Topic: The Impact of Land Use Change on Hydrological Ecosystem Services in the Tano River Basin, Ghana

By

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Introduction

Global Land Degradation (Human Footprint on the Earth's Ecosystems)



Figure 1: This map shows human impact on the environment, categorizing regions by the extent of alteration from improved to highly degraded areas over sixteen years from 1993 to 2009. (Source; Mason 2016)

Introduction

Humans impact on Land cover change in Ghana



Land use and land use change in Ghana. Source: USGS (http://lca.usgs.gov/)



• Massive vegetation cover loss

(Awuku 2016; Nyantakyi, Fei-Baffoe, and Akoto 2020)

• Rivers are projected to decrease in Ghana

(Macdonald, Lund, and vanEtten 2020)

• Reduction in ecosystem services in the Tano River Basin

Study objectives

• Analyze LULC from 1986 to 2022 in the Tano River Basin.

• Simulate possible future LULC for the years 2032 and 2052.

• Assess the impact of LULC on hydrological ecosystem services (water yield)

Study Area

- Tano River Basin
- latitudes 5° N and 7° 40' N, and longitudes 2° 00' W and 3° 15' W
- Elevation is 518 meters
- Mean annual temperature is 25.9°C
- 15,000 km² catchment area



Figure 2: A Map of the Tano River Basin within Ghana and the locations of climate observations (b) rainfall and temperature distribution for the period 1985–2016, (c) elevation, and (d) LULC types (Source: Larbi 2023).

Flow chart for LULC analysis





Figure 4: LULC of Tano River Basin from 1986-2022

Change detection

Table 1. Percentage of Land use/cover change in Tano River Basin from 1986 – 2022.										
Years	Surface Water	Built-up Area	Open Forest	Dense Forest	Agriculture (%)	Total (%)				
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)						
1986	0.04	0.50	63.88	34.87	0.72	100.00				
2003	0.03	2.44	62.44	28.67	6.41	100.00				
2013	0.08	1.98	64.78	27.73	5.43	100.00				
2022	0.09	2.58	61.71	22.18	13.43	100.00				
1986-2003	-0.01	1.95	-1.44	-6.20	5.70					
2003-2013	0.04	-0.46	2.34	-0.93	-0.98					
2013-2022	0.02	0.60	-3.07	-5.55	8.00					
1986-2022	0.05	2.09	-2.17	-12.68	12.72					

Modeling LULC

Input datasets for LULC Projection

- Distance from agriculture
- Distance from roads
- Distance from place/towns
- Digital elevation model (DEM)
- Slope
- LULC



Modeling LULC

Modeling Validation

Table 2. Area coverage of classified and projected land cover classes

LULC	Area coverage (%)			
	2022C	2022P		
Water	0.09	0.09		
Built-up area	2.58	2.60		
Open forest	61.71	61.53		
Dense forest	22.18	22.16		
Agriculture	13 /3	13.61		
Total	100.00	100.00		



2022 Simulated LULC Overall Accuracy = 92%

(Kappa Accuracy = 0.90)

Modeling LULC

Simulated Maps



Figure 6: Projected land cover maps of the study area (2022 - 2052)

LULC	Area coverage (%)				Change detection (%)		
	2022C	2022P	2032	2052	2022C-2022P	2032-2022P	2052-2022P
Water	0.09	0.09	0.11	0.12	0.00	0.02	0.03
Built-up area	2.58	2.60	2.63	2.65	-0.02	0.03	0.05
Open forest	61.71	61.53	56.56	52.09	0.18	-4.97	-9.44
Dense forest	22.18	22.16	22.09	21.92	0.02	-0.07	-0.25
Agriculture	13.43	13.61	18.61	23.22	-0.18	4.99	9.61
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00			

Table 3. Area coverage of projected land cover classes in the study area

*C – Classified; P - Projected

Assessing the Impact LULC on Hydrological Ecosystem Services (Water Yields)

Integrated Valuation of Ecosystem Services and Tradeoffs (InVEST) Seasonal Water Yield

• Quick flow $= \frac{1}{a_{i,m}} \exp\left(-\frac{p}{a_{i,m}}\right)$ Where $a_{i,m} = \frac{P_{i,m}}{n_m}/25.4$ and

 $a_{i,m}$ is the mean rain depth on a rainy day at pixel *i* on month *m* [in],

 $n_{i,m}$ is the number of events at pixel *i* in month *m* [-],

 $P_{i,m}$ is the monthly precipitation for pixel *i* at month *m*[mm].

(Source: Sharp et al., 2016)

Materials and Methods

• Seasonal Water Yield Data Input





Figure 8: Quick flow distribution in the Tano River basin

• Changes in quick flow



Conclusion

- Open forest was the largest land cover in the study area
- There is an expansion of agricultural land, mainly from the conversion of open forest and dense forest
- Land use change influenced water yield
- Quick flow is increasing
- Flood intervention measures required

Thank You For Listening



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