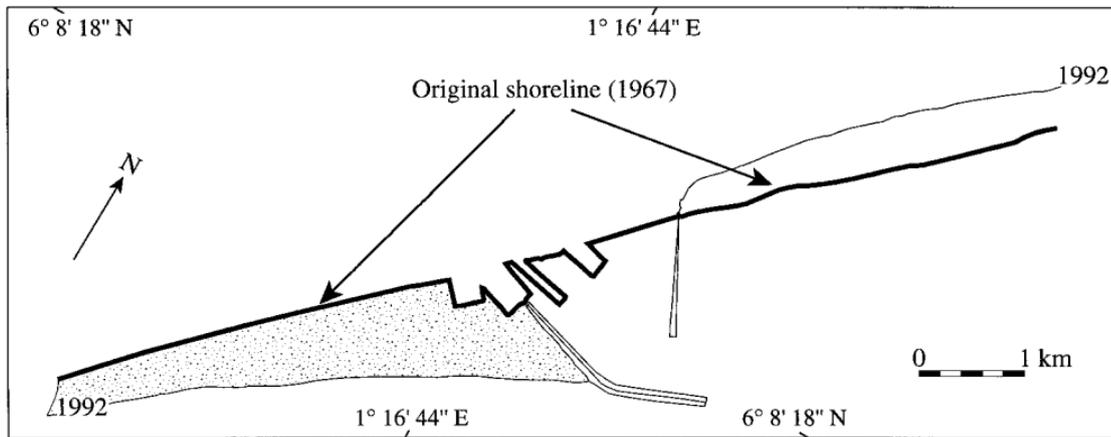


Figure 3.22 Shoreline changes on either side of Lomé port breakwater between 1967 and 1992. Erosion east of the breakwater has been attenuated by longshore exposures of highly indurated beachrock that acts as natural breakwaters. From Anthony and Blivi (1999).

On the Togo shoreline, an elongated occurrence of beachrock has been exposed since the 1980's. Upon completion of the Akosombo dam in the Volta River (Ghana) in 1961, sediment supply to the Gulf of Benin was cut, causing erosion and exposure of buried beachrock (Blivi, 1998). The construction of the deepwater port at Lomé (Togo) further aggravated this process, whereas erosion continued along over 100 km of shoreline. The coast retreat rates are in the order of 4 m/yr (Rossi, 1988). The beachrock present in the surf zone acts as a barrier, thus slowing down the coastal erosion process. However, it is unknown at which rate the beachrocks are eroded (Gischler, 2007), which zones are most vulnerable to erosion and how the beachrock formation will continue to 'protect' the shoreline in the near future.

Further east along the Benin coastline, erosion to the east of Cotonou has been consistent since port structures have been built in the early 1960s (Tilmans, et al., 1995). Especially, the area called "La Crique" has suffered from severe erosion, with maximum erosion rates of 10-15 m/yr (Figure 3.23).

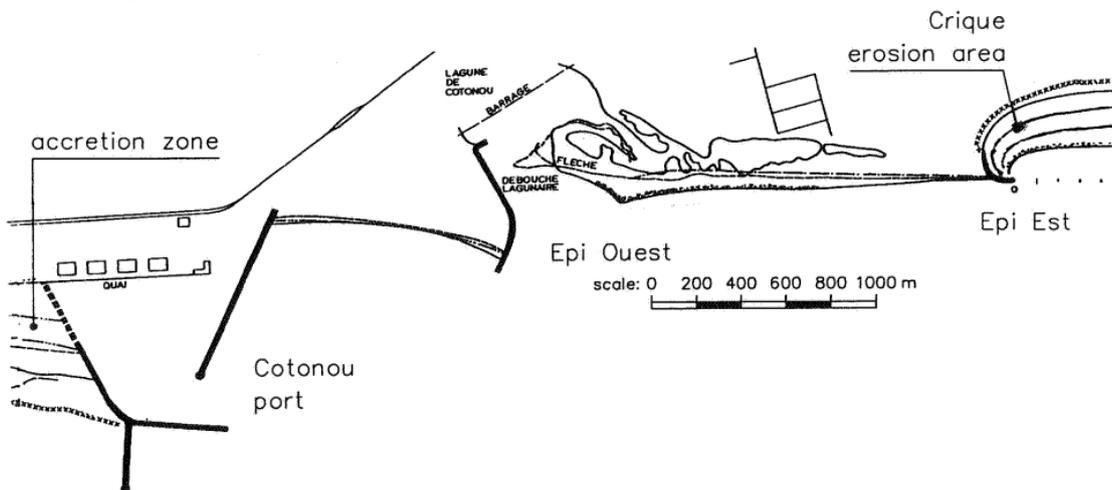


Figure 3.23 Cotonou port with accretion and erosion zones. From Tilmans et al., 1995

Kaki et al. (2011) discuss the evolution of Cotonou Coastline in Benin during the past fifty years. The study is based on detailed analysis of remote sensing data and completed by various ground missions.

According to Kaki et al. (2011), an area of continual accumulation was observed in the west of sea port of Cotonou (Figure 3.24). The source area of this sediment cell is the Mono River which drained about 100,000 m³ / year as according to Blivi (2000) before the dam Nagbeto was constructed and which reduced to 44,000 m³/year at present. Between 1963 and 1981, two different behaviours can be distinguished: (1) in a transition area, a shoreline retreat of 75 meters was observed over 18 years, at an erosion rate of 4 m / year; (2) the area closer to the port, on the other hand, was subject to accretion. A strip of sand with a maximum width of 460 meters was built over the 18 years, at a maximum rate of 25.5 m / year. Between 1981 and 1995, sand accumulation was observed in both areas, with an advancement of the beach of 100 meters observed in 14 years, at a rate of 7 m / year. From 1995 to 2005, the same pattern as in the previous period is observed. A strip of sand of 115 meters width was built in ten years, at an accretion rate of 12 m / year.

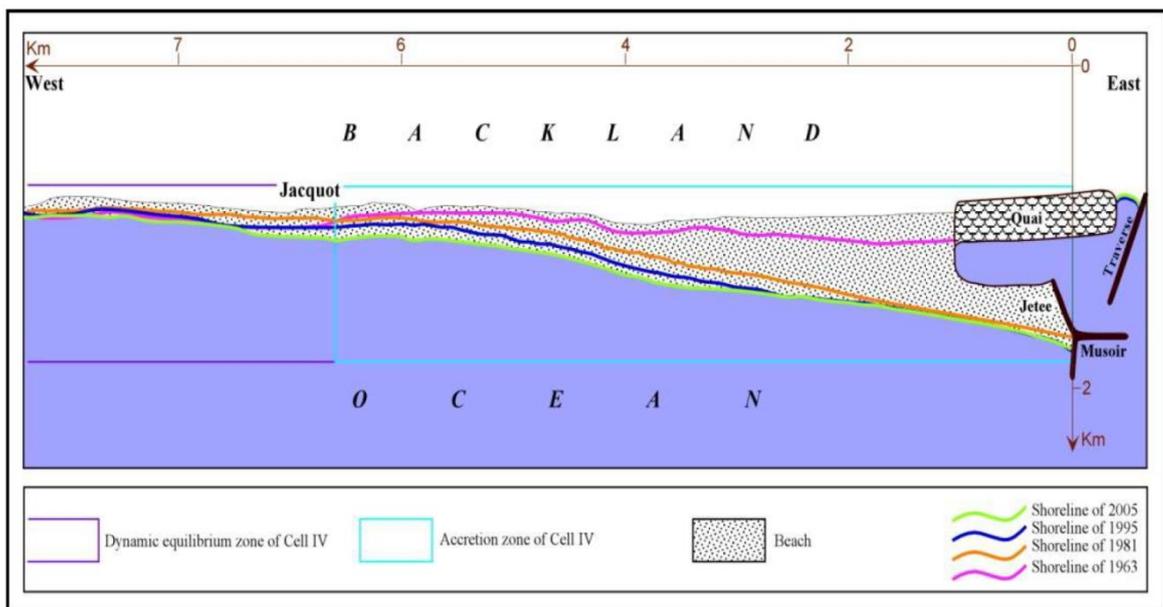


Figure 3.24 Evolution of area west of Cotonou port from 1963 to 2005. From Kaki et al. (2011).

According to Kaki et al. (2011), the area east of the sea port shows intense erosion (Figure 3.25). It is the source area for sedimentation further east. Sediments that are pulled out from "Eldorado Creek" are redistributed after crossing a stability area that is only a few kilometers away. The shaft area covers an important coastal zone from Seme beach to the west side of the Niger Delta in Nigeria. Between 1963 and 1981, the coastline retreat was of 380 meters, at an erosion rate of 21 m/year. In the accretive area, a strip of sand with a width of 80 meters was built at a rate of 4.5 m/year. Between 1981 and 1995, the erosive part experienced a coastline retreat of 135 meters, at a rate of 10 m/year, whereas the accretive part experienced a coastline expansion of 165 meters, at a rate of 12 m/year. Finally, between 1995 and 2005, both areas experienced a coastline retreat, respectively of 55 meters and 100 meters, i.e. erosion rates of 6 m / year and 10 m / year.

In Kaki et al. (2011), the accretion at some distance east of the port in the period 1963-1995 is not explained, and neither the reversal of the trend in this area from accretion to erosion in

the period 1995-2005. From the convex shoreline shape in this area, we consider erosion (or stability) to occur more likely than accretion. Moreover, accretion in this area is not expected on the basis of the study by Laibi et al. (2014)

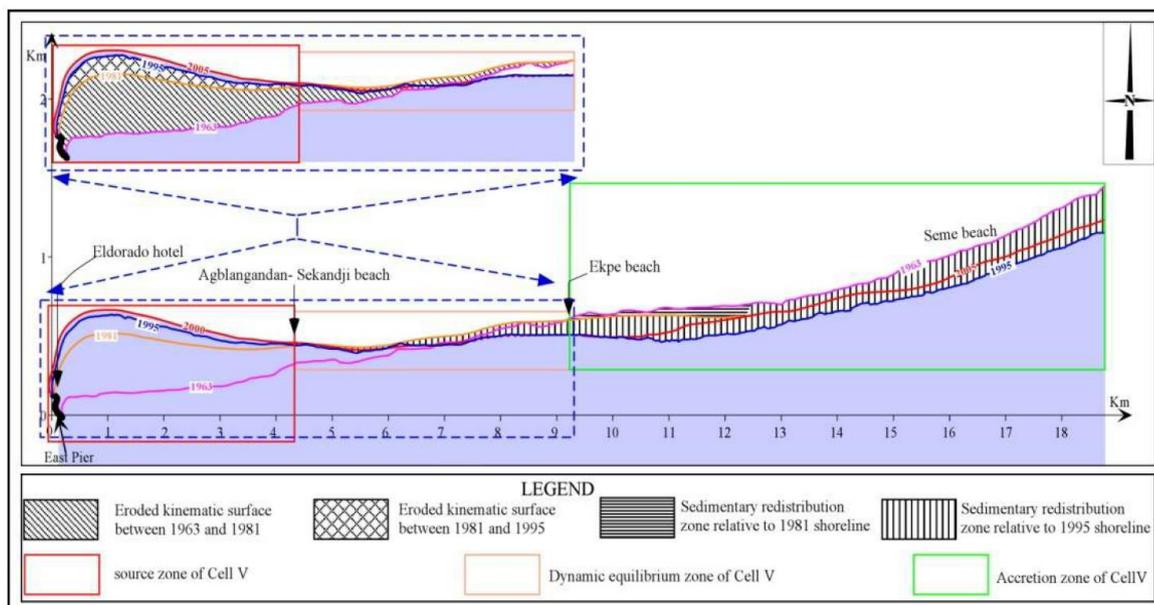
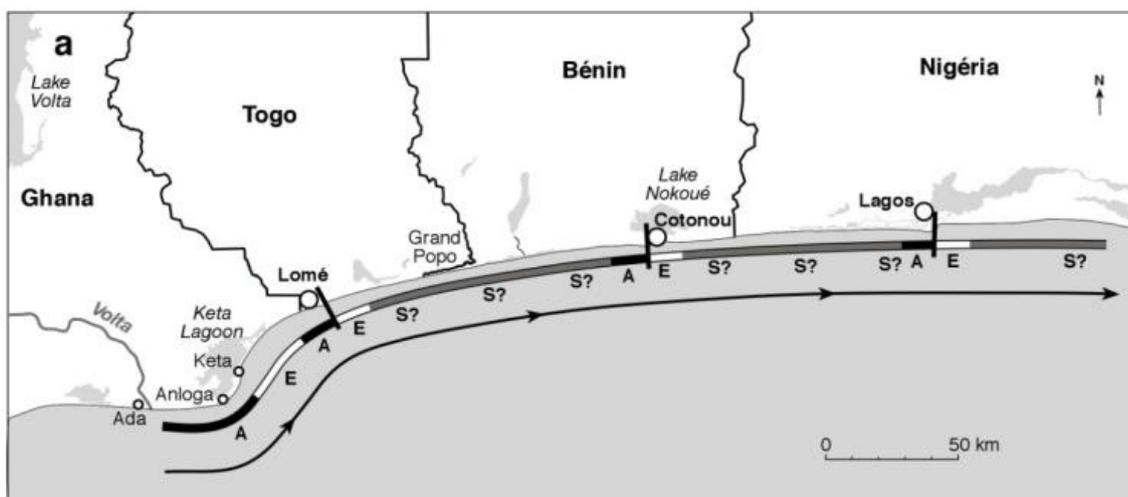


Figure 3.25 Evolution of area east of Cotonou port from 1963 to 2005. From Kaki et al. (2011).

As indicated Laibi et al. (2014), the major port breakwaters have significantly impacted the litoral drift, breaking down the equilibrium shoreline alignment that prevailed prior to port construction, especially in the more updrift sectors of Togo and Benin. These structures have also generated accretion sand updrift, and several hundreds of metres of beach progradation over a shoreline distance of up to 5 km. The erosional sectors downdrift of the ports are longer (up to 20 km), and their erosion ensures continuity of the strong drift potential (Figure 3.26). The erosional sector in Cotonou has been further complicated by a canal cut through the beach-ridge barrier in 1888 to alleviate river flooding of Lake Nokoué, the wide, circular lagoon in this sector. The erosion downdrift of these ports is a threat to large areas of the cities of Cotonou, Lomé, and to numerous villages, as well as coastal infrastructure.



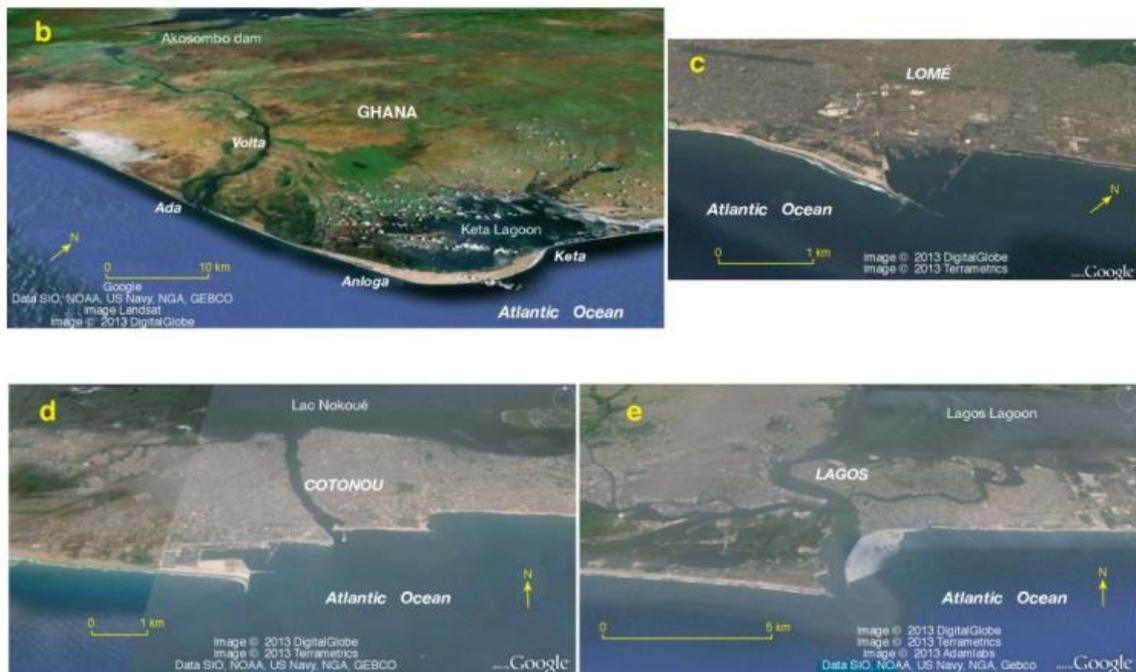


Figure 3.26 Current longshore drift cells and erosion and accretion associated with port breakwaters in the Bight of Benin. (a) Drift cell structure: a = accretion, e = erosion, s? = presumed stability; (b) the Volta delta; (c) port of Lomé; (d) port of Cotonou; (e) port of Lagos. From Laibi et al. (2014)

3.11 Conclusions

In this chapter, the physical system of the study area (Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo and Benin) has been described by means of a wide literature review covering the main aspects which can affect the coastal sediment dynamics. In particular, the major anthropogenic interventions both on the major rivers and along the coastline have been summarized as well as their effects on historical shoreline changes.

Although very useful for model validation, the information available from literature is very scattered and not always consistent. This asks for the need for a quantitative and homogeneous sediment budget study for the entire region, which will be the scope of the following work (Chapter 5 and 6).

4 Data description

4.1 Introduction

In order to carry out the large-scale numerical modelling study, a number of input data are required. In particular, the following datasets were used as input for this study:

- Bathymetric data
- Wind and waves
- Sediment characteristics
- Sediment input from rivers
- Sea level rise scenarios
- Predicted changes in wave climate

The following sections provide information concerning these data, by detailing their source and possible post-processing.

4.2 Bathymetry

The depth information is obtained primarily from the GEBCO's global bathymetric data sets. The GEBCO's gridded bathymetric data sets are global terrain models for ocean and land and include the GEBCO_2014 Grid which is a global 30 arc-second interval grid. GEBCO's global elevation models are generated by the assimilation of heterogeneous data types assuming all of them to be referred to mean sea level. The extent of the area of interest ranges in spherical coordinates (WGS84) from approximately 2 to 6.5 degrees N and -4 to 8.5 degrees W.

The GEBCO's gridded bathymetric data sets are known to have less accuracy in shallow waters by depths up to the 100-200 m isolines. The depth information retrieved after digitalization of the Admiralty Charts n° 1362 (Harper to Sassandra), 3100 (Sassandra to Lagune Aby), 1383 (Lagune Aby to Cotonou), and 1384 (Tema to Cotonou) has been therefore used in complement to the GEBCO bathymetric data.

4.3 Wind and waves

4.3.1 ERA interim dataset

ECMWF (European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts) wind and wave data were used in this study. In particular, the most recent reanalysis of these data was used (Dee et al., 2011). The data are 6 hourly, starting from 1979 and are available on a global grid with a resolution of about $0.75^\circ \times 0.75^\circ$. The data contains information on wind speed (U_{10}), wind direction as well as on wave conditions (wave height, period and direction). Figure 4.1 shows offshore wave and wind roses for the study area computed by performing a wave schematization on wave and wind time series between 1979 up to 2014. The wave climate suggests waves from SSW direction with an angle relative to the North which increases from West to East and most of the waves between 1 and 1.6 m. Winds are also from the South-West.

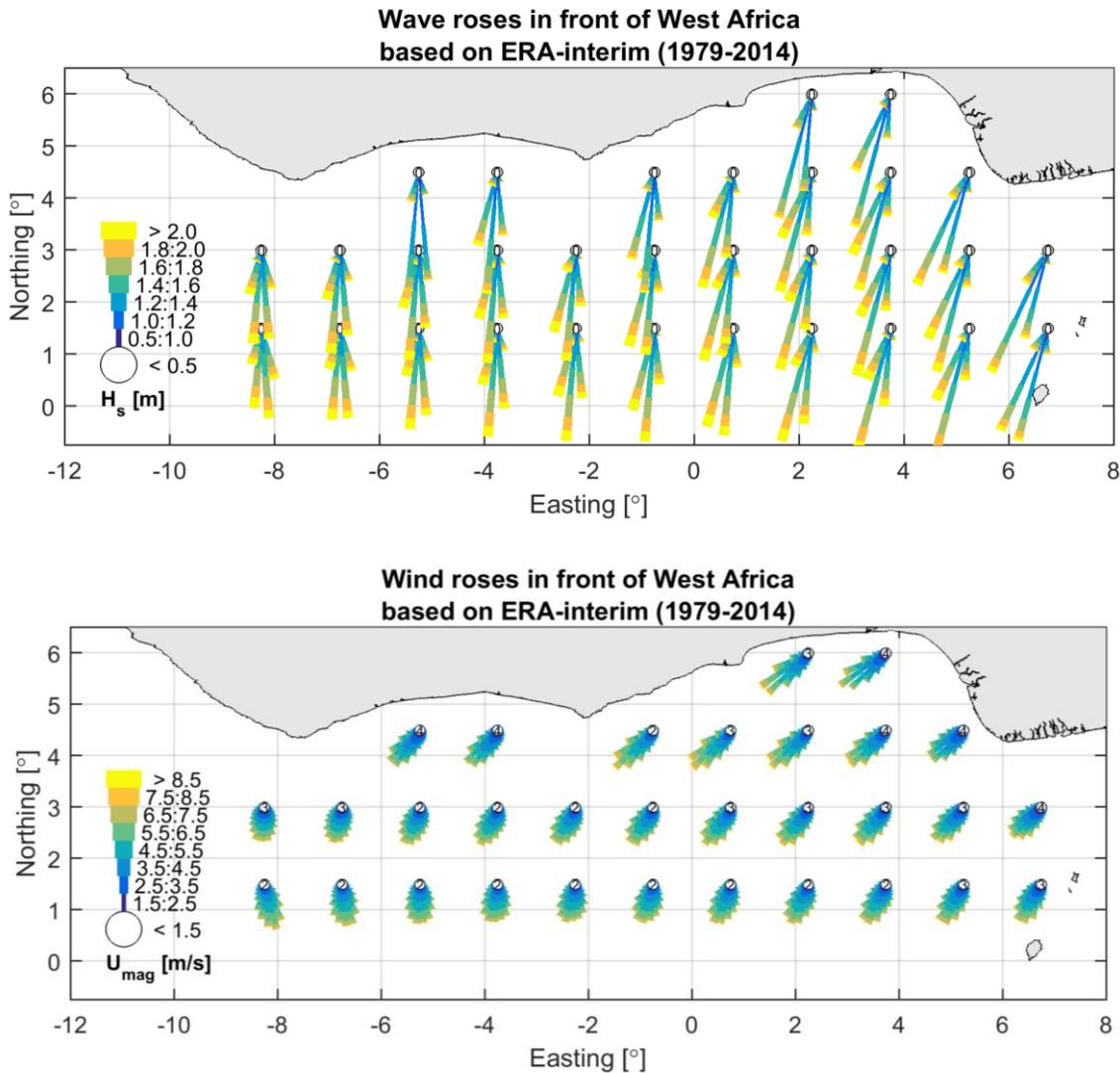


Figure 4.1 Spatial distribution of the offshore wave (upper panel) and wind conditions (lower panel) in the area of interest based on ERA-Interim data

4.3.2 Altimeter data

An altimeter is a pointing radar pulse from satellites designed to measure the echoes from ocean and ice surfaces. Over the ocean, it is used to measure sea-surface elevation and wave height. For this retrieval we use the ocean reflected signals and apply either a Ku or a C frequency band. The Ku band is the 12–18 gigahertz (GHz) portion of the electromagnetic spectrum. The C band ranges of frequencies from 4.0 to 8.0 GHz. In this altimeter data are used to calibrate the ERA interim dataset.

When we take into account waves in the altimeter database with a 2 hour fly-over window and a spatial-radius of 200 meter the waves in the ERA-interim data underestimates the significant wave height with 5-13%, as can be seen in Figure 4.2. An underestimation in wave height of about 10% for ERA-Interim data is common based on our experience and it is related to model accuracy and approximations. In order to take this into account the

significant wave height has been increased with 10%. The wave period has been increased with approximately 4.8% in order to keep the steepness of the waves constant.

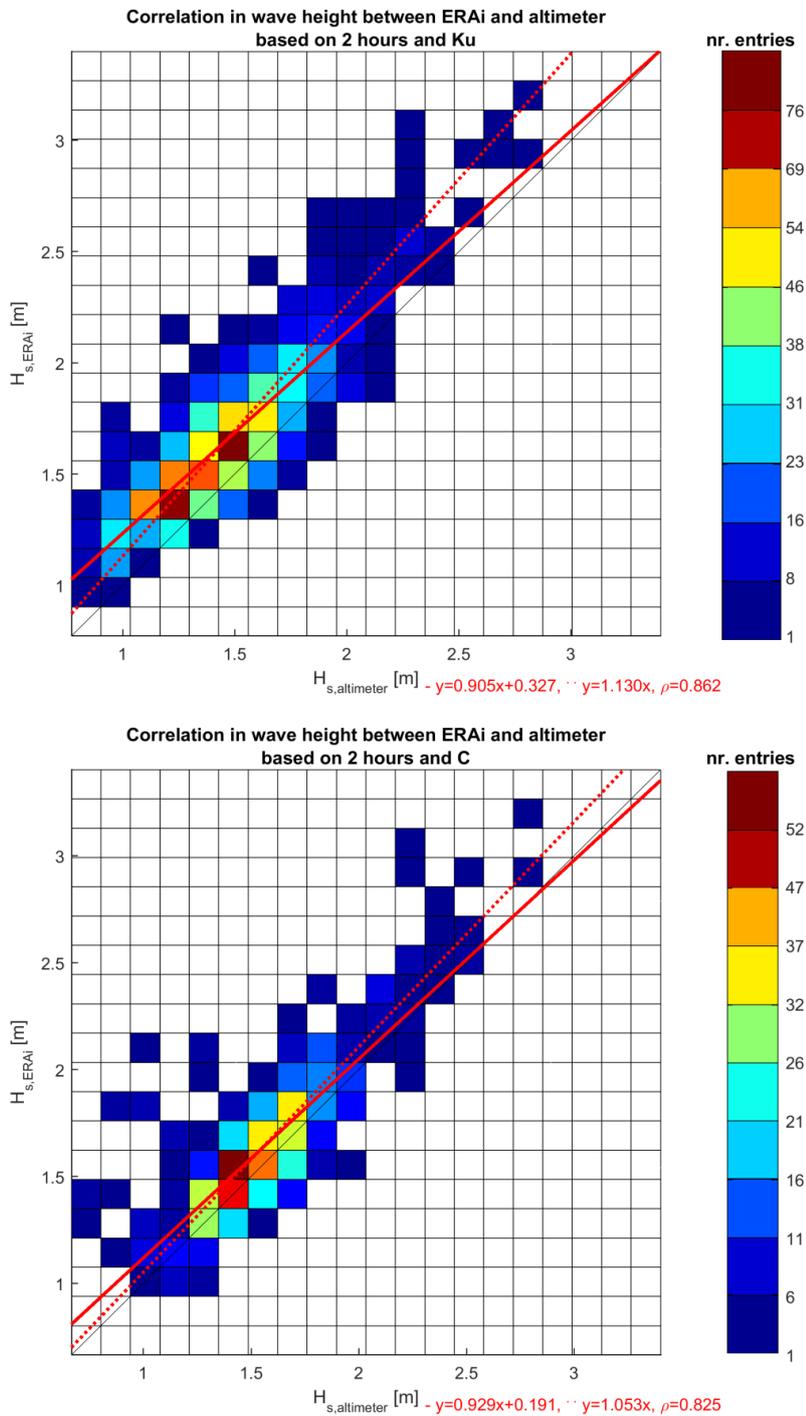


Figure 4.2 Correlation plots between the wave heights based on the ERA-interim data and altimeter data. Upper panel takes into account waves derived from altimeter data based on Ku method. Lower panel takes into account values derived from altimeter data based on C method.

4.4 Coastal types

The Western part of Ivory Coast is mainly characterized by pocket beaches separated by rocky outcrops, which continues approximately until 25km to the east of Sassandra. From this point, moving towards the east, the coastline is characterized by a long sandy stretch until Ghana.

Further to the east, a cliffs type of coast with pocket sandy beaches can be found around Cape Three Point for a length of about 100 km. From this point, moving towards the east the coast is still sandy but more irregular, with different orientation and occasionally interrupted by rocky outcrops. The eastern part of Ghana till the boundary with Ivory Coast is characterized by the large Volta delta which protrudes into the sea and with a total width of the delta morphological feature of more than 100 km. Further to the east, the coastline of Togo and Benin is mainly characterized by a straight and long sandy coast.

4.5 Sediment inputs from rivers

The sediment input from the main rivers into the coastal system was estimated following the information provided in Section 3.8.1.

On-going work is being carried out to estimate the sediment yield from the different river catchments by means of the hydrological W-FLOW model (Deltares, 2016) extended with a sediment module.

4.6 Impact of climate change

4.6.1 Sea level rise

Sea level rise affects the coastal sediment budget in multiple ways: on one hand sea level rise leads to a general coastal recession which can be roughly estimated based on the general Bruun rule. According to the Bruun rule, the shoreface profile moves upward by the same amount as the rise in sea level, through erosion of the upper shoreface and deposition on the lower shoreface (www.simplecoast.com). Although, the validity of the Bruun rule has been questioned in literature (e.g. Cooper et al., 2004; Ranasinghe et al., 2012), no practical alternative exist to carry out the assessment within the scope of this study and at this scale.

On the other hand, sea level rise also contributes to an increase in wave height due to a reduction in wave dissipation while propagating towards the shore. Those two effects will be explored as part of the modelling work in Chapter 5 and 6.

In order to assess the effect of sea level rise scenario for a wide spectrum of projections, two sea level rise rates (i.e. a lower-end and an upper-end scenario) were used as input to our numerical modelling framework. In particular, a value of + 0.3 m, roughly corresponding to a projection for the year 2070 and considering the sea level rise scenario RCP 4.5 at the 0.05 percentile at location (-1.5° E, +3.5° N) off the coast of Ghana, and a value of + 1.0 m, roughly corresponding to a projection for the year 2100 and considering the sea level rise scenario RCP 8.5 at the same location at the 95 percentile.

4.6.2 Waves

The effect of predicted changes in wave conditions was estimated based on Hemer et al. (2013). According to the study, an increase in wave height up to 3% and a clockwise rotation up to 2° can be expected in the time slice 2070-2100 in the West Africa region, when compared to the present climate (time slice 1979-2009). These values have been adopted in the numerical models to estimate the impact of climate change on the coastal sediment budget (Chapter 6).

4.7 Summary

Information, characteristics and sources, to be used during the modelling study, are summarized in the Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 Matrix of data to be used for the modelling study

Data set	Description	Resolution	Format type	Time interval collected	Source
Bathymetric	gridded bathymetric data sets	30 arc-second interval grid	(x, y, z)	-	GEBCO
Bathymetric	sampled bathymetric data sets	-	(x, y, z)	-	Admiralty Charts
Wind	wind speed, direction	0.75° x 0.75°	U10, dirW	1979 - 2014	ECMWF
Waves	wave height, period and direction	0.75° x 0.75°	Hs, Tp, Dir	1979 - 2014	ECMWF
Altimeter data	ocean reflected signals	-		1979 - 2014	various satellites
Sediment input from rivers	sediment yield from the different river catchments	-	m ³ per year	before and after damming	estimated
Sea Level Rise	Local sea level rise projection	-	m	-	RCP 8.5

5 Numerical models

5.1 Introduction

In this chapter, the different numerical models used to carry out the sediment budget study for the entire area are described.

In particular, the modelling framework includes:

- A wave model
- A sediment transport and shoreline evolution model, including the sediment input from major rivers

Modelling settings are described, alongside modelling assumptions which were necessary in order to reach the objective of the study: a quantification of the large-scale sediment budget for the West African coast.

The results from the large-scale numerical modelling study are described in Chapter 6.

5.2 Wave model

5.2.1 Model description

The wave modelling was based on the DELFT3D-WAVE (SWAN) model, developed in close cooperation between TU Delft and Deltares (Booij et al., 1999). SWAN is a third-generation shallow water wave model, which is based on the discrete spectral action balance equation. The model is fully spectral and solves for the total range of wave frequencies and wave directions, which implies that short-crested random wave fields propagating simultaneously from widely different directions can be accommodated. The processes of wind generation, dissipation and non-linear wave-wave interactions are represented explicitly. A more complete description of the SWAN wave model can be found in Booij et al. (1999).

The directional grid covers the full circle (360°), allowing for waves to travel to and from all directions. The number of directional bins is 72, which results in a directional resolution of 5°. The spectral grid covers a frequency range from 0.03 Hz to 2.0 Hz, allowing for wave periods from 0.5 to 33.3 s. The number of frequency bins is 40. The version of SWAN used in this study is 40.72A.

5.2.2 Model setup and bathymetry

The SWAN model requires a spatial grid on which to calculate the wave propagation. Herein an overall and fifteen nested wave grids are set up to obtain sufficient accuracy in the area of interest for this study, see Figure 5.1. The overall grid is set up in spherical coordinates (WGS84) and extends from approximately -10 to 6 degrees in longitude and 3 to 6 degrees in latitude. It has a grid size of approximately 1000 m in both cross-shore and longshore direction. The detailed grids have a finer resolution of 50 meter in cross-shore and 100 meter in longshore direction.

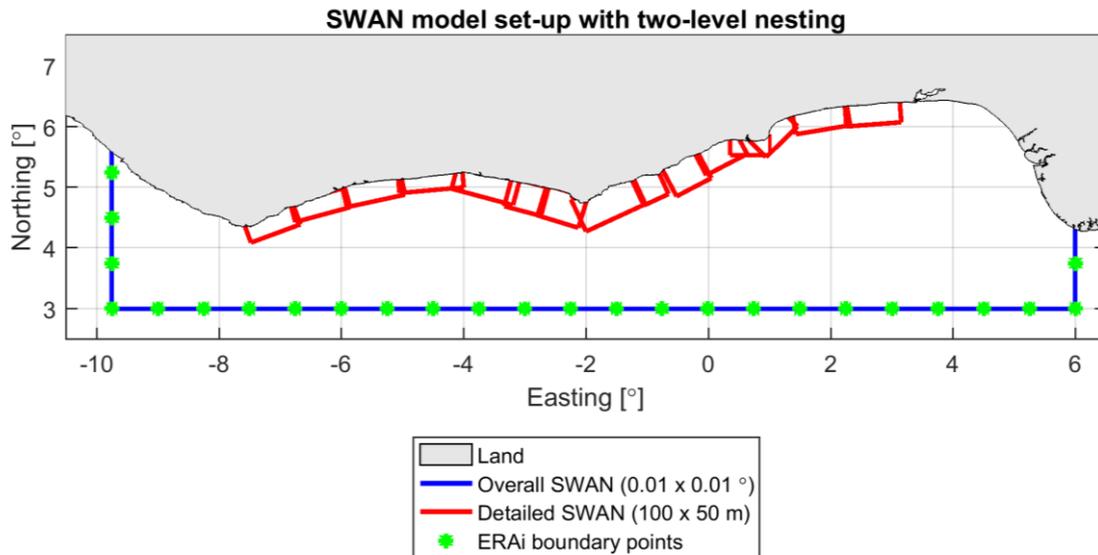


Figure 5.1 Outlines of computational grids used (blue: overall grid, red: detailed grids). Green dots represent the ERA-interim points used to determine the wave forcing (Section 5.2.3).

The depth schematization for the overall and detailed model grids is initially interpolated from the GEBCO08 global bathymetric data set. Grid cells with a water depth between 0 and 1000 meter are updated based on nautical charts and shoreline data from Google Earth (Section 4.2). The bathymetry of the detailed coastal grid (in meter to MSL) is presented in Figure 5.2. The overall model covers the entire area where waves relevant for the area of interest can propagate from and start at a depth of approximately 5000 meter. The fifteen detailed nested models start at a depth of approximately 500 meter.

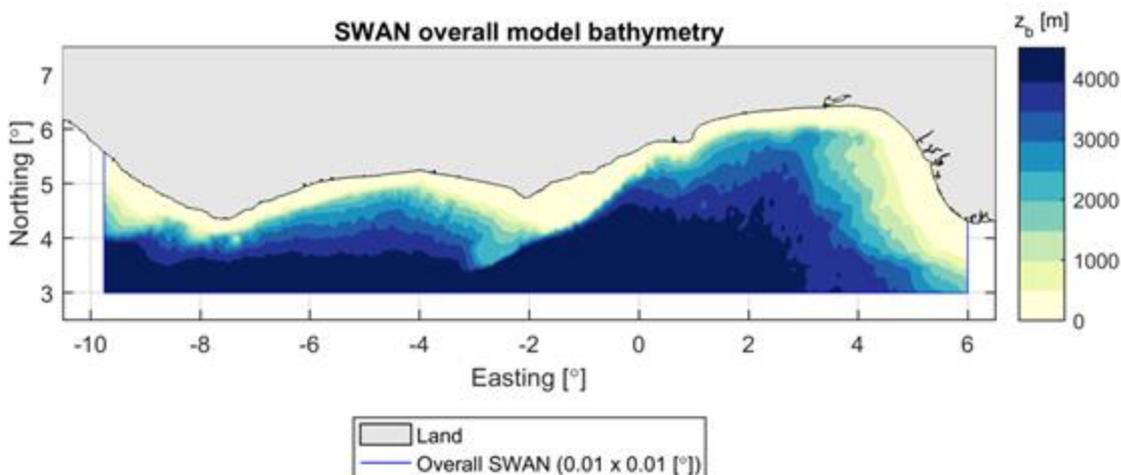


Figure 5.2 Bathymetry of the overall grid (w.r.t. MSL)

5.2.3 Waves classification

To determine the nearshore local wave climate, the wind and wave data from ERA-interim reanalysis is reduced to a series of combinations that represent the annual climate. This is done in order to reduce the computational time. The ERA-interim data point at Lat. 3N Lon. - 2.25E is used as reference point for the determination of the wind and wave climate for the

wave model. At this location, the wind and wave data are divided into 139 separate classes, based on wave height (classes of 0.25 m), wave direction (classes of 10°), wind direction (classes of 10°) (Figure 5.3). For each class, an average wave (height, period, direction) and wind (speeds and direction) are determined. The wind and wave conditions derived at the reference point cannot be applied across the entire model as in reality spatial gradients in wind and wave conditions occur. Spatially varying wave conditions are found by interpolating the ERA-interim data along the outer edge of the overall model grid and by interpolating the wind conditions on a spatially varying grid covering the entire model domain. Each of the 139 combined wind and wave scenarios are computed in separate stationary SWAN computations.

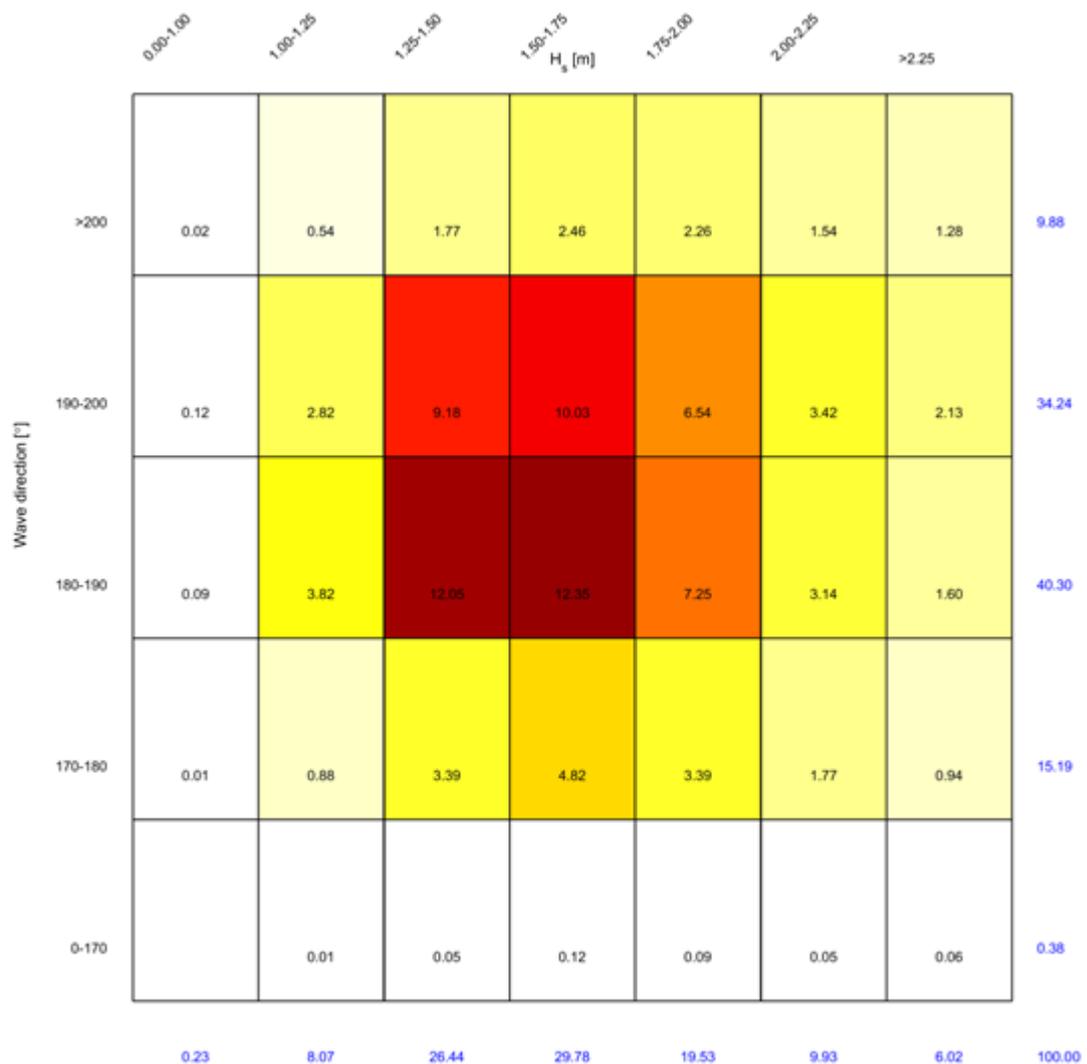


Figure 5.3 Joint occurrence table for significant wave height and mean wave direction for the ERA-interim reference data point at Lat. 3N, Lon. -2.25E.

5.3 Shoreline evolution model

5.3.1 Model description

The UNIBEST-CL+ modelling package is a shoreline evolution model developed by Deltares (Deltares, 2011). The name UNIBEST is an acronym for Uniform Beach Sediment Transport. The modelling package consists of two separate modules: the Longshore Transport (LT) and the CoastLine (CL) module.

The LT-module calculates the magnitude of longshore sediment transport for specific locations along the coast. An assumption made in these calculations is that the beach is uniform in the alongshore direction. The longshore transport is forced by wave-induced longshore drift and/or tidal flow. The surfzone dynamics are derived from a built-in random wave propagation and decay model, taking wave breaking and bottom friction into account. Furthermore, the calculations of longshore transport depend on the topography of the cross-shore profile, the grain size of the sediment, the sediment transport formula and the orientation of the coastline with respect to the incident wave energy. The model calculates longshore transport for the actual coastline orientation and a variety of coastline orientations that are smaller and larger than the actual coastline orientation. These computations result in a set of longshore transport magnitudes (S) for several coastline orientations (Φ). A third-order approximation of these values gives an S - Φ curve for a specific cross-shore coastal profile and wave climate.

Consequently, the coastline evolution (CL) module calculates coastline changes at specific locations on a predefined numerical one-dimensional grid. This grid is a schematization of the coastline. The evolution of the coastline depends on the magnitude and direction of the alongshore transport, which is prescribed for every location by the previously defined S - Φ curves. A change in coastline orientation, as a result of coastline development, gives a change in the magnitude of longshore transport. In this way the CL-module is able to simulate coastline evolution very computationally efficient on the basis of the S - Φ curves.

5.3.2 Calculation of longshore transport

The longshore transport computations are executed for 72 selected locations along the West African coast. The nearshore wave data that is used for these computations is extracted from the 15 detailed SWAN models (see Section 5.2). Results from the wave modelling calculations are shown in Section 6.2. The wave data at the 72 defined locations along the West African coast is extracted from a depth of -15 m, normal to the coast orientation. An example of the locations where the wave data is extracted with respect to the coastline is shown in Figure 5.4, for a stretch of coast near Abidjan. One-dimensional wave propagation and decay from the -15 m point towards the coastline is modelled by the built-in wave model.

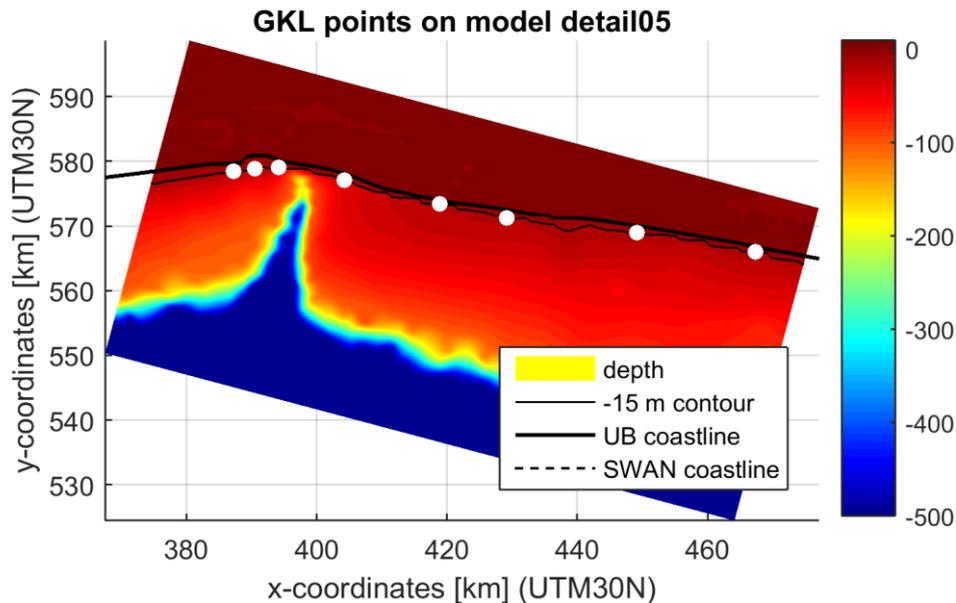


Figure 5.4 Locations where wave data is extracted from the wave modelling results (white dots). In the background in colours, the bathymetry is shown.

The longshore transport computations are based on an equilibrium coastal profile which is applied for the entire stretch of the West African coast. The equilibrium profile is determined assuming a Dean profile (Dean, 1977):

$$h = Ay^{\frac{2}{3}} \quad (1)$$

Here, h is the water depth, y is the cross-shore distance from the coastline and A is a parameter that determines the steepness of the profile:

$$A = 0.067\omega^{0.44} \quad (2)$$

Where ω is the sediment fall velocity for which the Soulsby (1997) formula is used. The steepness of the equilibrium profile depends on the median grain diameter via the sediment fall velocity, which is assumed as uniform grain size of 250 μm . The equilibrium profile is shown in Figure 5.5. The profile is defined by equation (1) between 0 m and -15 m. Between 3 m and 0 m the profile is defined by a beach profile with a steepness of approximately 1:30.

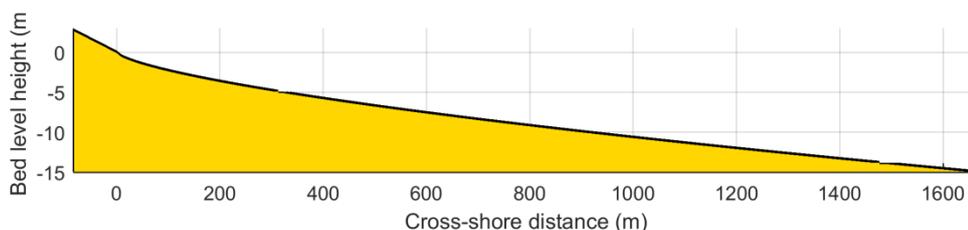


Figure 5.5 Equilibrium profile defined by Dean et al.(2002) equations with a median diameter of 250 μm .

The direction, magnitude and distribution along the cross-shore profile of sediment-transport are calculated for the 139 near-shore wave scenarios individually (see Section 5.2). These computations are performed based on the Van Rijn (1993) sediment transport formula. The

transport for each cross-shore profile is determined for each of the wave conditions and added up to determine a total transport. A list of the main parameters used for the sediment transport calculations is shown in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1 Main parameters used for the sediment transport calculation.

Quantity	Parameter	Unit	Value
Active height	-	m	10
Dynamic boundary			
Transport boundary			
Grain diameter (50 th percentile)	D_{50}	μm	250
Grain diameter (90 th percentile)	D_{90}	μm	275
Sediment density	ρ_s	kg/m^3	2650
Seawater density	ρ_w	kg/m^3	1025
Current related bottom roughness	f_c	m	0.05
Wave related bottom roughness	f_w	m	0.05
Fall velocity suspension material	ω	m/s	0.02
Viscosity	ν	m^2/s	$1 \cdot 10^{-6}$
Relative bottom transport layer thickness		-	0.03
Porosity		-	0.4

The results of the longshore sediment transport modelling are 72 S- Φ curves (one for each location along the entire domain) that describe the longshore transport magnitude for different coastline orientations. An example of an S- Φ curve at the Volta River outlet is shown in Figure 5.6. The black dotted line shows the current coastline orientation at the location of the S- Φ . The red dotted line shows the equilibrium orientation of the coast as calculated by the model (i.e. zero transport).

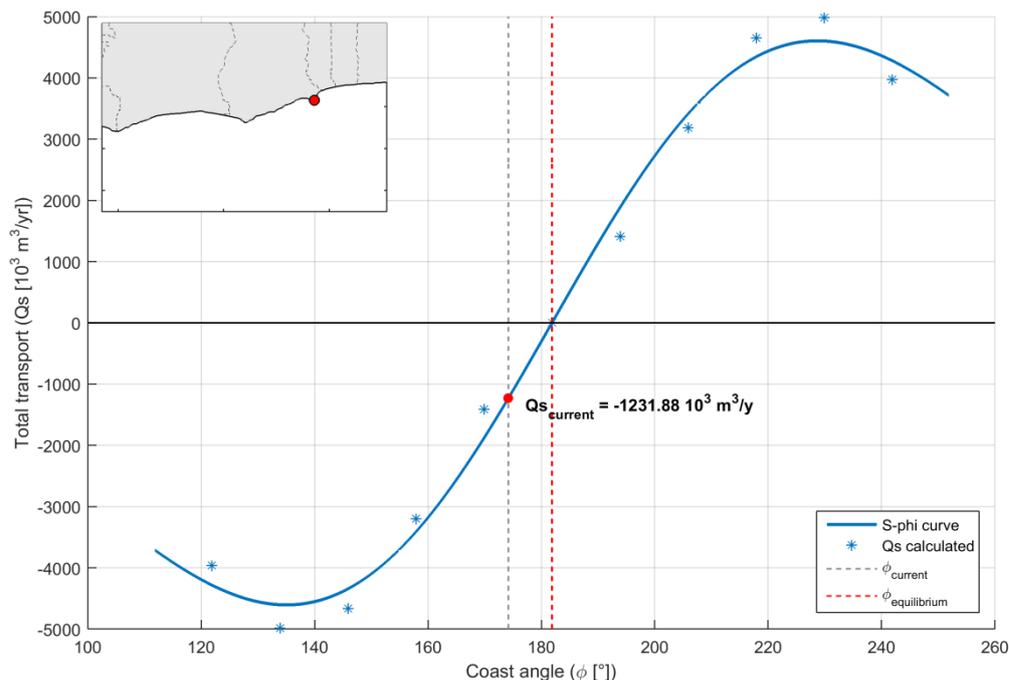


Figure 5.6 S- Φ curve for a location at the Volta River outlet (see inset). The calculated transports are given by the blue asterisks, the blue continuous line is the third order approximation of these values, which describes the S- Φ curve.

5.3.3 Coastline schematization

The coastline is schematized from the border of Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire up to the border of Togo and Nigeria (Figure 5.7). The schematization is done based on historical coastlines acquired by Landsat satellite Images (<http://agua-monitor.appspot.com/>, see Appendix A) and by Google Earth imagery. The coastline is schematized by grid nodes with an equidistant spacing of approximately two kilometres. At locations of interest (i.e. the three major ports and river outlets) the grid spacing is reduced locally to several hundred meters. The white dots in the figure show the locations where the model is forced by the $S-\Phi$ curves. The magnitude and direction of longshore transport of intermediate grid cells (that are not directly forced by $S-\Phi$ curves) are solved by linear interpolation between two neighbouring $S-\Phi$ curves.

The western part of Côte d'Ivoire and the coastal stretch at Cape Three Points in Ghana are characterized by 'small-scale' features, showing an alternation of pocket beaches and rocky capes. The coastline here would require very detailed modelling and downscaling at each single beach, in order to capture the wave sheltering and wave diffraction-refraction processes that occur at those rocky outcrops. As the purpose of the study is the quantification of the large-scale sediment budget over the entire West-African coast, it was decided to model those sections following a schematic approach (i.e. by smoothing the coastline at those sections, resembling the large-scale features), and focusing on the overall longshore transport and the total sediment budget over the entire coastal section. On the other hand, absolute magnitudes of coastline changes are not reproduced accurately at these specific sections because the position of the coastline does not perfectly resemble the actual position. However relative changes in coastline with respect to a reference situation (scenario simulations) can still be investigated with the present model setup.

Furthermore, the model is modified to resemble some important features along the coast. The three ports of Abidjan, Lomé en Cotonou are schematically included in the model as long straight jetties and adjustment of the coastline. In this way the disruption of the longshore transport pattern is taken into account in the model. The sediment yield from seven major rivers to the coastline is modelled as source point of sediment to the coastline model. These locations coincide with the locations of the outlet (mouth) of the rivers. Section 5.4 describes how the magnitude of sediment yield of each river is determined.

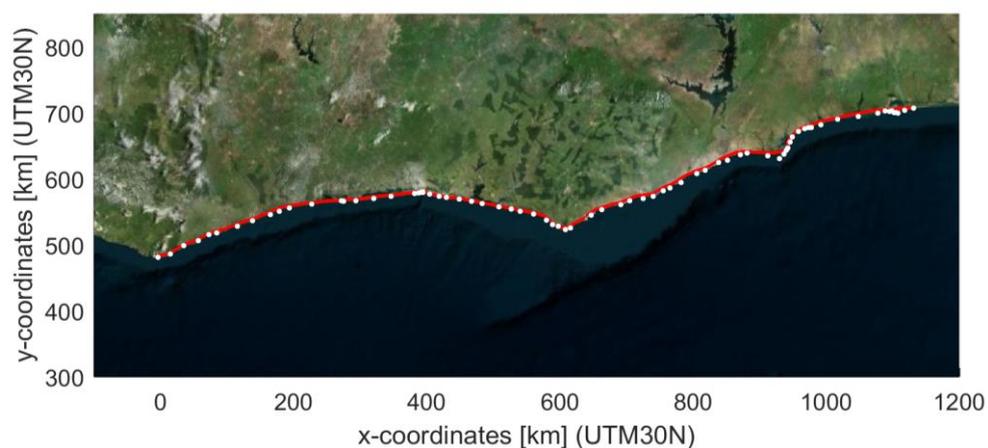


Figure 5.7 Schematization of the coastline in the UNIBEST-CL+ model (red line). The white dots indicate the location at which the coastline model is forced by the $S-\Phi$ curve.

5.4 Sediment input from major rivers

The sediment input from the major rivers towards the coastal system was estimated based on empirical relations between the mean annual runoff, computed by a large-scale hydrological model, and the sediment yield.

5.4.1 Hydrological model

A large-scale hydrological model was implemented based on the WFlow code (Schellekens, 2013). WFlow is a model that requires little calibration effort and maximises the use of available spatial data.

The main input parameters are:

- DEM (Digital Elevation Map). The data was obtained from HydroSHEDS with a resolution of 90 m (<http://hydrosheds.cr.usgs.gov/index.php>). (Figure 5.8).
- Land use and soil maps
- Precipitation and temperature data. These data were derived from ECMWF Era-Interim Reanalysis. The available range of the data is from 1979 until 2014 and the resolution of the datasets is 0.25°.
- Evapotranspiration data. These data are computed using the Penman-Monteith method based on 1) incoming shortwave radiation, 2) incoming longwave radiation, 3) daily mean temp, 4) wind speed 5) specific humidity and 6) surface air pressure, variables obtained from ECMWF. Precipitation, temperature and evapotranspiration input data was resampled to a resolution of 4 Km x 4 Km.

Yearly averaged maps for the different input variables are shown in Appendix B.

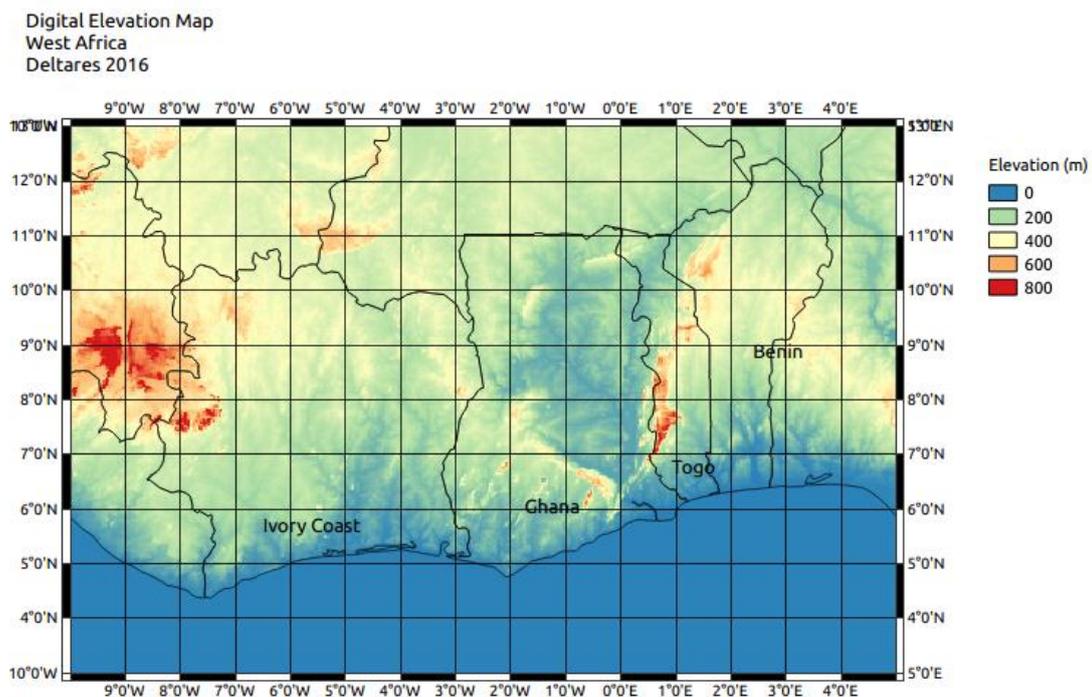


Figure 5.8 DEM of the study area.

The total extension of the modelled area ranges from 10°W to 10°E, and from 3°N to 20°N and was implemented with a resolution of 4 km x 4 km.

The hydrological model was calibrated and validated for all the major rivers in the area. The validation was based on the Global River Discharge dataset (RivDIS: <https://daac.ornl.gov/RIVDIS/rivdis.shtml>).

5.4.2 Estimation of the sediment yield from major rivers

The sediment yield from the major rivers to the beach was estimated based on Dendy and Bolton (1976) for the reference period (1979-2014):

$$S = 1280 Q^{0.46} (1.46 - 0.26 \log(A)) \quad \text{if } Q < 2 \quad (3)$$

$$S = 1965 e^{-0.055Q} (1.43 - 0.26 \log(A)) \quad \text{if } Q \geq 2 \quad (4)$$

where :

Q mean annual runoff (in)

A catchment area (mi²)

S total sediment yield (tons/mi²/yr)

The computed values are compared to literature values from Allersma and Tilmans (1993) in Table 5.2, for the situation without dams, showing values in the same order of magnitude.

However, it is important to realize that only the coarser fraction of the total sediment load (sand and gravel) contribute to the sediment volume forming the beach. (see also Section 3.8.1). For this study, the sand fraction is assumed to be 10% of the total sediment yield estimated based on Dendy and Bolton (1976). This assumption is supported by other similar studies (e.g. Allersma and Tilmans, 1993).

It is important to realize that the quantification of the sediment yield from the different river catchments is purely based on empirical formula's, which contain several assumptions (e.g. that the sand fraction is 10% of the total sediment load). Therefore, values in Table 5.2 are only meant to provide a order of magnitude of the expected sediment yields.

Table 5.2 Comparison between computed sediment yield and literature values.

River name	Catchment (km ²)	Runoff (mm/yr)	Sediment yield (m ³ /yr) computed using Dendy-Bolton.	Sand fraction (m ³ /yr)	Sediment yield (m ³ /yr) from Allersma and Tilmans (1993).
Sassandra	66,000	207.0	1,078,691	107,869	2,875,000
Bandama	91,000	82.4	3,524,114	352,411	4,000,000
Comoé	78,000	40.8	3,258,758	325,876	2,937,500
Pra	22,714	274.7	693,628	69,363	875,000
Volta	394,100	88.7	6,778,345	677,835	9,375,000
Mono	21,000	153.1	1,008,148	100,815	812,500
Ouémé	42,000	115.0	1,774,999	177,500	1,312,500

5.4.3 Effects of dams and reservoirs on the sediment yield

When the river flow enters a reservoir, its velocity and hence transport capacity are reduced and the sediment load is deposited in the reservoir. Often, more than 90% of the incoming sediment load is trapped and deposited in horizontal strata or thin bands across the bottom of the reservoir (Van Rijn, 2005b). Different methods exist to operate and manage the sedimentation in reservoirs.

The major rivers in the study area have been dammed. The trapping efficiency of the major reservoirs was estimated by means of the Brune (1953) formula, based on the mean annual runoff and the reservoir capacity. The values were compared with values obtained based on the Brown (1943) formula. Estimated trapping efficiency values for all different dams are shown in Table 5.3. When different dams exist on the same river, the overall trapping efficiency is obtained by multiplying the trapping efficiency of each single dam.

Table 5.3 Estimated trap efficiency for the different dams.

Dam	River	Sub-basin	Trap efficiency Brune (1953) (%)	Trap efficiency Brown (1943) (%)
Ayme II	Bia	Comoe	97	96
Buyo	Sassandra	Sassandra	95	98
Kossou	Bandama	Bandama	85	59
Taabo	Bandama	Bandama	62	16
Akosombo	Volta	Volta	96	87
Barekese	Ofin	Pra	22	24
Bui	Volta	Mouhoun	94	99
Kpong	Volta	Volta	24	10
Nangbeto	Mono	Mono	97	94
Ilauko	Ilauko	Oueme	18	11

5.4.4 Effects of climate change on the sediment yield

Climate change may affect the future hydrology of the river catchments which, in turn, can have an impact on the sediment input towards the coastal systems. For example, an increase in temperature may lead to an increase in evapotranspiration and therefore lower river discharges and a decrease of transported sediment input towards the coastal system. On the other hand, an increase in precipitation, according to Dendy and Bolton (1976), could lead to a more extensive ground cover by vegetation and therefore lower sediment yields.

In particular, the following processes related to climate change were investigated as part of this study: changes in temperature, precipitation and evapotranspiration.

5.4.4.1 *Temperature*

According to Christensen et al. (2007), the temperature may increase from 2° to 6° by 2100. In our scenario, we consider an increase in temperature of 6° by 2100 (worse-case scenario) for the period 2070-2100.

5.4.4.2 *Precipitation*

Future trends in precipitation are under debate. Following Sultan et al. (2013) we consider two different scenarios, respectively with an increase and a decrease in precipitation of 20% for the period 2070-2100.

5.4.4.3 *Potential evapotranspiration*

The future potential evapotranspiration is computed for the year 2100 resulting from the changes in temperature (Section 5.4.4.1), according to the method described in Lu et al. (2005).

6 Results

6.1 Introduction

In this chapter, the results from the numerical modelling framework described in Chapter 5 are presented. The full matrix with the different simulated scenario's is shown in Table 6.1.

Table 6.1 Full matrix of simulated scenarios.

Modelling type	Scenario and results	Additional information
Wave modelling	Reference scenario (Section 6.2).	Forced by ERA-INTERIM data (Section 5.2)
	Change in wave climate scenario (Section 6.5.2).	Forced by ERA-INTERIM data (Section 5.2); Hs +3%, Dir +2° (Hemer et al. (2013); period 2070-2100 (Section 4.6.2)
	See level rise scenario's (Section 6.5.2).	Forced by ERA-INTERIM data (Section 5.2); RSLR: 0.3 m and 1.0 m (Section 4.6.1); period 2070-2100.
Sediment input from rivers	Reference scenario (Section 6.3).	Based on large-scale hydrological model (Section 5.4.1). Sediment yield computed based on Dendy and Bolton (1976). (Section 5.4.2)
	Effect of dams and reservoirs (Section 6.3)	Based on Brune (1953). (Section 5.4.3).
	Climate change scenario's (Section 6.3).	Change in temperature (+6°) and precipitation (+20% or -20%) (Section 5.4.4).
Shoreline evolution modelling	Hindcast model (Section 6.4.1).	Simulated period: 1985-2015.
	Reference model (Section 6.4.2).	Simulated period: 2015-2045.
	Effects of anthropogenic interventions: main ports (Section 6.5.1).	Removal of the main port. Simulated period: 2015-2045.
	Effects of anthropogenic interventions: bypassing sediment (Section 6.5.1).	Bypassing of 0%, 50%, and 100% of sediment. Simulated period: 2015-2045.
	Effects of anthropogenic interventions: river dams (Section 6.5.1).	Removal of the main dams. Simulated period: 2015-2045.
	Climate change: offshore wave climate and sea level rise (Section 6.5.2).	Change in offshore wave climate. 30 years simulation assuming expected changes for period 2070-2100.
	Climate change: temperature and precipitation (Section 6.5.2).	Changes in sediment input due to changes in temperature and precipitation. 30 years simulation assuming expected changes for period 2070-2100.

6.2 Wave modelling

Each of the 139 combined wind and wave scenarios resulting from the wave and wind classification (Section 5.2.3) were computed in separate stationary computations. An example (scenario 24) of the computed significant wave height and wave direction fields for the overall and detail model 3 are presented respectively in Figure 6.1 and Figure 6.2. Each scenario is used to determine the wave propagation for each class from offshore to nearshore. After developing the transformation matrix from offshore to nearshore of the 139 scenario's, it is then possible to transform the entire offshore ERA-Interim time series (Section 4.3.1), containing about 50.000 records for a period of 35 years, to the nearshore with limited computational effort. Spectral information is automatically nested (i.e. transmitted) from the overall to the detail model. Wave roses can be constructed based on the entire time series, as can be seen in Figure 6.3 and Figure 6.4.

In general, the wave height decreases moving in eastward direction (i.e. from Benin to Ivory Coast). The average wave height is 1.09 meter. Near the rocky part of Takoradi the waves are the highest (about 1.4 meter) while they decrease moving eastwards with a minimum near the Keta lagoon (around 0.5 meter), as can be seen in Figure 6.5. Moreover, the wave direction turns in clockwise direction moving from west to east.

A quick, not calibrated, calculation of the potential alongshore sediment transport can be obtained using the Van Rijn (2012) sediment transport formula and the modelled wave information, as shown in Figure 6.6. The spatially-varying field of waves leads to a potential alongshore sediment transport up to 1 million m^3/year , mainly from west to east consistent with literature values (Section 3.8.2), and with a reverse transport direction (from east-to-west) west of Cape Three Points.

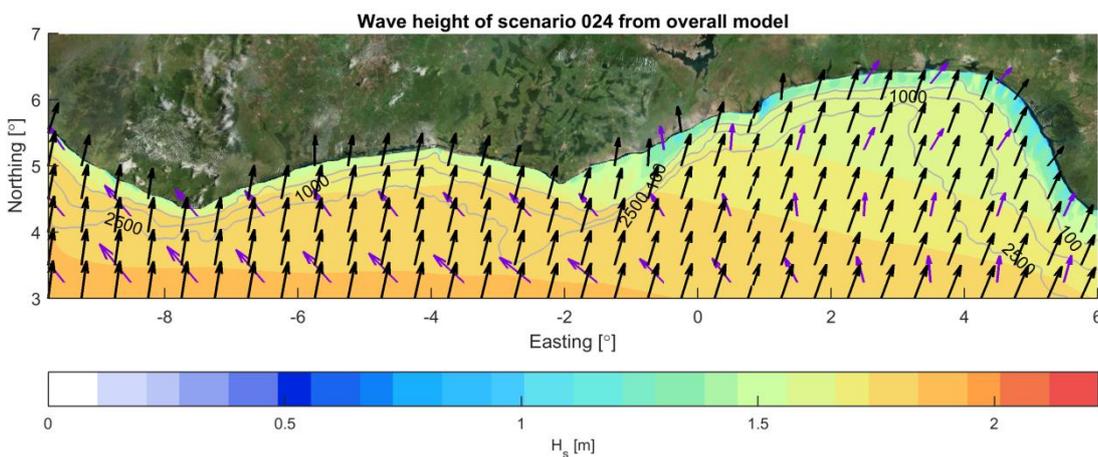


Figure 6.1 Example of computed significant wave height (colour scale) and mean wave direction (black vectors) for scenario 24 of the overall model. Wind speed and direction are shown as pink vectors.

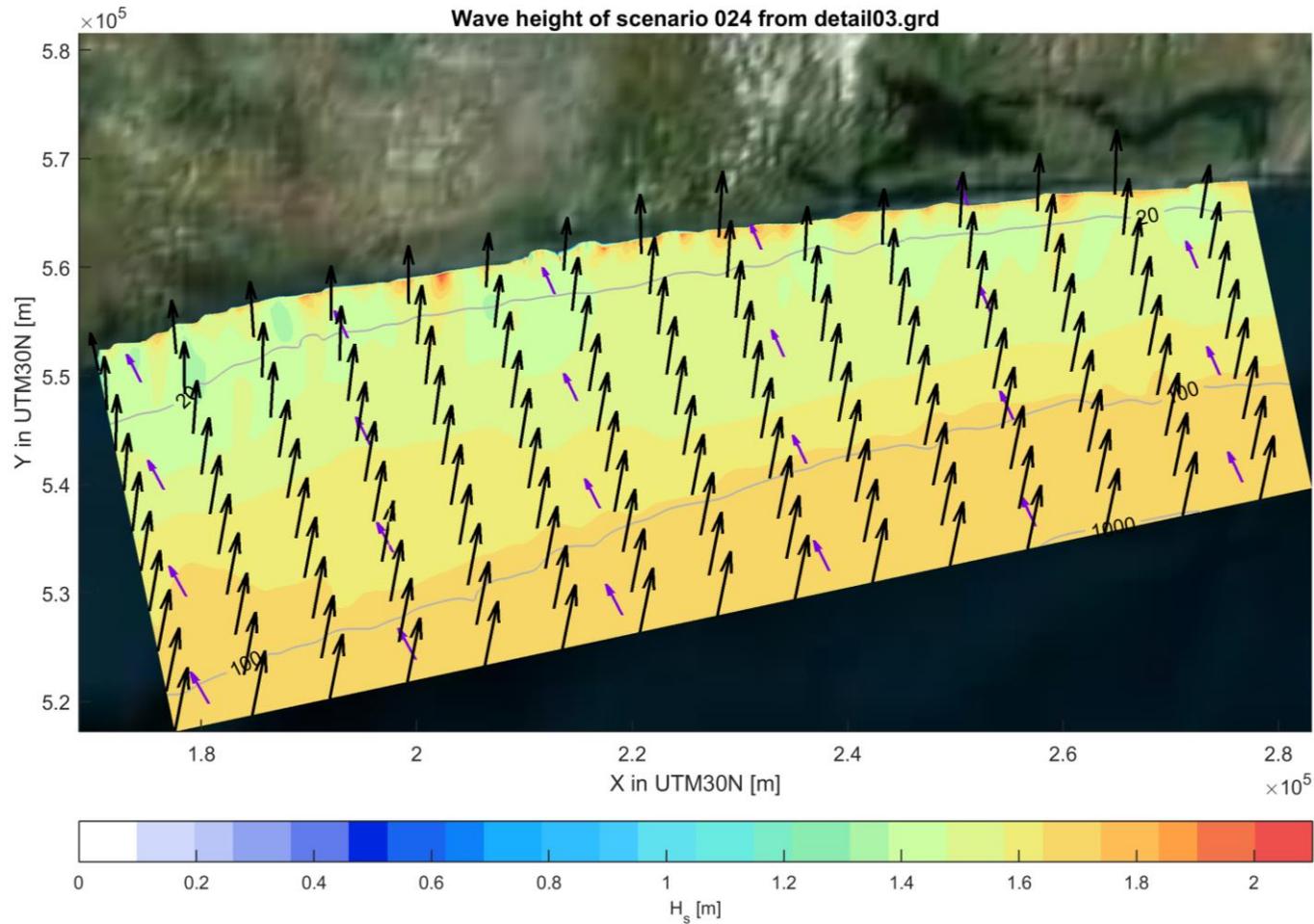


Figure 6.2 Example of computed significant wave height (colour scale) and mean wave direction (black vectors) and for scenario 24 of the detail model 3. Wind speed and direction are shown as pink vectors.

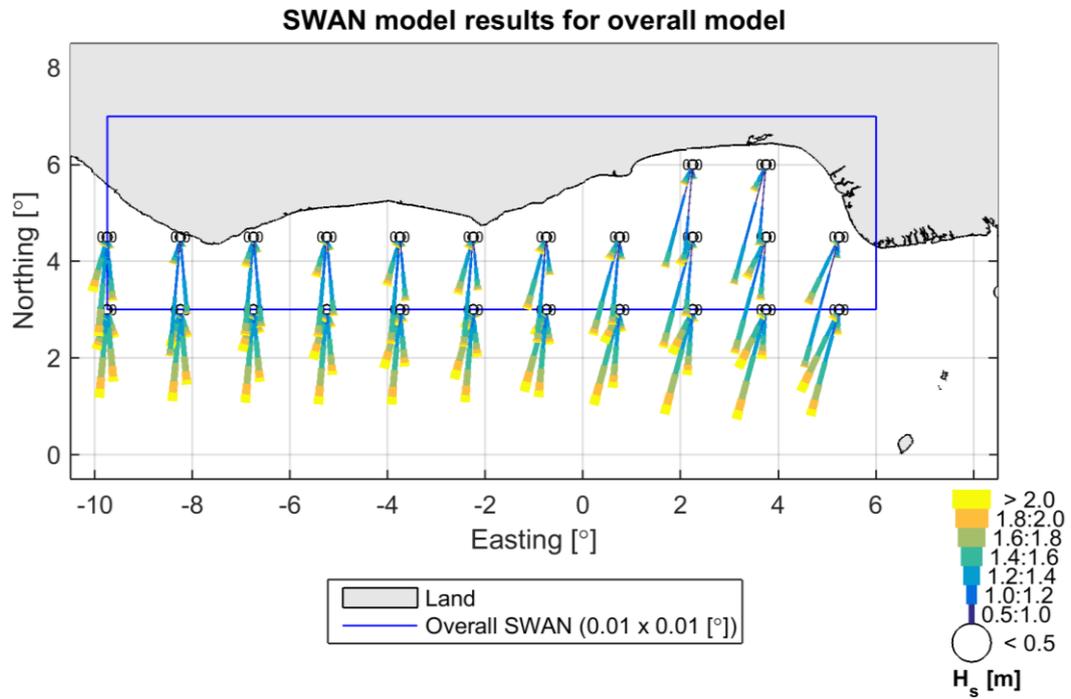


Figure 6.3 Offshore wave roses for the entire coastline of West Africa as calculated by the overall SWAN model

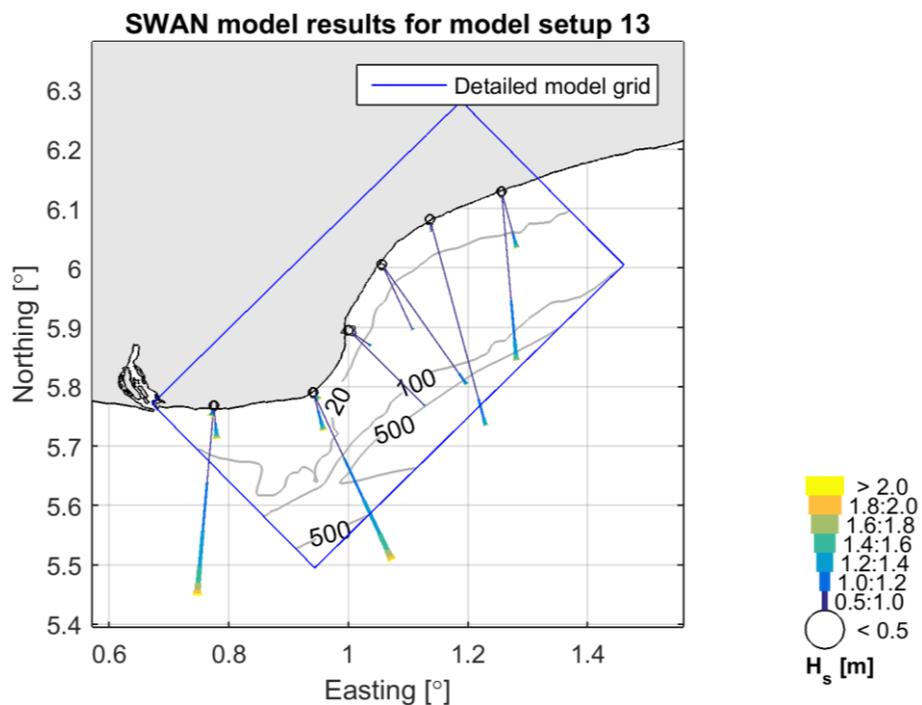


Figure 6.4 Nearshore wave roses as calculated by the 13th detailed SWAN model.

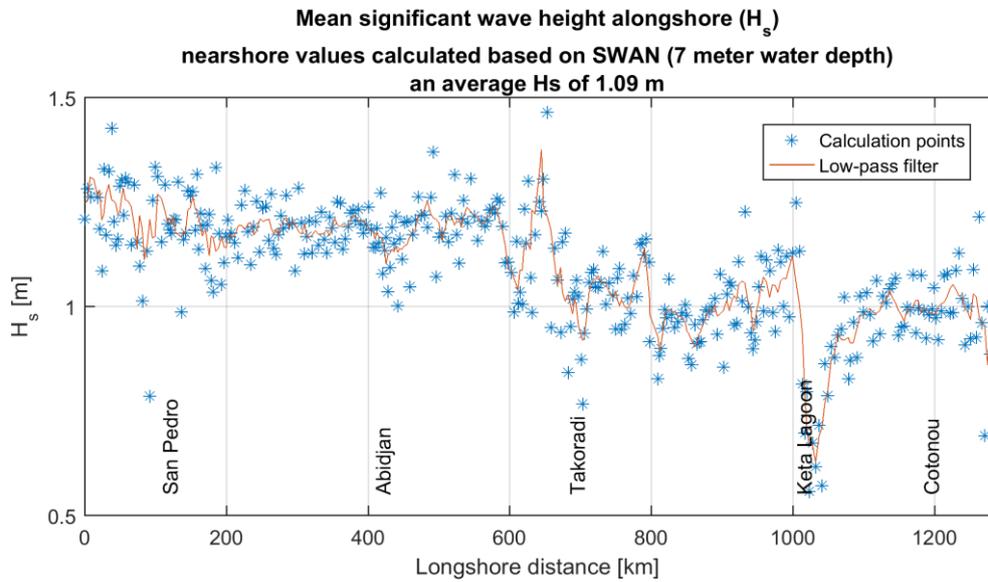


Figure 6.5 Nearshore significant wave height as calculated by all the detailed models combined.

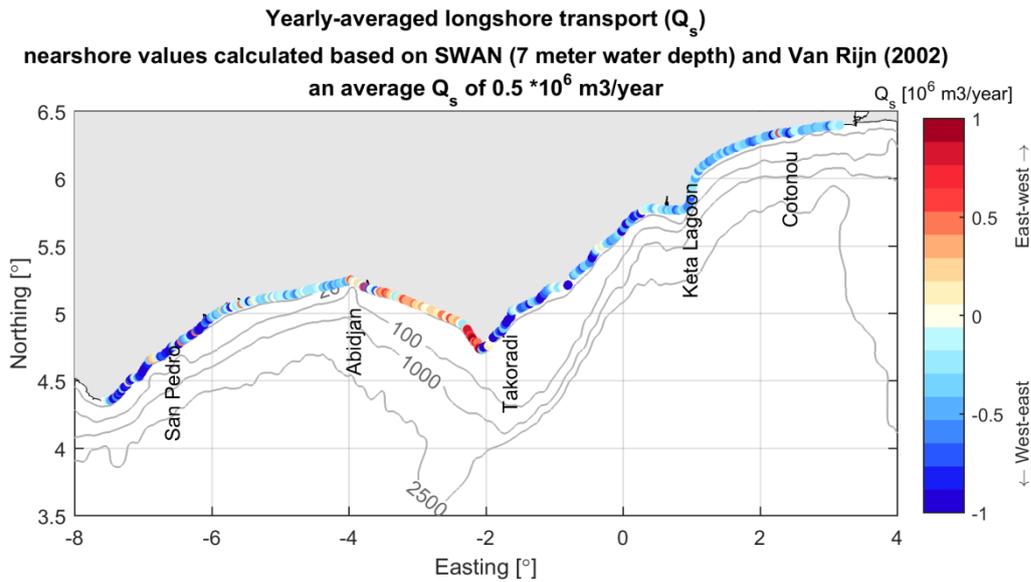


Figure 6.6 Alongshore sediment transport as calculated by all the detailed models combined with Van Rijn (2012).

6.3 Modelling of sediment input from rivers

The computed sediment yield from the different rivers acts as a source for the shoreline model. Following Section 5.4 and Table 6.1 the sediment yield was estimated based on empirical relationships for:

- Reference situation (actual situation, including dams and reservoirs)
- Scenario when river dams are removed
- Climate change scenario's, including an increase in temperature of 6 °C temperature and a +20% or -20% change in precipitation.

The estimated sediment input towards the coastline system for the different scenario's is summarized in Table 6.2. Although counter-intuitive, it is possible to see how an increase in precipitation may lead to a decrease in sediment yield (due to more vegetation) and vice versa (Section 5.4.4).

Table 6.2 Sediment yield estimated for the different scenario's (sand only).

River	Sediment yield (reference scenario) (m ³ /yr)	No dams (m ³ /yr)	Increase in temperature of 6°; +20% in precipitation (m ³ /yr)	Increase in temperature of 6°; -20% in precipitation (m ³ /yr)
Sassandra	5,393	107,869	1,717	8,711
Bandama	52,862	352,411	17,027	67,597
Comoé	9,776	325,876	4,768	13,400
Pra	54,103	69,363	28,855	88,620
Volta	27,113	677,835	17,894	32,461
Mono	3,024	100,815	1,164	4,209
Ouémé	145,550	177,500	55,183	197,023

It is important to stress that the sediment contribution from rivers towards the coastal system is a very difficult quantity to estimate and/or to measure (especially at the scale of the study). Therefore, the values presented are the best estimates that we could derive based on relations available from literature.

Also, the scenario's used as input to the model are representative of the most extreme conditions that we could derive (i.e. removal of all dams and most extreme climate change scenario's) in order to get a feeling of the maximal possible effect that these processes may have on the predicted shoreline changes.

A final important point relate to the relative effect of having/removing the dams on the sediment available at the coastal system. In the real situation, the general effect of a dam on sediments, is indeed sediments settling in the reservoirs behind the dams. However, the direct effect of these dams will be, in first place, erosion of the river bed downstream of the dams (i.e. bed degradation), which in turn will result in no immediate changes in the sediment input towards the coastal system (i.e. the same volume of sediment will reach the coastline but eroded from the river bed). Therefore, an erosive wave will start from the dam and propagate slowly downstream to the coast. Only when all the bed has been eroded and a new equilibrium in the rivers has been reached, the effect on the sediment input towards the coastline system will be visible. In order to describe this accurately, a detail morphodynamic modelling study for each river would be required. Based on empirical relationships, we have

estimated that the time lag before the erosion from the dam will reach the coastline ranges between 0 up to 30-40 years, depending on the distance between the dam and the coastline.

6.4 Shoreline evolution modelling; reference model

The coastal evolution model will be used to determine the large scale sediment budget of the West African coast and to evaluate the relative effects of anthropogenic interventions and climate change on the sediment budget and shoreline changes, in line with the first objective stated in Chapter 2. The large scale sediment transport pattern will be presented in this section, while the effects of anthropogenic interventions and future climate change will be presented in Section 6.5. A summary table with longshore transport values for the various model simulations is included in Appendix C.

6.4.1 Hindcast for the period 1985 - 2015

The coastal evolution model described in Section 5.3 is calibrated to ensure that modelled longshore transport values can describe accurately actual transport rates. The period from 1985 till 2015 (30 years) is used for this calibration, using as a basis data of longshore transport as derived from literature and from the shoreline analysis (Table 3.6).

The calibration of the model included:

- A sensitivity to different alongshore transport formulations
- A sensitivity to the median sand diameter (D_{50})
- A sensitivity to the nearshore wave climate

As a result of this calibration, the Van Rijn (1992) sediment transport formula was chosen with an average D_{50} of 250 μm (Section 5.3.1). A rotation of $+2^\circ$ in clockwise direction to the nearshore wave climate was applied in order to increase eastward directed transport and improve model accuracy with respect to the measurements and literature values. This can be justified based on expert judgment, as uncertainties in wave schematization and wave propagation can result in differences up to about 3° in the nearshore wave climate. The rotation was implemented in the model by adjusting the equilibrium angle in the $S-\Phi$ curve (Figure 5.6) by 2° . Also, as the effect of wave diffraction was not properly accounted for by the resolution of the wave model, the $S-\Phi$ curves down-drift of the main ports of Abidjan, Lomé and Cotonou are adjusted by filtering the wave climate on wave directions that influence the coast down-drift of the ports. For example, for the port of Lomé this implies that all wave climate scenarios with a direction that is larger than 170° will not be used for the calculation of the longshore transport. In this way, wave sheltering by the port is schematically implemented in the model.

The simulated potential longshore transport pattern derived from the calibrated model is shown in Figure 6.7. The computed alongshore transport (black line) indicates the magnitude, versus the alongshore distance of the model, and assuming a 0 origin at the border between Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire. Alongshore transport rates correspond to potential volume of sand transported by nearshore currents ("sand river"). The red and blue bars in the figure indicate longshore transport values obtained from literature and the shoreline analysis (Appendix A and Section 3.8.2), respectively.

Model results indicate that the model is capable of capturing the large-scale transport rates and directions, which are in the same range of the data obtained from literature and the

shoreline analysis. Most of the transport is eastward oriented with most of the alongshore transport ranging between 0 and 1.5 million m^3/year , as according to literature. The transport direction reverses west of Cape Three Points. When comparing with single validation points on the figure, one can see that the modelled longshore transport are in good agreement with literature values west and east of Abidjan. Also the 0 value in alongshore transport on the eastern part of Ivory Coast is well represented. Near the outlet of the Volta River, the complete range in transport is covered by the model as well. However, near the port of Lomé, the calculated transport appears to be on the lower side. The range of transport given here is 1.0 – 1.5 million m^3/yr , while the model predicts a transport west of the port of 0.5 million m^3/yr . At the port of Cotonou, the modelled alongshore transport agrees with the transport values obtained by the shoreline analysis. However, east of the port, the model seems to underestimate the values presented by Delft Hydraulics (1992). A possible reason for the underestimation of modelled values east of the port, is that the values used for model validation actually estimate alongshore transport rates as a result of shoreline changes induced by the presence of jetties, groynes, etc., however excluding the presence of other human activities (e.g. port dredging, leeside nourishments, sand mining from the beach, etc.) (Appendix A).

Other discrepancies may be due to the assumptions made in the large-scale model schematization, meant to capture the large scale sediment transport features along the entire West African coast. The most important schematizations are: a uniformly applied sediment size and equilibrium profile, and a smooth schematization of the coastline (Section 5.3.2).

Also, at locations where pocket beaches are present, differences can be found between model results and actual transport rates. Small-scale pocket beaches are in fact not resolved by the model, and are generally characterized by very small alongshore transport rates in reality. For example, the potential large computed transport rates at Cape Three Points, is related to the assumption of the small grain size ($D_{50} = 250 \mu\text{m}$) and the unlimited supply of sand in the model. In reality the coast here consists of rocky capes with alternating pocket beaches. The pocket beaches can be sheltered for wave impact due to the capes; moreover, the capes consist of rocky material. Therefore, the actual transport rate here will be smaller.

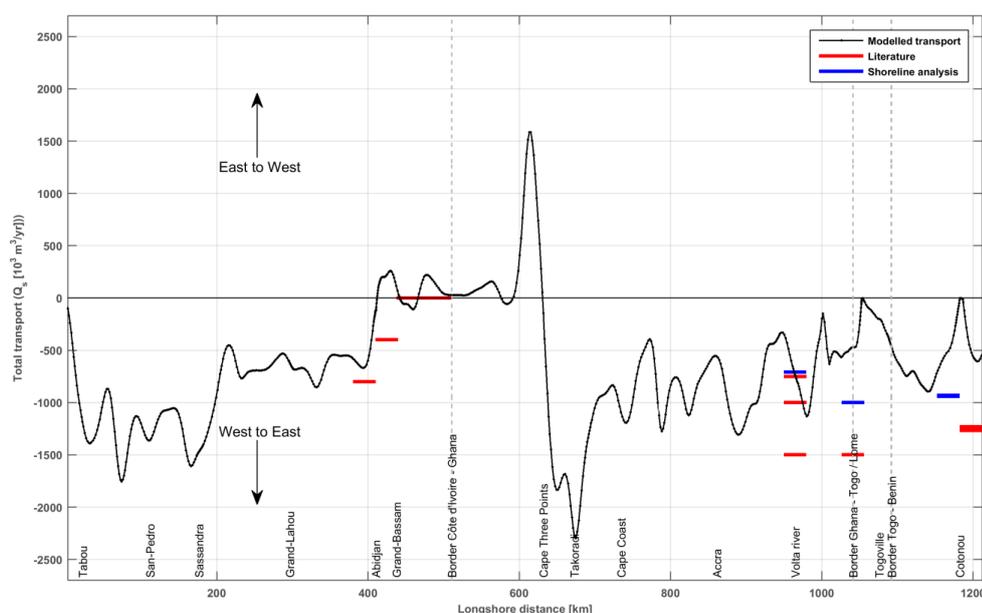


Figure 6.7 Modelled longshore transport; the red bars indicate literature values of longshore transport and the blue bars indicate values of longshore transport determined by the shoreline analysis (Appendix A).

After model calibration on the basis of longshore transport values, the model is validated based on absolute shoreline changes near the three ports Abidjan, Lomé and Cotonou. The purpose of this validation is to verify if the rate of coastline changes at these locations is in the approximate order of magnitude as experienced in reality. If magnitudes of coastline change are in the same order of magnitude this will also give confidence that the overall longshore transport pattern is correctly represented by the model.

The coastline changes at the three ports are modelled assuming an active height of 10 m, to be consistent with the shoreline analysis presented in Appendix A. The shoreline analysis at the ports was focused on the accreting sections up-drift of the jetties because the erosional sections down-drift are largely influenced by human-induced mitigation measures. Therefore, the validation of the model on the basis of absolute coastline changes is focused on the accretion rate up-drift as well.

The coastline change near Abidjan is shown in Figure 6.8. The top figure shows a visual overview of the coastline as schematized after the 1985 position of the coastline (blue line, see Section 5.3.3) and the modelled coastline (other colored lines). The bar graph in the bottom panel of the figure shows the magnitude of the predicted coastline changes per year.

The coastal evolution model shows there is accretion on the western side of the jetty, as expected. The accretion rate here is in the order of 5 – 8 m/yr. The rate of coastline change west of Canal de Vridi is in very good agreement with the rates from literature (5 m/yr) and the shoreline analysis (5-10 m/yr) (see Table 3.6). On the eastern side of the jetty, however, the model shows accretion as well. In reality, erosion is experienced here. There are two reasons that the model shows a discrepancy with actual coastline changes here. The first is because processes as wave sheltering, diffraction, and refraction are not accurately accounted for and only implemented in a schematized way by filtering the wave climate. The second one is because the coastline changes here are influenced by human interference (Appendix A), which are not implemented in the coastline model.

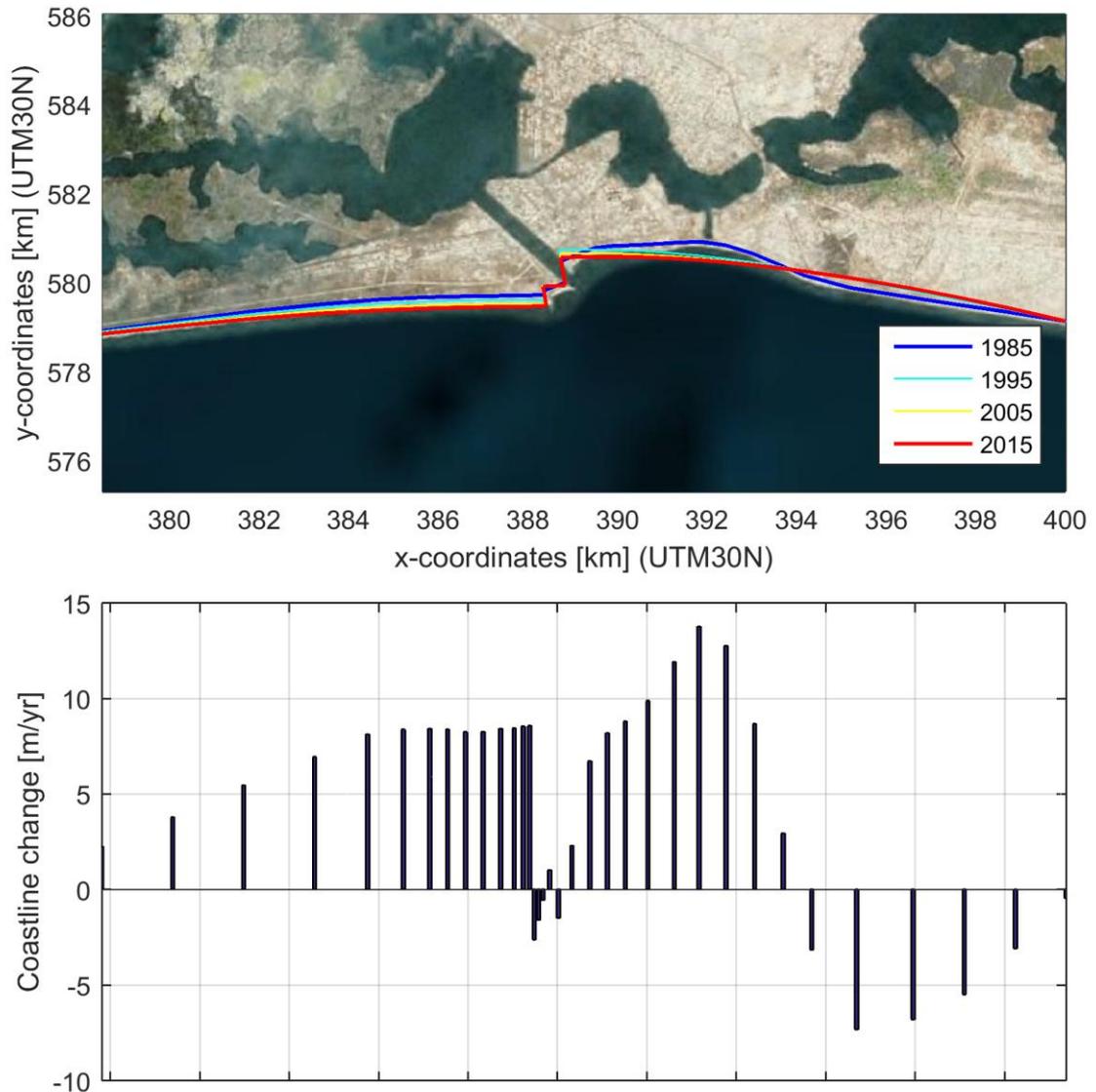


Figure 6.8 Modelled coastline change in the period 1985 – 2015 near the port of Abidjan

The absolute magnitude of coastline change at the port of Lomé is shown in Figure 6.9 for the period 1985 – 2015. The figure shows that the accretion up-drift, and the erosion down-drift of the jetty are both well reproduced by the model. The maximum rate of accretion just up-drift is 15 m/yr. In 1999, the maximum rate of accretion here was up to 1 kilometre over a period of 30 years (Anthony and Blivi, 1999). Considering this, the modelled accretion rate appear to be underestimated. However, the modelled period here does not coincide with the period considered in Anthony and Blivi (1999). Accretion tends to slow down when the shoreline reaches the top of the breakwater because bypass will be more important. Therefore the maximum value of 15 m/yr seems appropriate. Just down-drift of the port the coast is protected by a revetment at the location of the port, therefore no erosion takes place here. Further down-drift the rate of erosion is in the order of several meters per year. Because the coastline down-drift of the port of Lomé shows classical leeside erosion, the model is able to reproduce the erosion here.

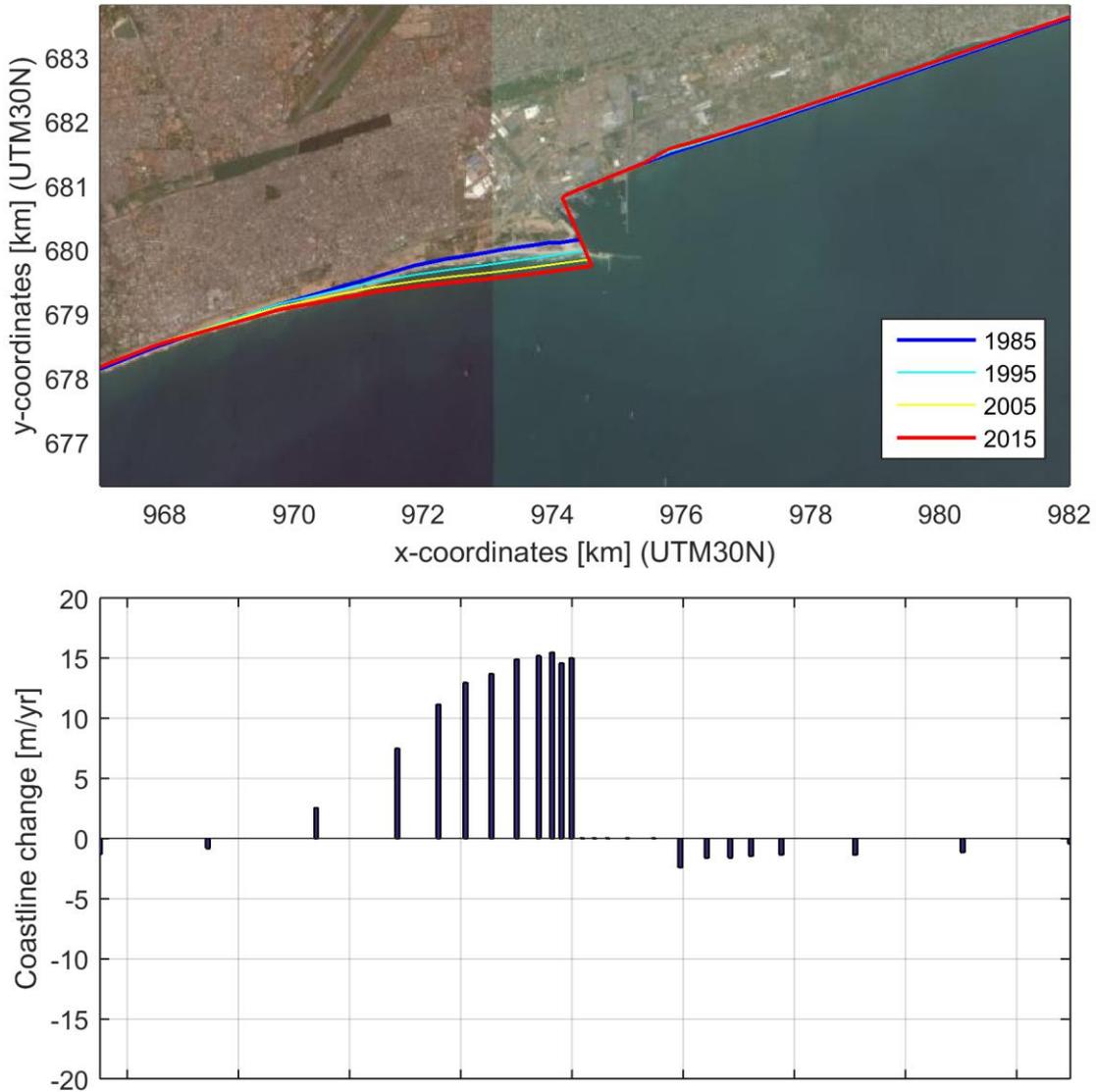


Figure 6.9 Modelled coastline change in the period 1985 - 2015 near the port of Lomé.

The modelled coastline change near the port of Cotonou is shown in Figure 6.10. Accretion at the western part of the jetty, and erosion on the eastern part can be observed. The accretion rate up-drift of the jetty is in the order of 4 – 7 m/yr. From the shoreline analysis it is known that the accretion rate is in the order of 15 m/yr. However, this rate was established over a period of 10 years right after the extension of the breakwater. Because the modelling covers a longer period of coastline change it can be expected that the accretion rate over the entire period will be smaller.

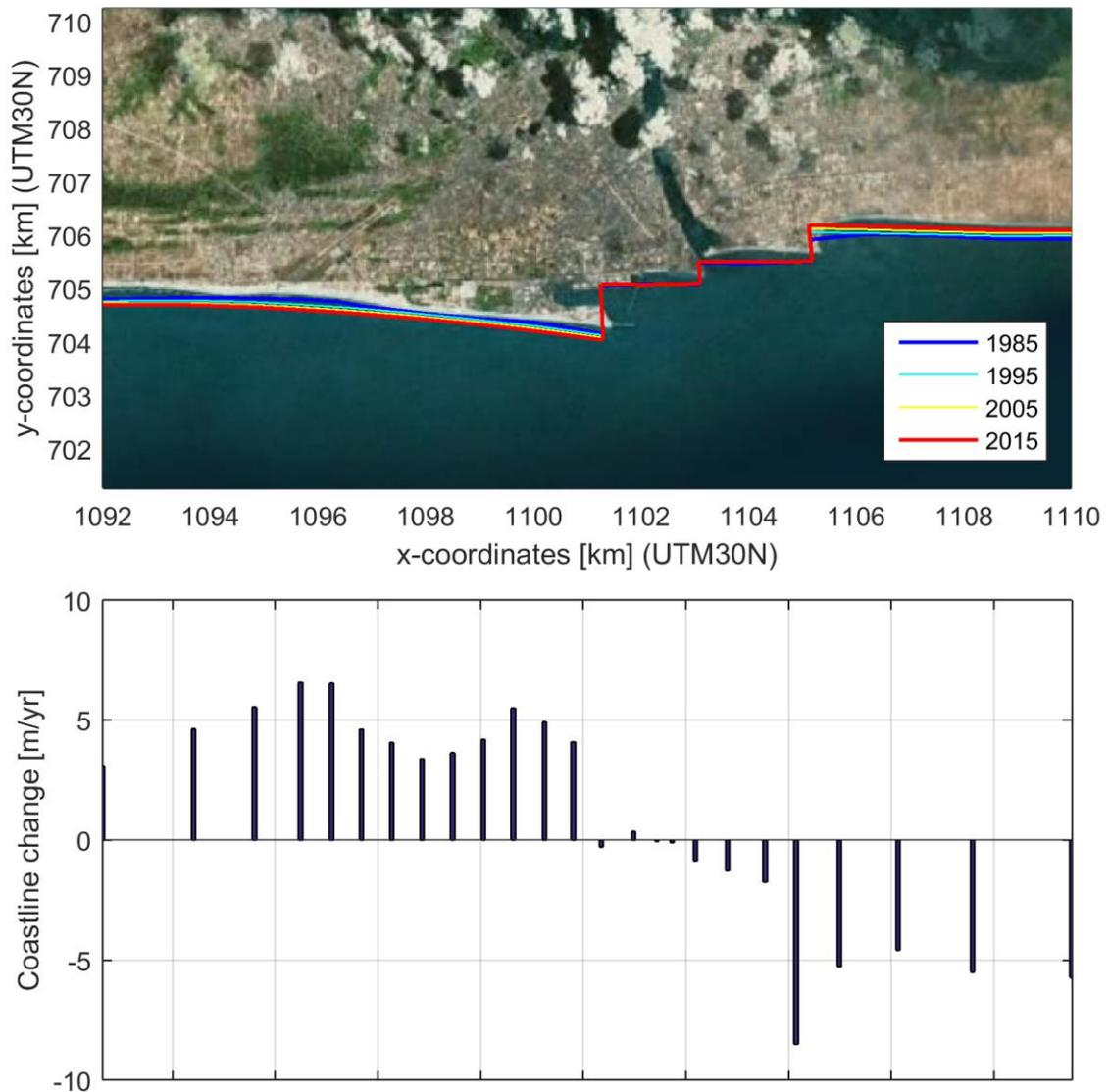


Figure 6.10 Modelled coastline change in the period 1985 – 2015 near the port of Cotonou

The above shown validation at the three ports indicates that sedimentation rates up-drift of the jetties can be reproduced quite well, which indicates that the magnitude of longshore transport is modelled well.

However, local differences at other locations may be possible mainly related to the schematization of the coastline (Section 5.3.3) and which can only be addressed by the use of local models. Therefore, coastline changes will be evaluated by assessing relative coastline variations with respect to a reference simulation (simulation period 2015-2045) for the different scenario's (Section 6.5).

6.4.2 The large scale sediment budget along the West African coast

The model validated in the previous section is used to carry out a simulation, starting from a schematized coastline using as a basis the position of the coastline at year 2015 (Section 5.3.3). The simulation is run for a period of 30 years, from 2015 until 2045. The results are shown in Figure 6.11.

The figure indicates that the longshore transport is generally eastward. The stretch of coast that is situated between the city of Axim and Cape Three Points is the only part showing a westward directed transport, in line with what already observed for the hindcast simulations (Section 6.4.1).

The magnitude of potential longshore transport decreases from Tahou to Abidjan from 1.5 million m^3/yr to a transport rate of nearly 0 east of Canal de Vridi. Eastwards of Cape Three Points the longshore transport rate increases and attains a rate of approximately 2 million m^3/yr near Takoradi. Between Cape Coast and the outlet of the Volta River the direction of transport is eastward and the magnitude fluctuates between a minimum of 0.5 million m^3/yr and a maximum of 1.0 million m^3/yr . East of the Volta River (at the Keta Lagoon) there is a significant decrease in transport magnitude, which is due to the southwest-northeast orientation of the coastline, almost parallel to the prevailing wave climate (see Section 6.2). The stretch of coast between the Keta Lagoon and the border of Benin and Nigeria is characterized by a transport that lies in the range of approximately 0.5-1.0 million m^3/yr . However, the presence of the ports of Lomé and Cotonou cause an interruption of the longshore transport. The transport decreases to almost zero at the leeside of the ports. The effect of these interruptions will be assessed in section 6.5.

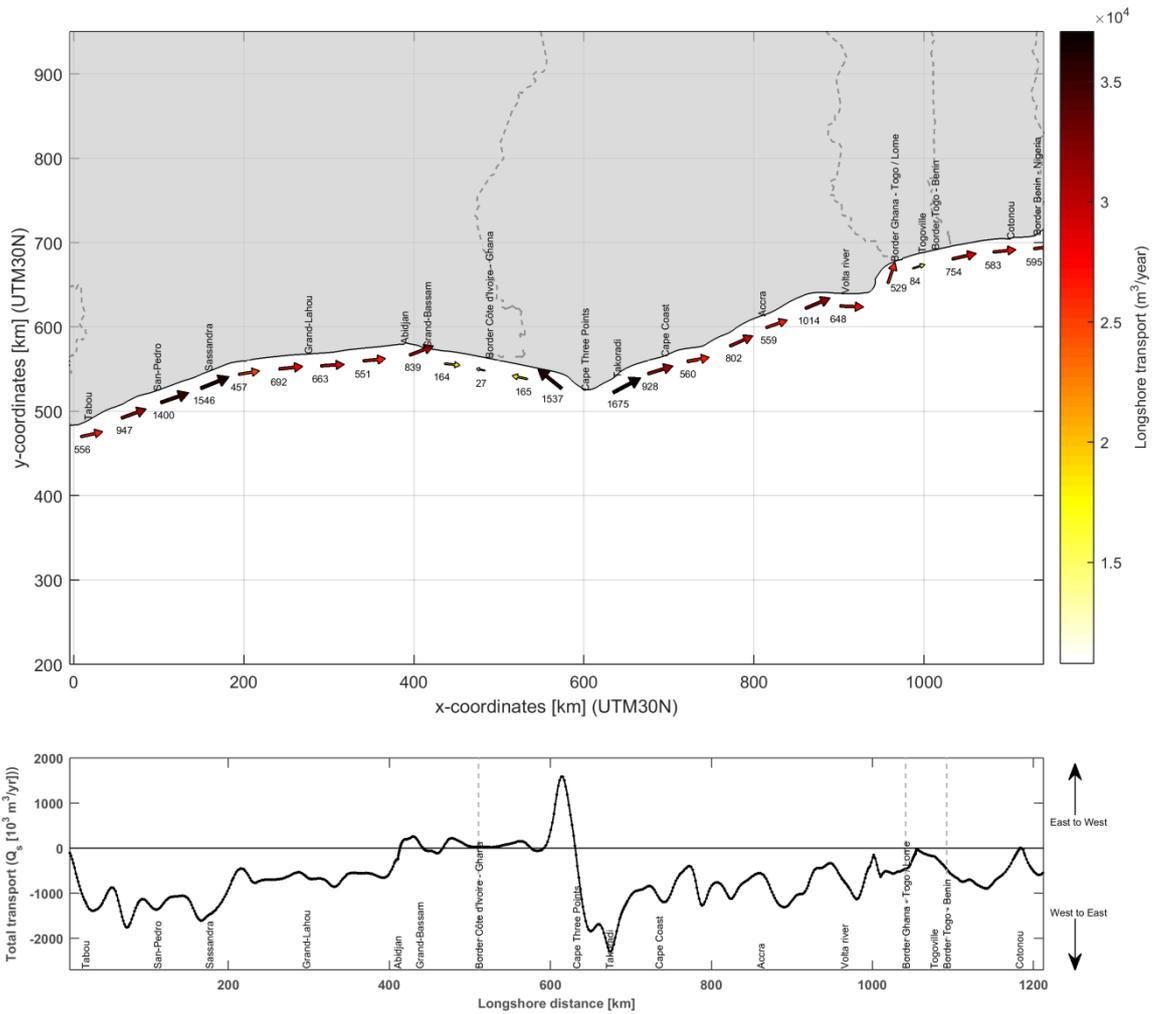


Figure 6.11 Large-scale potential transport pattern along the West African Coast for the period 2015 – 2045.

6.5 Shoreline evolution modelling: scenario modelling

6.5.1 Effects of anthropogenic interventions

In order to study the effect of anthropogenic interventions on the large scale sediment budget of the West African coast three types of scenario simulations have been carried out:

- One scenario where the three major ports of Abidjan, Lomé, and Cotonou are removed from the coastline.
- One scenario where different rates of sediment bypassing around the jetties of the ports are implemented.
- One scenario where it is assumed that no dams are present along the rivers and therefore all the sandy fraction of the sediment yield reaches the coast.

Hypothetical situation where ports are removed

Using the coastal evolution model, a hypothetical scenario is created where the three ports are removed. This situation would be representative of the case where the three ports are removed from the system or a sediment bypass system would be put in place bypassing all sediments around the three ports. It is important to stress that this is a hypothetical scenario designed in order to address the relative effect of the ports, which is one of the objective of the present study (Chapter 2). However, it is likely that ports are going to be extended in the future, in line with the economic development of these countries (see also next Section).

This scenario is schematized in the model by removing the groynes representing the jetties of the ports. Also, the wave shielding effect by these jetties, included in the model as according to Section 6.4, is no longer used for this scenario.

The simulation is carried out for a period of 30 years, from 2015 – 2045. The results of the average longshore transport pattern for the West African coast over this period are shown in the top panel of Figure 6.12. The bottom panel of the figure shows the difference between the scenario and the reference case.

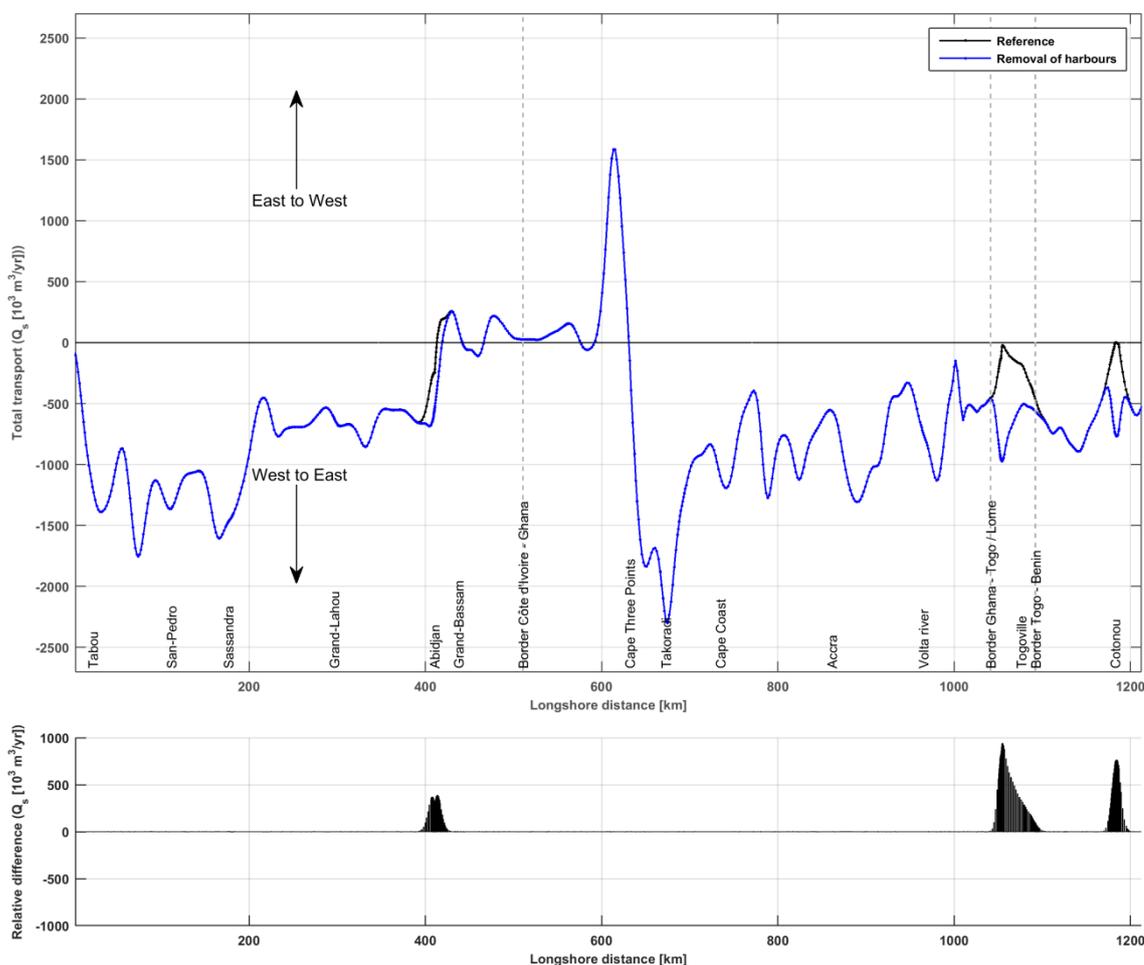


Figure 6.12 Longshore transport pattern for the hypothetical situation where the ports are removed (top) and the relative absolute difference in modelled transport with respect to the reference situation.

The simulation shows that the interruption of the transport pattern that is caused by the jetties of the ports in the reference situation is considerably reduced by removing the jetties. However, an interruption can still be noticed. This is due to the configuration of the coastline that has adjusted to the presence of the ports in the past decennia. The simulation shows clearly the effect of each port on the transport rates.

Although the port of Abidjan is quite large, the effect on the present transport pattern is limited. Naturally, the gradient in transport is decreasing in this area due to the reorientation of the coast. In combination with the southerly prevailing wave climate (Figure 6.3), this leads to a relative minor effect of the port on the alongshore transport rates.

The port of Lomé has a substantial effect on the transport patterns. The rate of transport is large at this stretch of coast, therefore the disturbance induced by the port leads to a large variation in the alongshore transport patterns, both in magnitude and distance along the coast. The disturbance to the transport continues roughly for about 50 km.

The port of Cotonou causes a substantial disturbance of the longshore transport pattern as well, however more limited in space, extending for about 30 km.

The hypothetical situation where the ports are removed creates a new situation and the coastline will show rapid adjustment to a new equilibrium situation. Generally the up-drift area will start eroding and the increased sediment availability will cause accretion at the leeside of the former ports. The coastline will continue to adjust to the new equilibrium situation until there are (hardly) any gradients in the transport pattern. When the gradients are small, the influx of transport is equal to the out-flux, reaching coastal stability. This situation will be closer to the situation before construction of the ports.

The model setup can be used to assess the rate of changes induced by the new situation without ports. Figure 6.13 shows the relative rates of coastline changes that are caused by the new situation without ports. From the figure it can be seen that the coastline will start eroding up-drift of the former ports and accreting down-drift. The adjustment will occur in a fast rate of approximately 15 m/yr. This will continue until the shoreline reaches an equilibrium configuration. Furthermore, the figure shows the spatial extent of the down-drift influence of the ports on the coastline evolution. The adjustment of the coast down-drift of the port of Lomé, for example, continues for nearly 50 kilometres, in accordance to the changes in alongshore transport as shown in Figure 6.12. Implicitly, the spatial extent of coastline adjustment in this hypothetical situation indicates the present effect of the ports on the coastline evolution.

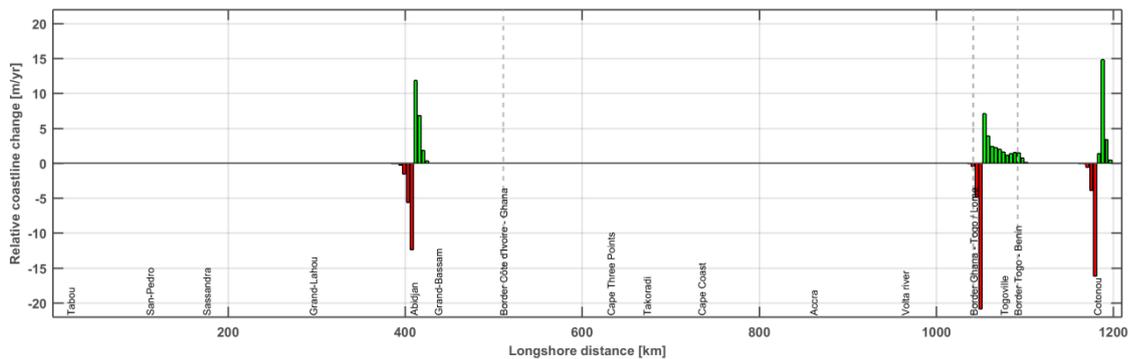


Figure 6.13 Relative coastline changes for the hypothetical situation where the ports are removed.

Sensitivity analysis on the effects of different sediment bypassing rates

In the hypothetical scenario described above, the main ports are removed from the model with the scope of understanding the relative effects of these interventions on the large-scale sediment budget and shoreline evolution. In reality, it is likely that these ports in the future will be extended rather than removed, in order to receive a larger number (and possibly bigger) vessels. Therefore, in this section a sensitivity analysis is carried out in order to investigate the effects of different bypassing rates around these ports, related to the possible future extension of these ports or the adoption of sediment bypassing systems.

In particular, the following scenarios are compared:

- Sediment bypassing rate equal to 0%. This scenario aims at simulating the effects of extreme port extensions and/or dredging and removal of the sediments deposited from the navigation channels, therefore reducing to 0 the alongshore drift around the ports. This scenario is implemented in the model by implementing at each port, jetties with infinite length in order to avoid any sediment bypassing.
- Sediment bypassing rate equal to 50%. This scenario aims at simulating an intermediate situation with a sediment bypassing rate which is only half than in the reference situation. This scenario is implemented in the model by applying jetties with infinite length, therefore blocking the total alongshore drift. In addition, bypassing is applied in the model by including the implementation of sink and source terms up-drift and down-drift of the jetties, respectively. The sediment bypassed annually is 50% of the updrift transport in the reference situation, and respectively equal to about 0.35, 0.5, and 0.4 million m³ for the ports of Abidjan, Lomé, and Cotonou (Appendix C).
- Sediment bypassing rate equal to 100%. This scenario is the same as described above (i.e. hypothetical scenario where ports are removed or complete sediment bypassing); however, it is provided here again to facilitate the comparison with the other two scenarios.

The different scenarios are compared relatively to the reference scenario (Section 6.4.2). The reference scenario already includes partial sediment bypassing, as part of the alongshore drift can already move around the port jetties.

It is important to stress that, in reality, the effects of possible port extension will depend on the size of the planned port extensions. Also, in general, the sediment bypassing rate may change in time due to morphological shoreline changes and/or changes to maintenance dredging in the navigation channels to the ports (i.e. increase of depth/width of the navigation channel, in order to allow bigger ships to reach the port).

The results of the simulated scenarios are shown in Figure 6.14 as relative coastline changes with respect to the reference model. The figure shows that for all three ports the erosion rate down-drift of the jetties will increase if there is absolutely no bypassing of sediment (top panel). The increase in erosion rate varies from 0.5 – 2 m/yr. The figure indicates that by including a bypassing of sediments, this will mitigate the effects of erosion. Bypassing half of the annual up-drift transport (middle panel) mitigates the erosion rate down-drift by approximately 4 m/yr. If all sediment is bypassed (bottom panel) the decrease in erosion rate can be up to 10 – 15 m/yr. If this rate exceeds the present erosion rate down-drift, the coastline will start prograding here in absolute terms. The bypassing of the sediments will not only affect the absolute values in shoreline changes but also the spatial extension of the relative impact of the erosion rates down-drift of the ports.

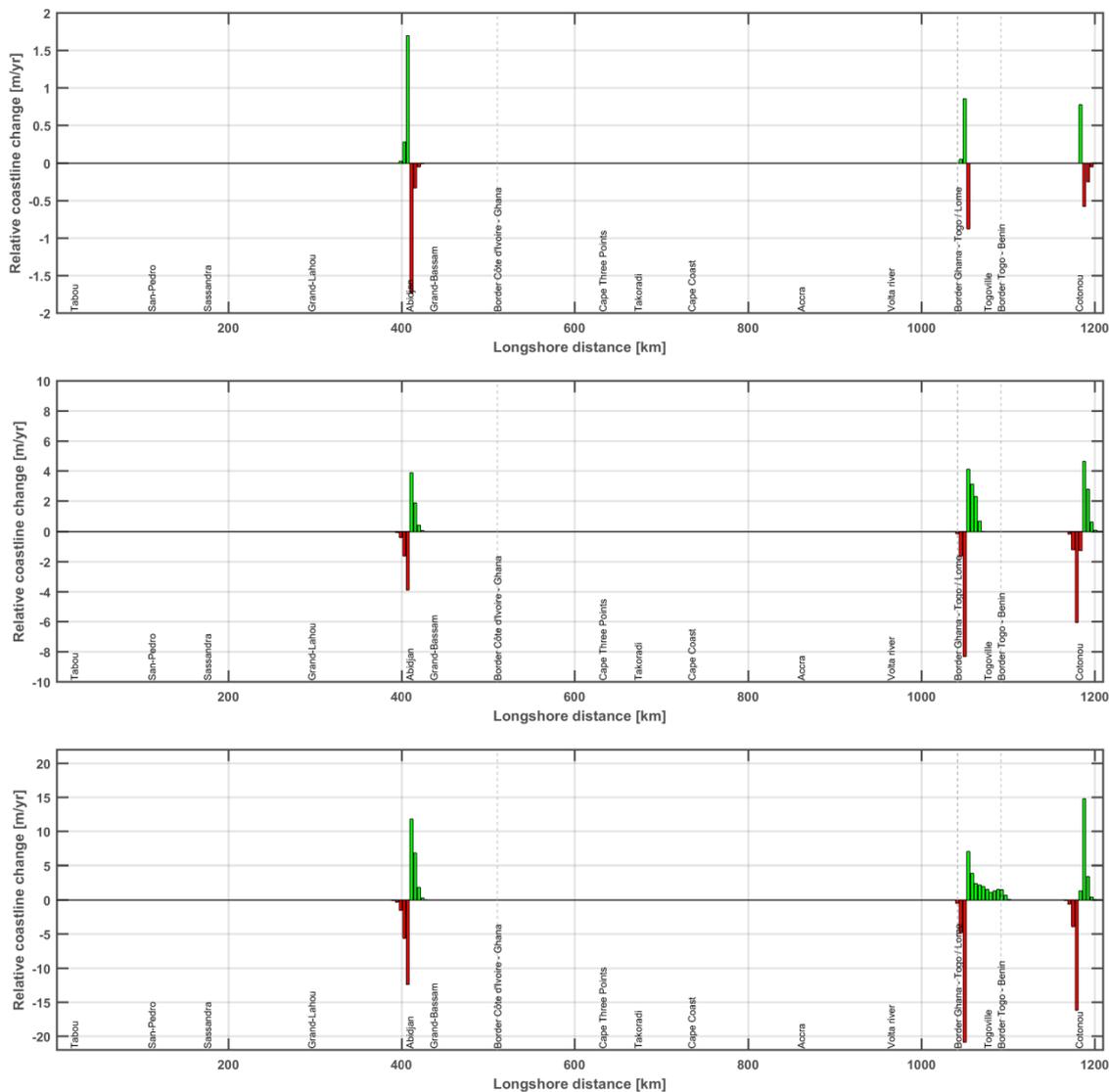


Figure 6.14 Relative coastline changes with respect to the reference model, for the case of 0% sediment bypassing (top panel), 50% sediment bypassing (middle panel) and 100% sediment bypassing (bottom panel) of sediment.

Although these scenarios provide general information on the effects of different sediment bypassing rates, they are not meant to be used for the detailed design of a sediment bypass-system. In order to do this, a detailed model of the different ports would be required, properly describing wave sheltering effects at each ports as well as other anthropogenic interventions (e.g. maintenance dredging in the navigation channels, etc.).

Hypothetical situation where the dams in the rivers are removed

The construction of dams in the rivers along the West African coast has an effect on the sediment yield of those rivers towards the coast (Section 5.4 and 6.3). Therefore, the evolution of the coast near the river outlets is influenced as well by the construction of the dams. To study the effect of the construction of the dams on the coastal budget and coastline evolution, the coastal evolution model is forced by a sediment yield from the rivers where dams are included (reference situation) and compared to a hypothetical situation where dams are removed from the rivers. This situation is representative of a situation where all dams are removed from the catchments or there is no sediment settling in the reservoirs.

The resulting longshore transport pattern is shown in Figure 6.15 (top panel). The bottom panel shows the difference in transport between the scenario and the reference model. It can be seen that the increased sediment availability causes a local increase in the magnitude of longshore transport. Moreover, there is a relative decrease in the magnitude of transport updrift of the river outlets, due to the tendency of delta formation.

The difference between the two curves shows that changes are largest at the Volta River. The sediment yield at the Volta catchment is in fact the largest. Moreover, the presence of several dams in the present situations blocks a large amount of the total sediment yield.

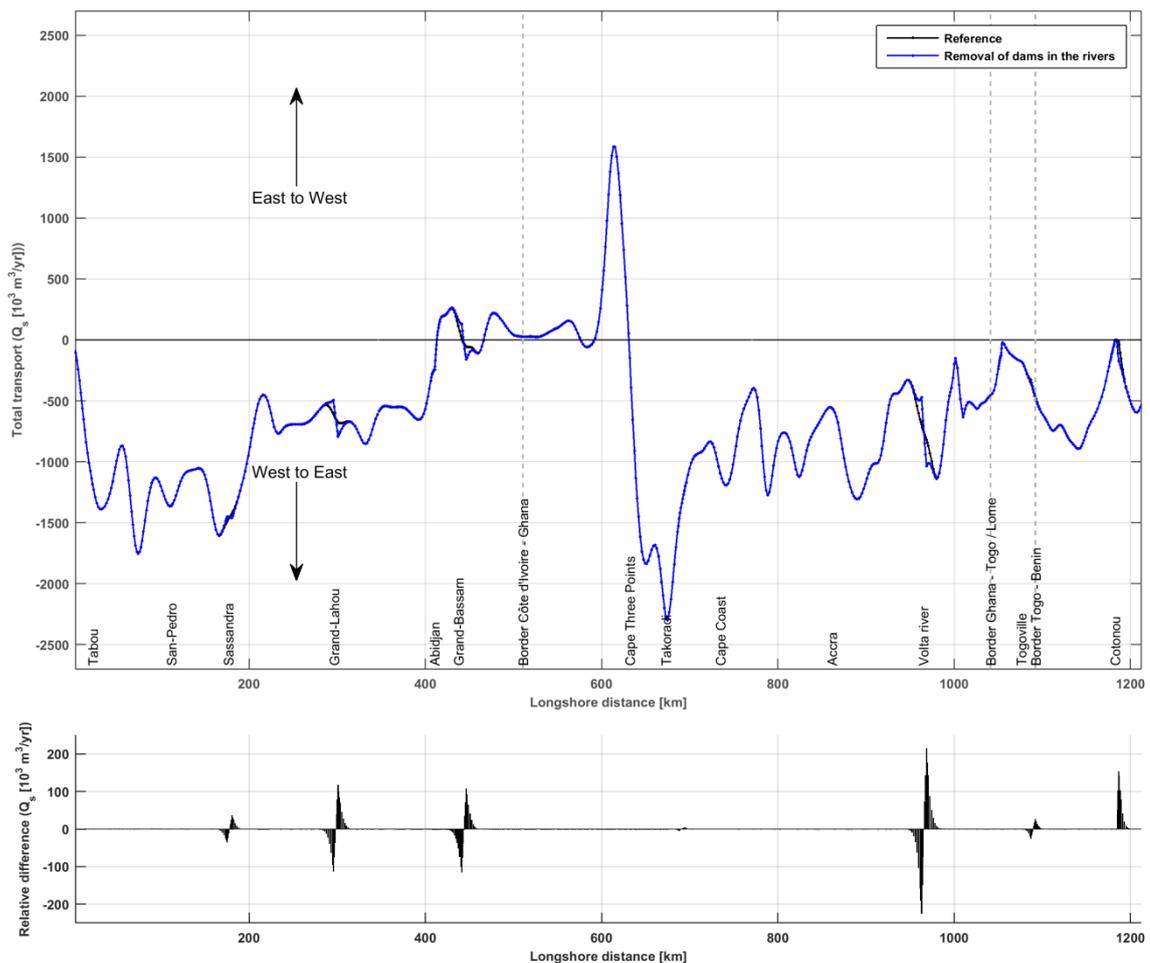


Figure 6.15 Longshore transport pattern for the hypothetical situation where the dams from the rivers are removed (top) and the relative absolute difference in modelled transport with respect to the reference situation.

The relative coastline changes that are induced by removing the dams from the rivers will reflect to a coastline progradation near the river outlets (Figure 6.16). The accretion rate varies between 1 m/yr (Sassandra and Mono river) up to 6 m/yr (Volta river). The build-up of small deltas explains the reorientation of the coast and consequently the decrease in transport updrift of the deltas (Figure 6.15). However, in reality, the processes of delta formation will also be influenced by cross-shore transport processes, not included in the present coastal evolution model set-up.

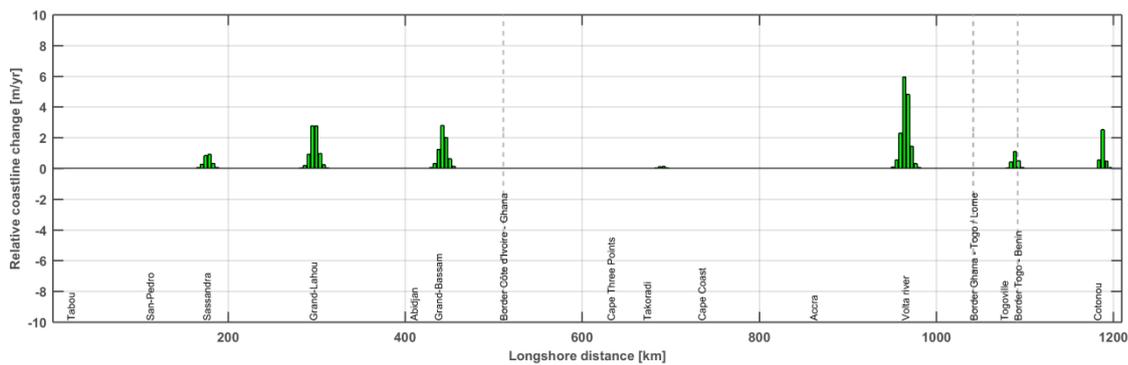


Figure 6.16 Relative coastline changes for the hypothetical situation where the dams are removed from the rivers.

6.5.2 Effects of climate change

The effects of climate change on the coastal sediment budget are compared with the reference coastal evolution model. In particular the following scenarios are simulated:

- Effects of sea level rise and changes in offshore wave climate on alongshore transport patterns and resulting shoreline variations
- Effects of changes in the hydrology at the river catchments (temperature and precipitation) and resulting shoreline variations
- Effect of area loss due to sea level rise

Climate change scenario's from the end of the century (2070-2100) are used in this section to force shoreline model runs for thirty years, to be compared with the thirty years reference model simulations.

In particular, the effects of a change in relative sea level and in the offshore wave climate are assessed based on new wave model runs, where respectively the water depth and the offshore wave climate are adapted based on predicted sea level and wave climate scenario's. On the other hand, the effects of changes in the hydrology of the river catchments will result in changes in the sediment input towards the coastal system (Table 6.1).

Changes in Relative Sea Level Rise and Offshore wave climate

In this scenario the effects of sea level rise and changes in offshore wave climate on the alongshore sediment patterns and coastline changes are assessed. The schematization of the coastline and the forcing locations in the shoreline model are the same as for the 2015 reference model. However, new wave model runs have been carried out to account for the simulated climate change conditions which will result to new wave forcing conditions for the

shoreline model. Changes in offshore wave climate are included following Hemer et al., (2013) (Section 4.6.2), which result in an increase in wave height of 3% and a clockwise rotation of 2°. Sea level rise is included following RCP scenario's 4.5 and 8.5, leading to an increase in sea level of +0.3 m and +1.0 m respectively.

The changes in longshore transport pattern resulting from the two sea level rise scenario's 0.3 m and 1.0 m RSLR and including a change in the offshore wave condition is shown in Figure 6.17. It can be clearly seen that the magnitude of the overall potential transport pattern becomes larger for both the scenarios with respect to the reference case. This effect is mainly caused by the rotation of the wave climate that is induced by climate change and the increase in wave height of 3%. The relative effect of sea level rise on alongshore transport patterns from 0.3 m to 1.0 m RSLR is minor and not larger than 20 – 30 m³/yr.

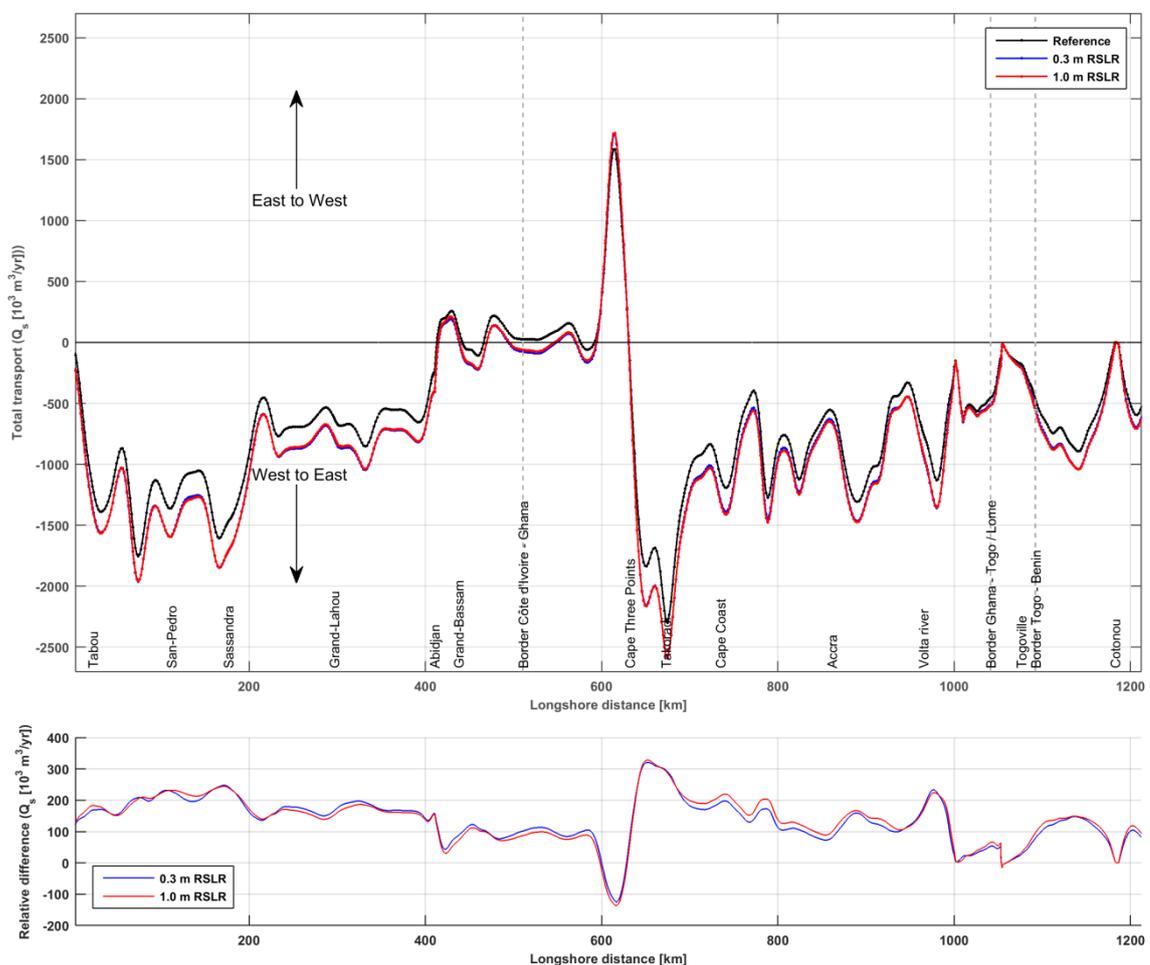


Figure 6.17 Longshore transport pattern for the future scenarios with an increase of 3% in significant wave height (H_s), an increase in 2° in wave direction (Φ_w) and a 0.3 m and 1.0 m RSLR (top). Relative difference of the two scenarios with respect to the reference situation (bottom).

The increase in transport rates is different at different locations along the entire West African coast (bottom panel of Figure 6.17). Therefore, gradients in transport will change, causing a change in coastal evolution.

The predicted relative coastline changes after a 30 year simulation period are shown in Figure 6.18. As expected, the rotation of the wave climate will induce an alternation of erosive

and accretive location with value up to about 2 m/yr but generally lower than 1 m/yr. Maximum values, can be seen near harbors and at the Volta river delta. In fact, the sheltering effect will be relatively larger at those location due to the rotation of the wave climate, inducing larger gradients.

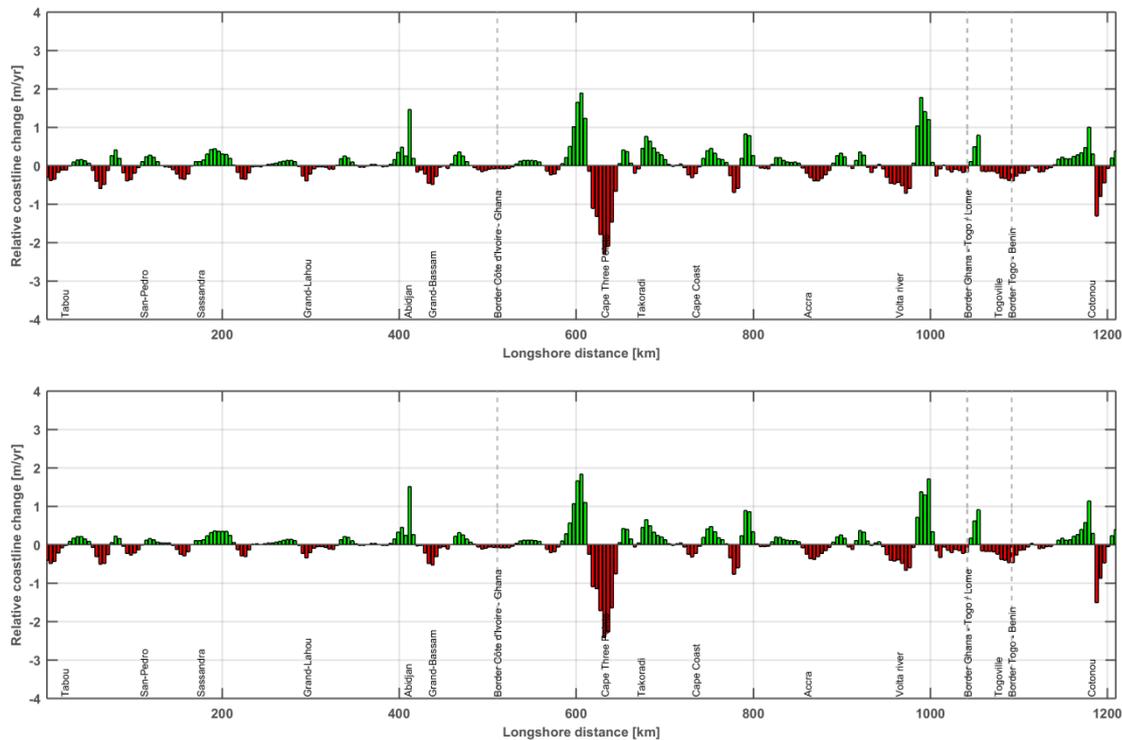


Figure 6.18 Relative rates of coastline change for the future wave climate scenarios with an increase of 3% in significant wave height (H_s), an increase in 2° in wave direction (Φ_w) and a 0.3 m (top) and 1.0 m RSLR scenario (lower).

It is important to stress that for the above discussed scenario only part of the effects of RSLR has been considered, i.e. the effect on RSLR on wave propagation which is rather limited. However, RSLR also leads to an overall loss of land, as it will be discussed later in this section.

Change in sediment yield from rivers

In Sections 5.4 and 6.3 the effects of climate change on the sediment yield of the rivers to the coastline is estimated by hydrological catchment modelling. The climate change scenarios comprised a 6°C increase in temperature and a +20% or -20% change in precipitation. The effects of these changes in sediment yield on the coastal budget and evolution is studied by simulating the coastline evolution with these input values. The model is forced with averaged values for the period 2070-2100 as presented in Section 6.3.

The longshore transport patterns for the reference situation and the two climate change scenarios are shown in Figure 6.19 (top). It can be noticed from this figure that the change in sediment yield does not have a profound change on the large scale sediment pattern. The changes have a local effect by inducing a sudden jump in the transport pattern (Figure 6.19 bottom panel). This jump is caused by the increased/decreased availability of sediments

which can be transported along the coast, respectively for a case with a -20% and +20% of precipitation.

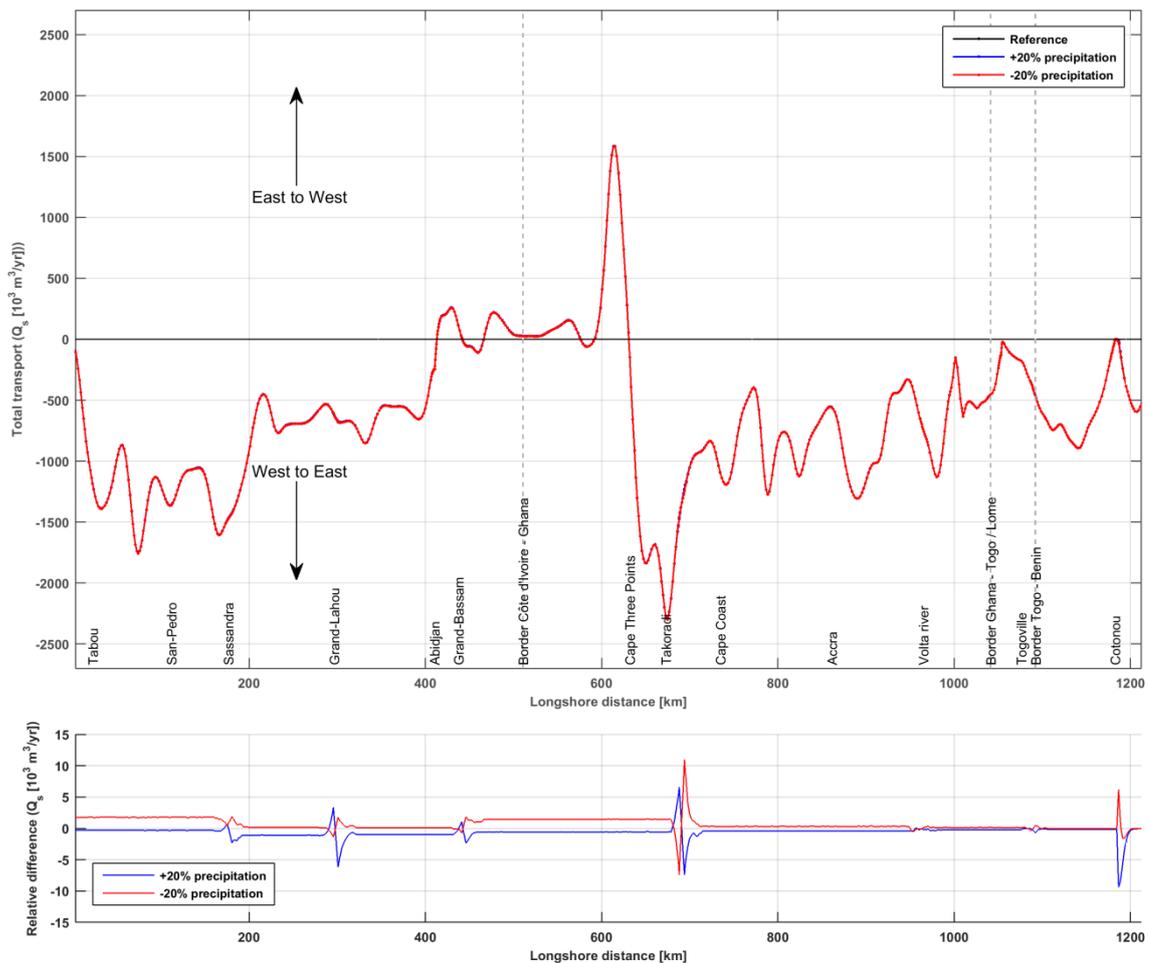


Figure 6.19 Longshore transport pattern for the future scenarios with a change in sediment yield from the rivers due to +20% increase (blue) and -20% decrease (red) in precipitation.

The local effects of a change in sediment yield on relative coastline changes (i.e. with respect to the reference situation) can be seen in Figure 6.20. An increase in precipitation will decrease the sediment yield towards the coast (due to more vegetation) and will cause a general local regression of the coastline of maximum 30 cm/yr. The mechanism is vice versa for the situation with a -20% decrease in precipitation (where sediment yield will increase due to a decrease in vegetation).

The effect of the change in sediment yield is a maximum increased or decreased coastline change of approximately 30 cm per year. In the 30 year simulated period this will contribute up to a maximum of 9 meters of coastline retreat or advance. The effect of a change in sediment yield is almost a factor 10 smaller than the coastline changes induced by a change in sea level and wave direction. However, in reality both processes will affect the coastline at the same time and their effects will be combined.

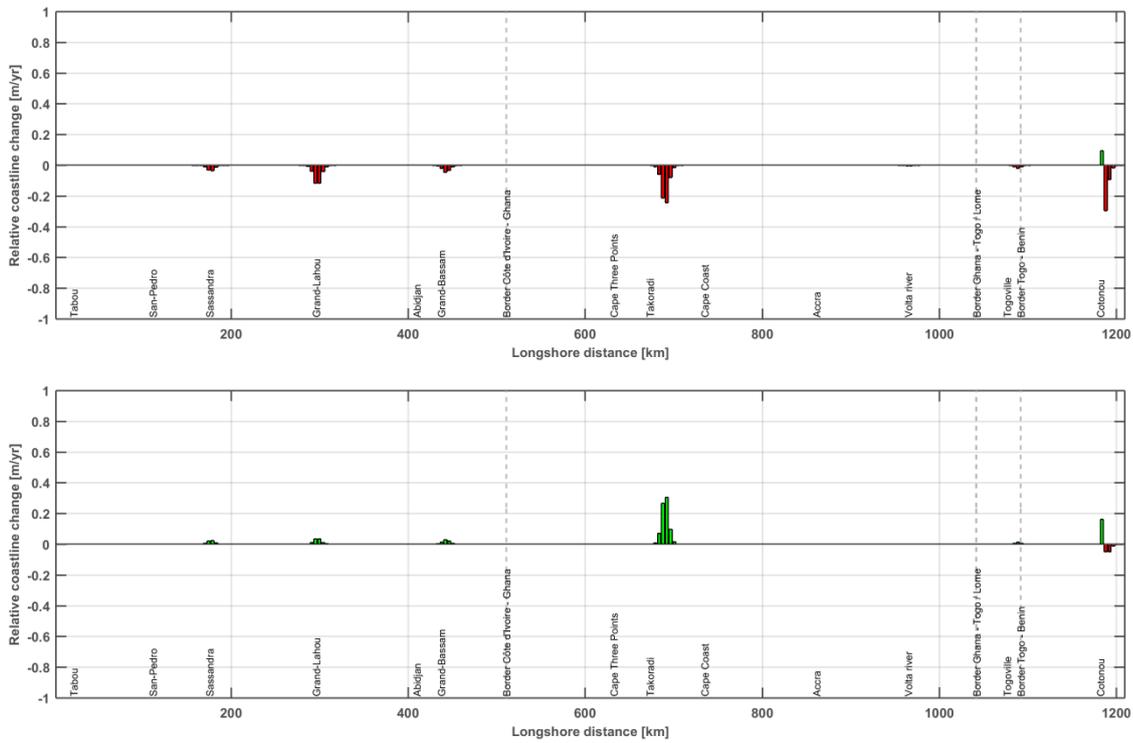


Figure 6.20 Relative rates of coastline change for the future climate change scenarios with a sediment yield from the rivers due to a +20% increase in precipitation (top) and a -20% decrease in precipitation (bottom).

Areal loss due to sea level rise

In this section, the effect of coastal retreat and area loss induced by sea level rise is assessed by means of the very simplistic Bruun rule (Section 4.6.1). For this calculation, a homogeneous sandy profile along the entire coast is used. A mean grain size diameter of 250 μm and a depth of closure of 10 m are used for this analysis. The predicted coastline retreat is then integrated along the length of the entire coastline. Also, the increase in sea level rise is assumed to be linear over time until 2100. In reality, sea level rise rates are generally lower at present and they are assumed to increase at a faster rate towards the end of the century.

This may result in an overall area loss with a rate of about 0.25 m/year, assuming a relative sea level rise of 0.3 m by 2100, up to a rate of about 0.8 m/year assuming a relative sea level rise of 1.0 m by 2100. The area losses induced by the different contributions analysed as part of this study are also summarized in Table 7.1.

7 Discussion

7.1 General discussion

The results presented as part of the modelling study have helped quantifying the sediment budget along the West Africa coast and how the “sand river” has been affected by major anthropogenic interventions or may get affected in the future by climate change.

The different mechanisms have been assessed separately as part of different scenario runs. A table summarizing the computed alongshore transport rates at different locations along the coast has been included in Appendix C. In reality, the different processes all contribute, at the same time, to the total alongshore transport and shoreline changes. In Table 7.1, the net area loss per year that may be expected over the entire region, due to each different contribution, has been quantified. It is important to mention that, with the exception of the case of coastline retreat due to relative sea level rise (RSLR), for all the other cases, coastline erosion at some locations is generally compensated by accretion at other locations. However, in this table, we only focus on the area loss due to erosion. Also, the coastline retreat due to relative sea level rise (RSLR) is computed as an averaged yearly coastline retreat, assuming that the increase in sea level is a linear process over the century. In reality, this process is expected not to be linear, with a faster increase towards the end of the century and a smaller rate at present.

Table 7.1 Areal land loss due to erosion and coastal retreat as a result of each different process and referred to the reference model.

Simulation	Areal loss by coastal erosion (ha /year)
Removal of ports	32
Removal of dams	-
0.3 m RSLR + change in offshore wave climate	18
1.0 m RSLR + change in offshore wave climate	17
+20% precipitation	9
-20% precipitation	-
Coastline retreat 0.3 m RSLR (Bruun rule)	30
Coastline retreat 1.0 m RSLR (Bruun rule)	100

The table shows that the effect of area loss due to the major ports is approximately in the same order of magnitude than the effect of coastal retreat due to RSLR, when considering a RSLR scenario of 0.3 m by 2100 (≈ 30 ha/year). However, if we consider a RSLR of 1.0 m the contribution of coastline retreat due to sea level rise, will be the largest of all the others (≈ 100 ha/year). The contributions due to changes in wave climate resulting from a lower wave dissipation (due to RSLR), increase in offshore wave height and change in incoming wave direction will lead to an additional area loss of ≈ 15 -20 ha/year. The removal of dams or a decrease in precipitation will not result in any coastline losses (only accretion), while an increase in precipitation may result in an area loss of ≈ 10 ha/year as a result of more dense vegetation at the river catchments.

However, it is important to stress that these values are very indicative and are only meant to provide an order of magnitude of the contribution to coastal erosion induced by the different processes and not to be read as exact values. The overall coastline erosion will be in practice

influenced by several different processes, varying at the different locations. Also, the climate change scenario's used in the study are on the upper end side, in order to provide a conservative estimation of the expected area losses.

7.2 Towards a regional sediment management plan

A large-scale sediment budget for the West African Coast has been developed as part of this study based on a consistent numerical modelling approach and supported by a thorough literature review. In this sense, this study is unique in terms of the approach used and could provide the necessary information for the development of a regional sediment management plan for the region, in combination with the information provided by local institutions.

In particular, the quantification of the alongshore transport rates (“sand river”) along the four countries (Section 6.4.2) can provide a first estimate of possible consequences due to any intervention along the coast and in the river network. This is also supported by the analysis in Section 6.5.1 where the numerical modelling framework has been used to assess the effects of the major anthropogenic interventions in the region. In particular, the model was used to investigate what could happen if these interventions are removed from the coastal system or if methods would be applied to avoid sediment blockage (e.g. sediment by-pass systems around the ports). These effects may be only local for some ports, while they may result in trans-boundary effects at other locations (section 6.5.1).

Also, by simulating the effects of climate change (i.e. changes in sea level, rise, wave height and wave direction) the modelling framework can provide a first order estimate of possible expected changes to the sediment budget and coastline position.

An on-line coastal viewer has also been developed as part of the study in order to facilitate the communication with the local stakeholders, sharing of the results and to help in setting up a potential regional sediment management plan (Figure 7.2).

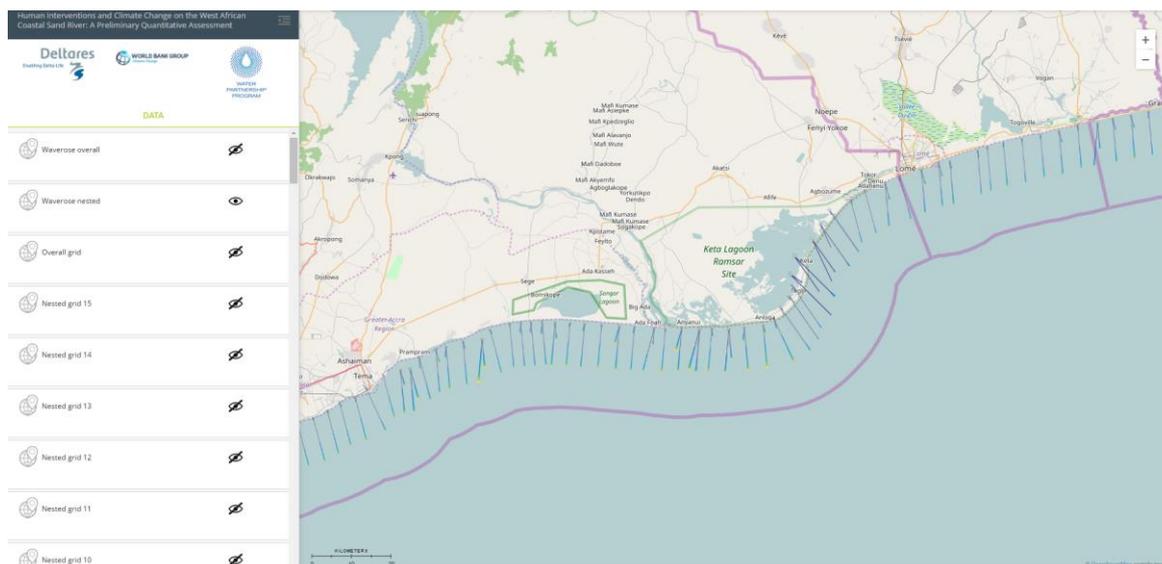


Figure 7.1 Web-viewer developed as part of the study for the visualization of the modelling results (<http://v-web004.deltares.nl/africa/africa/>).

Finally, although the regional modelling framework is not meant for detailed design of solutions, this framework could provide the boundary conditions for the setting up of more detailed models at specific hot-spot locations (i.e. at which solutions are planned).

8 Conclusions and further work

In this study, a consistent large-scale sediment budget for the coastline of Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo and Benin has been derived. This has allowed the quantification of the effects of different human interventions (i.e. major ports and river dams) on the coastal system and possible trans-boundary implications. The effect of climate change (i.e. increase in storm intensity, change in wave direction and sea level rise) on the large scale sediment transport capacity and shoreline changes has also been analyzed. This is line with the first objective of the study (Chapter 2). Also, two regional consultation and validation workshops are organized as part of this project (see also Appendix E). Together with the development of a digital coastal viewer and a brochure also to be used during the workshops, this material will help facilitating the communication with local stakeholders and creating awareness of the interdependency of any action along the coast and major rivers (second objective of the study, Chapter 2).

The study has shown that the effect of the major ports on coastal erosion will be on the same order of magnitude than the effect of sea level rise when considering the lower sea level rise scenario's (RCP 4.5). However, sea level rise may overrule the effect of the other anthropogenic interventions by the end of the century if considering the largest predicted sea level rise scenario's (RCP 8.5).

The study has also shown that, although some of the anthropogenic interventions have only a local effect, others have a much larger spatial effect (e.g. the effect of the port of Lomé after 30 years extends up to nearly 50 kilometres).

8.1 Suggestion for further work

A number of suggestions for further work have been given as part of this section, which also follow the discussions during the stakeholder consultation meeting (Appendix E). Among them:

- 1) Use of the results from the present numerical modelling study in combination with the coastal viewer as support tool for the setting up of a regional sediment management plan for West Africa, together with local stakeholders. The sediment management plan should include not only the coastal area but also the river network upstream as those are interconnected.
- 2) Setting-up of high resolution local models, at specific hot-spot location, for the design of solutions to address the coastline erosion issues. The regional numerical modelling framework derived as part of this study could be used to derive the accurate boundary conditions for these models.
- 3) Setting-up of high resolution local models in order to plan future expansions of existing infrastructures and to assess their possible effects. The regional numerical modelling framework derived as part of this study could be used to derive the accurate boundary conditions for these models.
- 4) Detailed investigations (i.e. by means of data analysis and numerical modelling) for each of the major rivers, in order to assess the detailed effect of dams on the river morphology.

- 5) Improvement of the present modelling framework, by considering processes that have not been included in the present model. Among them: variations in sediment size alongshore, sediment loss due to anthropogenic intervention (e.g. sediment mining from the beaches, dredging of navigation channels, etc.), sediment loss due to natural processes (e.g. due to overwash), better coastline schematization. However, as those processes are often local, it will not be possible to implement them on a regional large-scale model. So, local models will be required. Also, more detailed data will be necessary to be used as input to these more detailed models.
- 6) Extension of the current modelling platform to neighbouring countries.
- 7) Create a data sharing platform (possibly as an extension of the current viewer) in order to share data between different organizations in the region.
- 8) Capacity building actions, in order to involve local organizations and universities in the further development of the modelling system.

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<http://v-web004.deltares.nl/africa/africa/>

A Appendix A: Validation cases of net littoral drift based on historical coastline development

The morphological coastline development model that is set-up for the present study is validated on the basis of the net longshore transport rate and the magnitude of coastline regression (advance) en transgression (retreat). These quantities are best defined at coastline sections where a (human-induced) perturbation has led to a change in the sediment supply or demand. Therefore, four cases are identified where a human-built construction has significantly altered the coastal sediment regulation. These are (from west to east, see also Table 3.6):

- The port of Abidjan; The construction of the 350 m long breakwater (1967-1985) has led to an increased accretion rate west of the breakwater.
- The Keta Lagoon; The construction of the Akosombo Dam (1961) has led to a considerable reduction of sediment supply towards the Keta Lagoon area, leading to severe erosion down-drift of the river mouth. A groyne field constructed near Keta has stabilized the coast at Keta but erosion shifted down-drift.
- The port of Lomé; Construction of the port was completed in 1968, interrupting longshore transport rates and causing coastline regression east of the breakwater.
- The port of Cotonou; The 300 m long breakwater has caused coastline progradation at the western side.

The position of the coastline was available for these four different locations for the period 1988 – 2016. The positions of these coastlines were acquired by an automated procedure that detects the presence of water or land by the calculation of the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) of multiple Landsat images (Aqua Monitor Tool, Deltares). The position of the coastline can be extracted by this procedure by detecting the boundary between water and land. From this analysis, the magnitudes of coastline development can be calculated. By defining an active height¹ of the profile, the accretion and erosion rates per year can be calculated between coastlines of different periods. The calculated rates for the four different cases are summarized in Table 3.6.

However, it is important to mention that the shoreline changes at these validation locations are assumed to be only the result of the presence of the jetties and groynes. Other human induced changes (e.g. port dredging, leeside nourishments, sand mining from the beach, etc.) are not accounted for in this analysis. This assumption could lead to an overestimation of the actual transport rates as we assume that all coastal changes are in fact due to a disruption of the natural alongshore transport rates.

¹ Active height = height of the profile where morphological changes occur, as a result of changes in source/sink of sediments. The active height depends on the wave climate, local bathymetry and the timeframe considered.

A.1 Validation case: Abidjan port

In order to estimate the net longshore transport in the area of Abidjan a shoreline analysis has been carried out for the coast west of the port. West of the port entrance a 350 m long breakwater has been constructed, see Figure A.1. West of this breakwater the coast has accreted. On the basis of the accreted area the net longshore transport has been estimated. The time of construction of this breakwater is not exactly known. On an image of 1967 it is not present yet, whereas on an image of 1985 it is present. So the structure was built between 1967 and 1985 but the exact year is not known.



Figure A.1 Aerial image of the breakwater considered for the analysis.

It is noted that the shoreline located east of the port has not been taken into consideration in this assessment, since the shoreline in this area is not showing the classic leeside erosion behaviour. An overall trend of erosion is observed east of the port, but the shoreline retreat in that area is very irregular and it is not clear to which extent human interference has played a role in this area.

Therefore the shoreline analysis and transport estimate are based on the accreting coastal stretch located west of the port. This coast shows the classic response of an updrift located coast on the construction of a breakwater, viz. a gradual accretion, see Figure A.2.

Shorelines were available for the period 1988 to 2016, but only the data between 1988 and 2003 were used for the assessment. After 2003 the accretion rate reduces relative to the preceding years. We have therefore interpreted the year 2003 as the moment that the sand bypass along the breakwater becomes significant.

In the period 1988-2003 the shoreline just west of the breakwater has moved seaward over a distance of about 100 m. This distance gradually decreases going westward along the coast and at a distance of about 10 to 15 km the effect of the breakwater is estimated to be nihil. If we assume an active profile height of about 10 m, then the above shoreline changes imply a sand accumulation west of the breakwater in the order of 400,000 to 500,000 m³/yr.

Though the sand bypass along the structure in the considered period is expected to be small, it cannot be fully excluded that some bypass has occurred, so the actual transport may be somewhat larger than the above assessed value.



Figure A.2 Shoreline analysis of the coastline west of Port Bouet breakwater.

It is noted that in Delft Hydraulics (1992) along the West African coast (at Cotonu) under similar wave conditions the active profile height was estimated at 16 m (based on observed behaviour of deeper depth contours in the area of erosion at the downdrift side of the port). This is not necessarily a discrepancy, since in accreting areas the active profile height may be different (smaller) than in eroding areas.

If we consider as an upper limit for the active height a value of 16 m instead of 10 m, the upper estimate of the transport is in the order of 800,000 m³/yr. This is in agreement with Brière et al. (2015).

Taking all above considerations and uncertainties into account, the order of magnitude of the net longshore transport west of Abidjan is estimated at 400,000 to 800,000 m³/yr. For the coast east of Abidjan the net longshore transport is expected to be smaller, since in this area the overall shoreline orientation is more normal to the waves.

A.2 Validation case: Keta Lagoon

The shoreline analysis for the case study of the Keta Lagoon is focused on the stretch of coast located northeast from the groyne field at Keta. The groyne field and the sea wall at Keta were constructed around 2003 during the Keta Coastal Defence project (Figure A.3). The groyne field has stabilized the coastline at Keta and the coastline has even prograded at some locations. However, as part of the coastal defence project, sand nourishments were executed. The sand nourishments make it more difficult to estimate the rate of coastline accretion that is caused by littoral drift. Therefore, the shoreline analysis has focused on the erosional area north-east of the groyne field. Here, the construction of the groyne field has caused the coastline down-drift of the groynes to retreat since 2003, this can very well be seen by the historic coastlines that change from an accretional state at the groyne field to an erosional state down-drift of the most north-easterly groyne of the groyne field in the period 2003-2016 (Figure A.4).



Figure A.3 Aerial image of the groyne field at Keta.

The cross-shore retreat of the coastline in the period 2003-2016 is approximately 130 m. The coastline retreat in this period can be identified up to Adina, decreasing in magnitude. The affected stretch of the coastline is estimated at approximately 13 km. Assuming an active profile height of 10 m the longshore transport rate at this part of the Ghana coast is estimated to be approximately 750,000 m³/yr.



Figure A.4 Shoreline analysis of the coastline north-east of the Keta groyne field.

A.3 Validation case: port of Lomé

The shoreline analysis is executed on the stretch of coast just west of the breakwater of the port. In 2013 the port attained its present state configuration and a breakwater was built at the southern side of the port. Because it is difficult to separate the human-induced coastline changes from 'natural sedimentation' before this period, the coastline analysis is performed for a period since completion of the port. The breakwater induced coastline progradation on its western side. Based on expert judgment based on the relative position between the coastline and the tip of the breakwater, we can assume that sandbypassing rates have been small. Therefore, the period and location are suited for the present analysis.

Between 2013 and 2016 the coastline prograded over a distance of approximately 130 m just west of the breakwater. The affected area of accretion is approximately 4 kilometer to the west (Figure A.5). When an active height of 10 m is assumed as for the other validation cases, the seaward progradation of the shoreline in the period 2013-2016 (2.5 years) implies a net longshore transport rate of $\sim 1,000,000 \text{ m}^3/\text{yr}$ and a coastline progradation of 52 m/yr just west of the breakwater.



Figure A.5 Shoreline analysis of the area west of the Lomé port for the period 2013 – 2016.

A.4 Validation case: port of Cotonou

In order to estimate the net longshore transport in the area of Cotonou a shoreline analysis has been carried out for the coast west of the port. West of the breakwater indicated in Figure A.6 the coast has accreted. The analysis has focussed on the period 2006-2016, since after 2006 the breakwater has been extended over a distance of about 300 m (Figure A.6).



Figure A.6 Breakwater extension between 2006 and 2012 (upper figure: breakwater in 2006, lower figure: breakwater in 2012).

In the period after this extension the sand bypass along the breakwater can be assumed to be nihil or very small, so this period is suitable for an assessment of the net longshore transport. Before the breakwater extension the sand bypass is estimated to be considerable, so this period has not been included in the assessment.

On the basis of the available data it is not possible to derive the exact year of the breakwater extension, but based on the shoreline positions for all available years it is estimated that this was not long after 2006.

Since then the shoreline just west of the breakwater has moved seaward over a distance of about 180 m, see Figure A.7.

This distance gradually decreases going westward along the coast and at a distance of about 10 to 15 km the effect of the breakwater is estimated to be nihil. If we assume an active profile height of about 10 m, then the above shoreline changes imply a sand accumulation west of the breakwater in the order of 900,000 to 1,000,000 m³/yr.



Figure A.7 Shoreline analysis west of port of Cotonou.

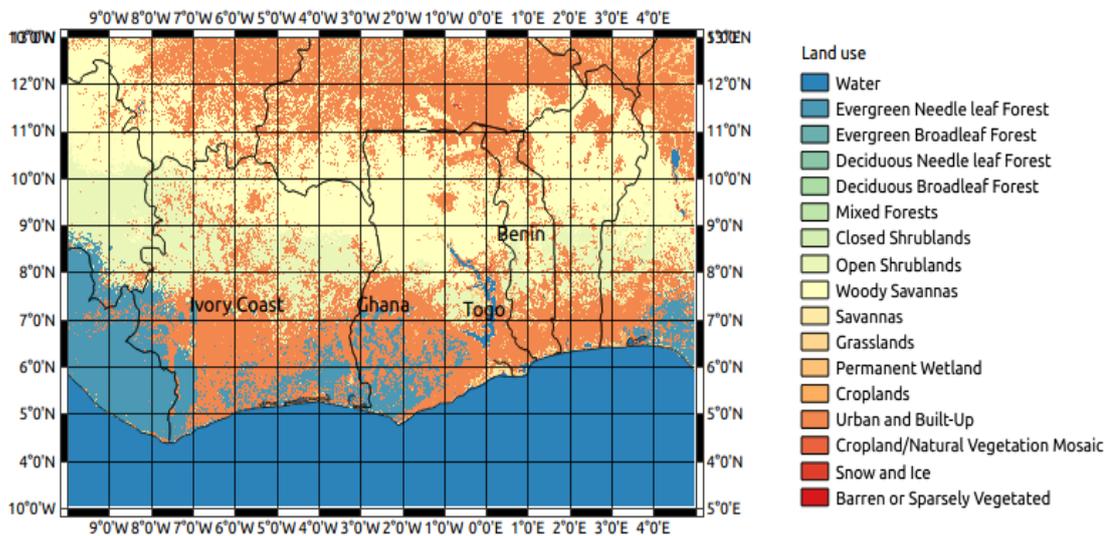
The order of magnitude of the estimated transport is in fair agreement with the rate of 1,250,000 m³/yr presented in Delft Hydraulics (1992), which was based on the erosion observed east of the port. It is noted that in Delft Hydraulics (1992) the active profile height was estimated at 16 m (based on observed behaviour of deeper depth contours in the eroding area), which is larger than the roughly estimated 10 m in our assessment. This is not necessarily a discrepancy, since in accreting areas the active profile height may be different (smaller) than in eroding areas.

Based on the above considerations the order of magnitude of the net longshore transport near Cotonou is estimated at 900,000 to 1,300,000 m³/yr.

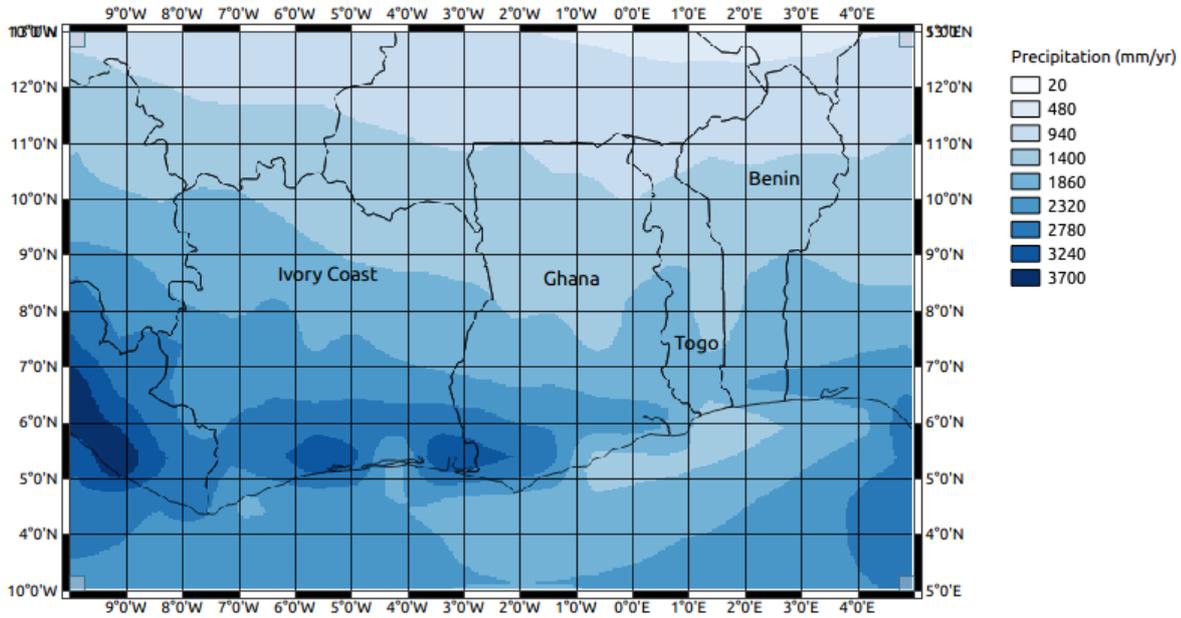
B Input maps – hydrological model

In this annex, yearly averaged maps of different input values for the hydrological model are shown. In particular: land use map, mean annual precipitation map (1979 - 2014), mean annual potential evapotranspiration (1979 - 2014), and mean temperature (1979 - 2014). More information, related to the hydrological modelling, can be found in Section 5.4.1.

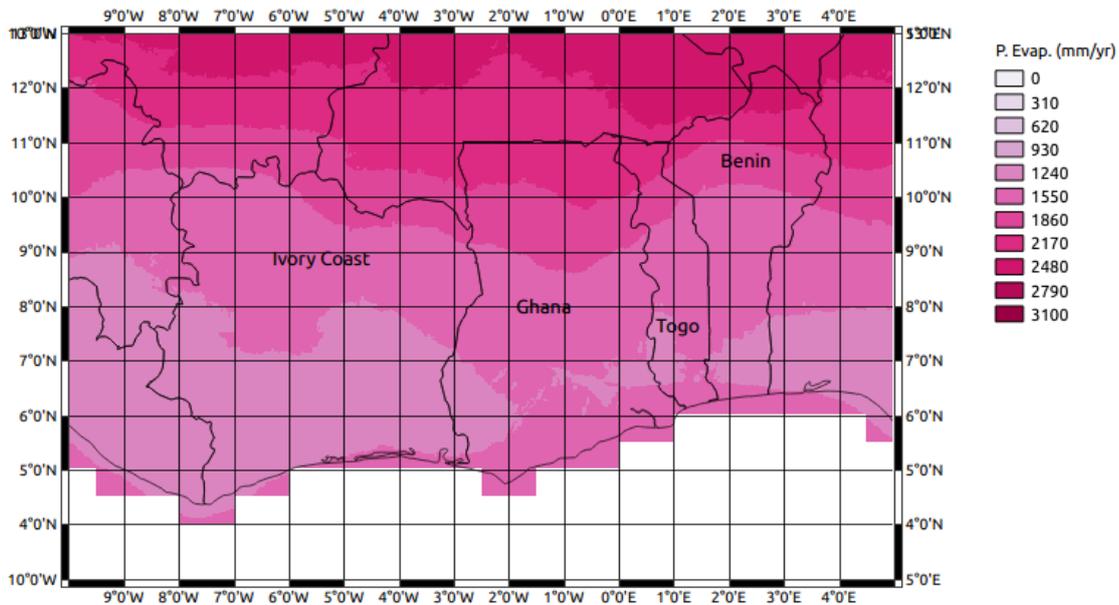
Land use
West Africa
Deltares 2016



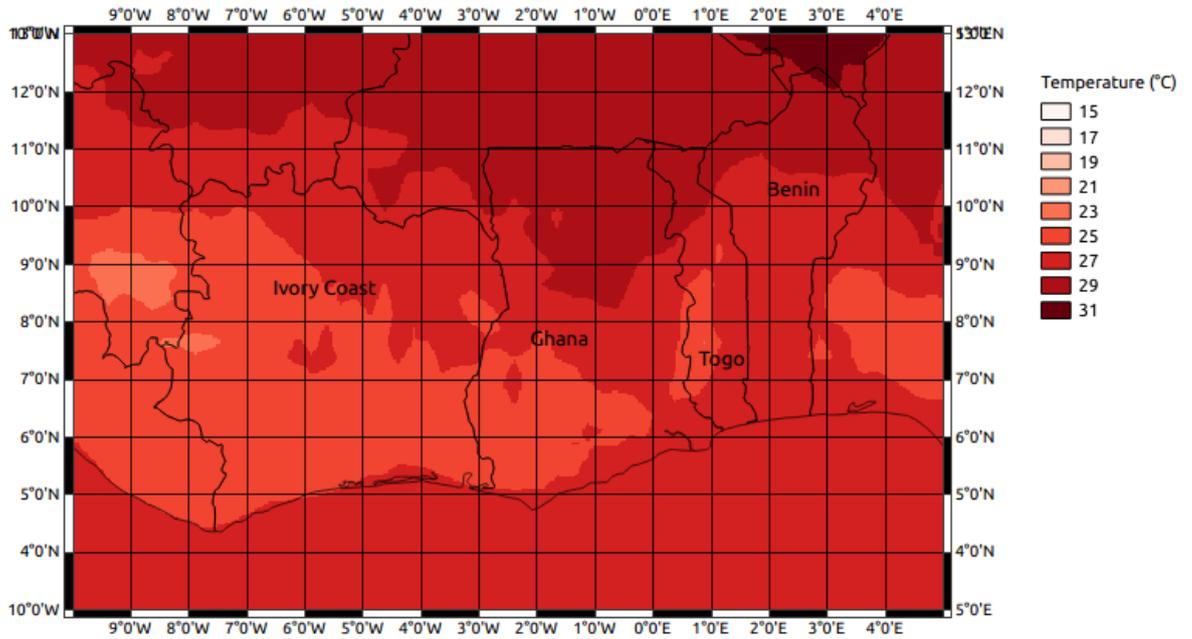
Mean Annual Precipitation 1979 - 2014
West Africa
Deltares 2016



Mean Annual Potential Evapotranspiration 1979 - 2014
West Africa
Deltares 2016



Mean Temperature 1979 - 2014
West Africa
Deltares 2016



C Summary table of longshore transport (values in $\times 10^3 \text{ m}^3/\text{year}$)

Section	Hindcastmodel (Section 6.4.1)	Reference model (Section 6.4.2)	Effects of anthropogenic interventions (Section 6.5.1)				Effects of climate change (Section 6.5.2)			
			Removal of ports	0% bypass	50% bypass	Removal of dams	0.3 m RSLR	1.0 m RSLR	+ 20% prec.	20% prec.
Simulation										
Period	1985-2015	2015-2045	2015-2045				2070-2100			
Border Liberia – Côte d'Ivoire	-31	-31	-32	-32	-29	-32	-148	-151	-31	-33
Tabou	-1184	-1184	-1185	-1184	-1182	-1185	-1352	-1367	-1184	-1186
San-Pedro	-1361	-1361	-1361	-1361	-1358	-1361	-1590	-1593	-1360	-1362
Sassandra	-1475	-1475	-1475	-1475	-1472	-1451	-1718	-1715	-1475	-1475
Grand-Lahou	-622	-622	-623	-622	-620	-547	-789	-774	-624	-621
Abidjan	-123	-248	-559	-9	-352	-247	-406	-403	-247	-248
Grand-Bassam	117	116	116	116	118	168	29	46	116	116
Border Côte d'Ivoire - Ghana	27	26	26	26	28	28	-76	-61	27	25
Cape Three Points	-146	-147	-148	-147	-146	-146	-226	-210	-147	-149
Takoradi	-2280	-2281	-2281	-2280	-2279	-2279	-2577	-2573	-2280	-2282
Cape Coast	-1092	-1093	-1093	-1093	-1092	-1092	-1285	-1306	-1092	-1093
Accra	-556	-557	-558	-557	-556	-556	-637	-655	-557	-558
Volta river	-737	-738	-738	-738	-737	-664	-913	-905	-738	-738
Border Ghana - Togo / Lome	-470	-454	-464	-454	-456	-453	-507	-519	-454	-454
Togoville	-202	-178	-518	-178	-177	-177	-204	-210	-177	-178
Border Togo - Benin	-464	-463	-562	-463	-462	-489	-541	-559	-462	-463
Cotonou	-22	-14	-730	-14	-383	-13	-22	-23	-13	-14

D Glossary

This glossary provides definitions of terms that are in common use when describing coastal processes and coastal management. It is not a comprehensive dictionary of coastal terminology. The definitions used in the glossary are sourced from the US Army Corps of Engineers and from glossaries provided in relevant Standards, as well as from other coastal management guidelines in current use (e.g. www.simplecoast.com).

Term	Definition
Alongshore or Longshore	Parallel to and near the shoreline. (USACE)
Beach	The zone of unconsolidated material that extends landward from the low water line to the place where there is marked change in material or physiographic form, or to the line of permanent vegetation (usually the effective limit of storm waves). The seaward limit of a beach is the mean low water line. A beach includes foreshore and backshore. (USACE)
Beach erosion	The carrying away of beach materials by wave action, tidal currents, littoral currents, or wind.
Breaker zone	The zone within which waves approaching the coastline commence breaking.
Breakwater	A man-made structure protecting a shore area, port, anchorage, or basin from waves.
Bruun Rule	A commonly used method for estimating the response of a sandy shoreline to rising sea levels
Closure depth	The depth below which vertical sea bed changes are not detected. It is generally considered as the seaward limit of littoral transport (collected over several years). The depth can be determined from repeated cross-shore profile surveys or estimated using formulas based on wave statistics. Note that this does not imply the lack of sediment motion beyond this depth
Coastal morphology	Coastal morphology is the study of the origin and evolution of coastal features
Downdrift	A position on the shoreline which is 'downstream' of sediment transport caused by longshore drift
Erosion	The permanent loss of sand from the system
Hard defences (protection)	General term applied to impermeable coastal defence (protection) structures of concrete, timber, steel, masonry, etc., which reflect a high proportion of incident wave energy
Littoral transport	Littoral transport is the term used for the transport of non-cohesive sediments, i.e. mainly sand, along the foreshore and the shoreface due to the action of the breaking waves and the longshore current. The littoral transport is also called the longshore transport or the littoral drift.
Longshore current	The longshore current is the dominating current in the nearshore zone; it is running parallel to the shore.
Revetment or sea wall	A type of coastal protection work which protects assets from coastal erosion by armouring the shore with erosion-resistant material. Large rocks/boulders, concrete or other hard materials are used, depending on the specific design requirements.

Sand drift	The movement of sand by wind. On the coast, this generally describes sand movement resulting from natural or human induced degradation of dune vegetation, resulting in either nuisance or major sand drift (dune transgression).
Sea level rise	An increase in the mean level of the oceans. Relative sea level occurs where there is a local increase in the level of the ocean relative to the land, which might be caused by ocean rising, the land subsiding, or both. In areas with rapid land level uplift (e.g. seismically active areas), relative sea level can fall.
Sediment budget	An accounting of gains and losses of sediment within defined boundaries over a period of time
Sediment transport	The process whereby sediment is moved offshore, onshore or along shore by wave, current or wind action
Shoreface or Littoral zone	This zone extends seaward from the foreshore to some distance beyond the breaker zone. The littoral zone is the zone in which the littoral processes take place; these are mainly the long-shore transport, also referred to as the littoral drift, and the cross-shore transport.
Significant wave height (Hs)	The average wave height of the highest one third of the waves
Surf zone	The zone of wave action extending from the water line (which varies with wave conditions, tide, surf, set-up etc.) out to the most seaward point of the breaker zone.
Tide	The astronomical tide is generated by the rotation of the earth in combination with the varying gravitational impact on the water body of the sun, the moon and the planets. These phenomena cause predictable and regular oscillations in the water level, which is referred to as the tide.
Updrift	A position on the shoreline which is 'upstream' of sediment transport caused by longshore drift
Wave climate	The seasonal and annual distribution of wave height, period and direction
Wave energy	The capacity of waves to do work. The energy of a wave system is theoretically proportional to the square of the wave height; a high-energy coast is characterised by breaker heights greater than 50 centimetres and a low-energy coast is characterised by breaker heights less than 10 centimetres. Most of the wave energy along equilibrium beaches is used in shoaling and in sand movement.

E Summary of the Launch Workshop

West Africa Coastal Areas Technical Assistance Program « WACA » West Africa Coastal Area Erosion and Adaptation Project Lomé, 19-21 October 2016

Text by Miguel Toquica (The World Bank)

E.1 Summary presentations of final results and stakeholder's consultation

The Deltares study, "Human Interventions and Climate Change Impacts on the West African Coastal Sand River: A Preliminary Quantitative Assessment" was presented during the first technical session in the WACA launch workshop in Lomé. The work was presented by Dr. Alessio Giardino, coastal morphologist and climate change expert (project leader). The presentation was followed by questions and answers from the workshop attendees. Moreover, a separate session with experts and scientists from the region was held in order to discuss next steps, future work, and to create channels of future collaboration between researchers at Deltares and regional Universities in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Benin. The presentation was divided in four sections describing: a) project's objectives, b) scope and approach of the study (literature and data review), c) modelling study and results, and d) conclusions and future plans in order to move towards a regional sediment management plan.

The stakeholder's consultation gave the opportunity to local scientists to further clarify the project's context and results. Some of the major points raised during the consultation are summarized below:

Professor Adote Blim Blivi. Director of the GCILE in Lome, Togo (Centre de Gestion Intégrée du Littoral et de l'Environnement)

- The conceptual framework of sand river (including rivers and coast) was explained to the audience. Professor Blivi would like submarine sediments to be considered as part of the analysis.
- Need of implementing high resolution local models including ground validation and field data.
- For specific coastal protection works, need to use up-to-date bathymetric data.
- Professor Blivi suggests to have two representatives from each country visiting Deltares in order to get acquainted with the use of methodologies and models implemented in the study.

Mr. Moussa Bio Djara. Project coordinator: Coastal protection Hillacondji-Grand Popo (CGP-HGP/MUHA). Benin Ministry of planning and development

- Big concern as Benin is located last in line in relation to alongshore sediment transport drift with respect to the other countries. Sediment transport patterns in West Africa moves west-to-east. How can the study results be used to convince the decision makers about the proper adaptation measures?

- If there is a deficit of sediments how do we cope with it, how to use the model to answer these interrogatives?
- How long will the sand be there in case of nourishments? Do we need long-term monitoring? Some countries replenish their beaches every year, but it a very costly process.
- There is a need of detailed bathymetry for high-resolution, local models.

Professor Kwasi Appeaning ADDO. University of Ghana, Department of Marine and Fisheries Sciences.

- There is a need of capacity building activities, transferring the knowledge related to the models to local scientists so that they can start using those models at local level.
- The World Bank, WACA program to investigate possibilities and methods to transfer the models to the countries and facilitate mechanism for Deltares training workshops.
- The model is clearly a representation of the reality. However, if the bathymetry does not represent the real actual values, we will have uncertain results.

Professor Prof. Eric M'moi Valère DJAGOJA, Coordinator of the Cote d'Ivoire national program for management of the costal environnements. (PNGEC).

Professor Celestin Hauhouot. University Felix Ouphouet Boigny and MOLOA national Antenna.

- The University is currently having students working on similar models for sedimentation. This is an opportunity to transfer knowledge and create capacity to local scientist and students.
- There is a need to encourage students to use models with actual data from the field. Need to apply models with combination of field data; however, the technical capacity, instruments, and methods to collect field data need to be revisited.
- There is a need of accurate bathymetry datasets.
- Need of monitoring over a long periods and time. Observations for only one year are useful but not sufficient to assess long-term trend and effectiveness of different coastal protection measures.

Deltares follow-up and suggestions for future work.

- Setting up a regional sediment management plan together with local organizations. The numerical framework which we have set-up, should be just one of the building blocks in support for the setting up of this plan. A regional sediment management plan should include aspects on sediment resources availability (based on data and complemented with model information), policy related aspects, aspects related to costing of different solutions, trends in economic development, climate change, etc. So, contribution, from different organization would be highly desired.
- Use the modelling framework set-up so far to derive boundary conditions for detailed models to be implemented for example where future solutions/new expansions are being planned. For example: the construction of a sand nourishment, a groyne system, a bypass system, a port expansion, etc.
- Combination with a capacity building component (e.g. training in the country or skilled students spending sometime at Deltares) and contributing to the model development.

The request done by several professors during consultation was to have two representatives from each country spending two weeks at Deltares, receiving training.

- Data harmonization: as part of this study a viewer has been set-up and which could be used to visualize and share the results of our work to a wider public. Similar system could be used to harmonize and share all type of data collected from other regional studies i.e. SDLAO. This would allow local organizations to have easy access to data from other organization in their own country and from the entire region. The current coastal viewer does not require any GIS software license.
- Extend the modelling study to neighbouring countries, in collaboration with local and regional organizations.



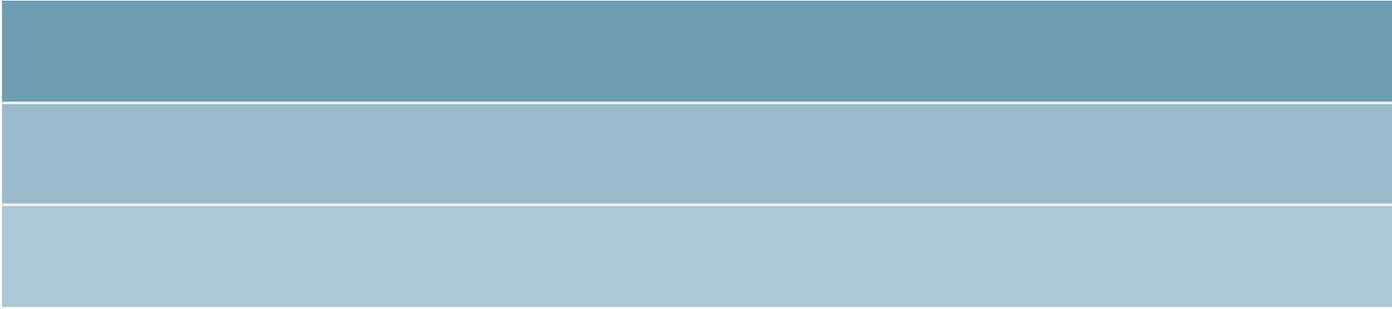
Figure E.1 Picture from the workshop in Lomé.

E.2 Attendance list

Name	Function	Organization	E-mail address
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Moussa BIO DJARA	Coordonnateur du Projet de Protection de la Côte entre Hillacondji et Grand-Popo (CGP-HGP/MUHA)	Ministère du Cadre de Vie et du Développement Durable	moussabiodjara@yahoo.fr
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Zebedee NJISUH	Coastal Resilience and Adaptation Specialist	WABICC	



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