Solar and Wind Energy Resource Assessment (SWERA)

High Resolution Solar Radiation Assessment for Ghana

Final country report prepared by DLR

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Content

Notice

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1 Method description

Satellite Data

The high resolution solar radiation assessment is based on data of the geostationary satellite Meteosat. Due to the location of the participating SWERA countries, data of Meteosat 7 (M-7) for the years 2000, 2001 and 2002 (for Ghana, Kenya and Ethiopia) and data of Meteosat 5 (M-5) for the years 2000, 2002 and 2003 (for Bangladesh, West-China, Nepal and Sri Lanka) are used. M-5 has its position at 0° latitude and 63° East longitude, M-7 is located at an orbit at 0° latitude and 0° longitude. Figure 1 gives the field of view of both satellites which scans the specific area every 30 minutes with a spatial resolution of 5x5 km².

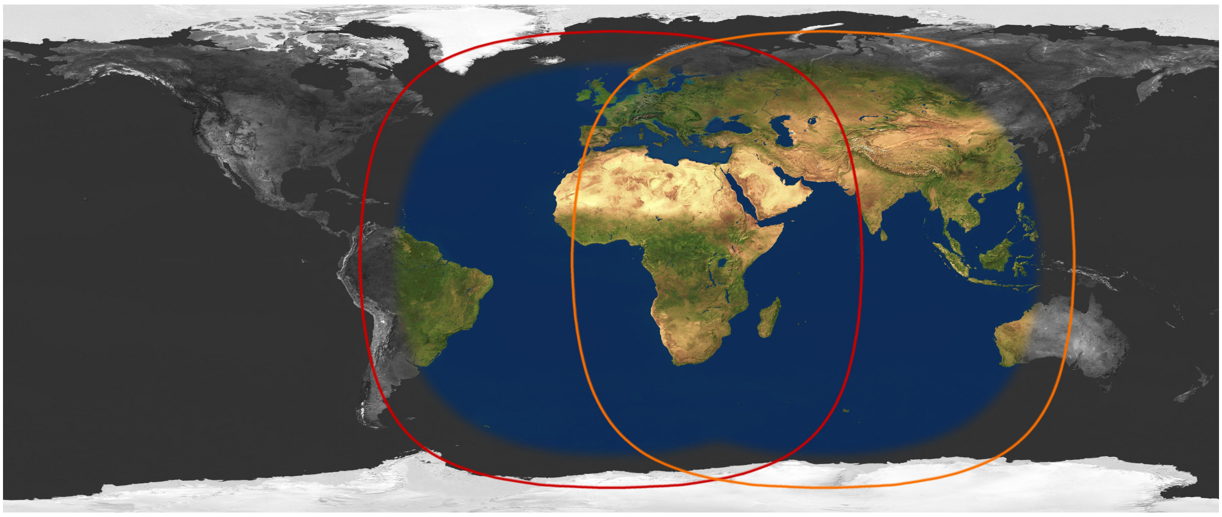


Figure 1: The solar irradiance data is derived from Meteosat a 0° (red circle) and at 63° East (orange circle). The brightened area marks the quantitatively analyzable region. (Meyer et al., 2004).

Data of the visible (VIS) channel, which gives the reflection of the system earth/atmosphere (including clouds) and data of the infrared (IR) channel, which represents the temperature of the surface and atmosphere, are used for gathering information about the clouds. Both are used in a different way to assess the global horizontal (*GHI*) and the direct normal radiation (*DNI*) at ground. Additionally, data of the most important atmospheric components that attenuate the radiation, namely ozone, water vapor and aerosols, are used to take into account the clear-sky conditions of the atmosphere. In the following, the method for deriving *DNI* based on the DLR method and the method for deriving *GHI*, based on a combined method of DLR and SUNY, is described.

Method for Direct Normal Radiation (*DNI*)

The calculation of *DNI* bases on the clear-sky model of Bird and Hulstrom (1981) as described in Iqbal (1983) which was modified by Schillings et al. (2004) for taking into account cloudy conditions with

$$DNI = 0.9751 \cdot I_0 \cdot \tau_R \cdot \tau_{Gas} \cdot \tau_{Ozon} \cdot \tau_{WV} \cdot \tau_{Ae} \cdot \tau_{vis} \cdot \tau_{ir} \quad (1)$$

Each atmospheric transmittance coefficient τ_i is calculated separately using atmospheric input data. All equations for calculating the clear-sky transmittances are described in Iqbal (1983).

Transmittance for Rayleigh scattering

$$\tau_R = \exp\left[-0.0903 m_a^{0.84}\left(1.0 + am_p - am_p^{1.01}\right)\right] \quad (2)$$

Transmittance for equally distributed gas (mainly O_2 and CO_2)

$$\tau_{Gas} = \exp\left(-0.0127 am_p^{0.26}\right) \quad (3)$$

Transmittance for ozone

$$\tau_{Ozon} = 1 - \alpha_{Ozon} \quad (4)$$

$$\alpha_{Ozone} = 0.1611\chi(1.0 + 139.48\chi)^{-0.3035} - 0.002715\chi\left(1.0 + 0.044\chi + 0.0003\chi^2\right)^{-1} \quad (5)$$

$\chi = u \cdot am$, with the vertical ozone layer thickness *u* in cm[NTP] and the airmass *am*.

Transmittance for water vapor

$$\tau_{WV} = 1 - \alpha_{WV} \quad (6)$$

$$\alpha_{WV} = 2.4959\gamma\left[(1.0 + 79.034\gamma)^{0.6828} + 6.385\gamma\right]^{-1} \quad (7)$$

$\gamma = w \cdot am$, with the pressure-corrected relative optical path length of precipitable water *w* in cm[NTP].

Transmittance for aerosols

$$\tau_{Ae} = \exp\left[-k_a^{0.873}\left(1.0 + k_a - k_a^{0.7088}\right)am_p^{0.9108}\right] \quad (8)$$

$$k_a = 0.2758 k_{a\lambda}\big|_{\lambda=0.38\mu m} + 0.35 k_{a\lambda}\big|_{\lambda=0.5\mu m} \quad (9)$$

with the aerosol optical thickness $k_{a\lambda}$ at the wavelength 0.38 μm und 0.5 μm.

Transmittance for clouds

using the visible Cloud-Index *CI_vis*

$$\tau_{vis} = e^{\left(-CI_{vis} \cdot 0.1\right)} \quad (10)$$

and using the infrared Cloud-Index *CI_ir*

$$\tau_{ir} = e^{\left(-CI_{ir} \cdot 0.07\right)} \quad (11)$$

For the clear-sky atmospheric transmittance, the airmass is needed which is calculated by

$$am = \frac{1}{\left[\cos\Theta_Z + 0.15(93.885 - \Theta_Z)\right]^{-1.253}} \quad (12)$$

The pressure correction is made by

$$am_p = am \cdot \frac{p}{1013.25} \quad (13)$$

with

$$\frac{p}{p_0} = \exp(-0.0001184 z) \quad (14)$$

The clear-sky radiation is calculated each 20 minutes (10,30,50 minutes of each hour) for the maps and each 5 minutes (5,10,15,…,55,60 minutes each hour) for the time series. The influence of the clouds is taken into account hourly, therefore all maps (monthly and annual average daily sums) and time series are based on an hourly calculation of the radiation. The DLR -model output for *DNI* is sampled at a 10km spatial resolution.

Method for Global Horizontal Radiation (*GHI*)

The calculation of *GHI* bases on the method of Perez et al (2002) and Ineichen and Perez (2002). *GHI* is calculated with (Perez et al., 2002)

$$GHI = ktm \cdot Ghc \cdot (0.0001 \cdot ktm \cdot Ghc + 0.9) \tag{15}$$

with *ktm*

$$ktm = 2.36 \cdot CI^5 - 6.2 \cdot CI^4 + 6.22 \cdot CI^3 - 2.63 \cdot CI^2 - 0.58 \cdot CI + 1 \tag{16}$$

GHI is calculated using the cloud information based on infrared (IR) and visible (VIS) Meteosat data which lead to a single Cloud-Index *CI* with

$$CI = \max(CI\_vis, CI\_ir) \tag{17}$$

For the determination of the clear-sky global irradiance G_{hc} the new formulation as described in Perez et al (2002) is used with

$$Ghc = cg1 \cdot I_0 \cdot \cos\Theta_Z \cdot \exp(-cg2 \cdot am \cdot (fh1 + fh2 \cdot (TL - 1)))\exp(0.01 \cdot am^{1.8}) \tag{18}$$

with

- *cg1* = (0.0000509 * alt + 0.868)
- *cg2* = (0.0000392 * alt + 0.0387)
- I_0 = Solar constant (eccentricity corrected)
- Θ_z = solar zenith angle
- *fh1* = exp(-alt / 8000)
- *fh2* = exp(-alt / 1250)
- *am* = elevation corrected air mass
- *alt* = altitude in meters
- T_L = Linke turbidity

Due to missing values of the Linke turbidity T_L for the parameterization of the clear-sky atmosphere, data of the atmospheric components ozone, water vapor and aerosols are used. These atmospheric data are also used for the *DNI*. To derive T_L from atmospheric data we use the following formulation as described by Ineichen and Perez (2002) with

$$Tl = ((11.1 \cdot \ln(b \cdot \frac{I_0}{B_{ncl}}))/am) + 1 \tag{19}$$

with $b = 0.664 + (0.163 / fh1)$ (20)

and the clear-sky direct normal irradiance B_{ncl}

$$B_{ncl} = I_0 \cdot \tau_{ra} \cdot \tau_{ae} \cdot \tau_{o3} \cdot \tau_{ga} \cdot \tau_{wv} \tag{21}$$

The calculation of transmittance coefficients τ_i and the used atmospheric input data are described in the method for the *DNI*.

The clear-sky radiation is calculated each 20 minutes (10,30,50 minutes of each hour) for the maps and each 5 minutes (5,10,15,…,55,60 minutes each hour) for the time series. The influence of the clouds is taken into account hourly, therefore all maps (monthly and annual average daily sums) and time series are based on an hourly calculation of the radiation. The DLR/SUNY-model output for *GHI* is sampled at a 10km spatial resolution.

Input Data

Elevation
For the airmass pressure correction, the elevation from the GLOBE database from the USGS U.S. Geological Survey [http://rockyweb.cr.usgs.gov/elevation/dpi_dem.html] is used, (Hastings and Dunbar, 1998).

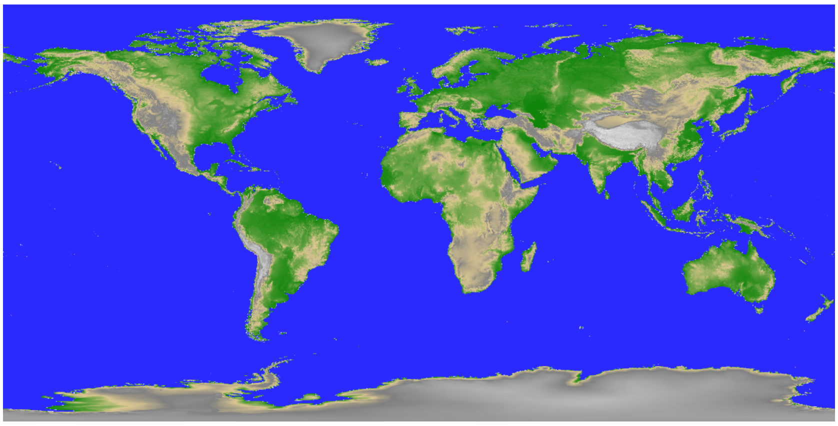


Figure 2: Elevation from GLOBE.

Ozone
The monthly ozone data are taken from TOMS published by the NASA/GSFC TOMS Ozone Processing Team [http://toms.gsfc.nasa.gov/], (McPeters et al., 1998).

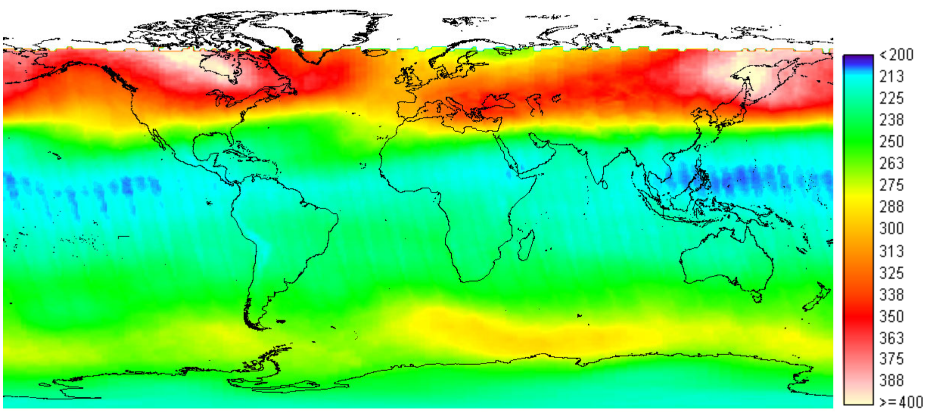


Figure 3: Ozon monthly average for February 2003 in [DU] from TOMS

Water vapor
The daily water vapor data are taken from the NOAA-CIRES Climate Diagnostics Center in Boulder Colorado, USA (NCEP/NCAR) [http://www.cdc.noaa.gov/] (Kalnay et al., 1996).

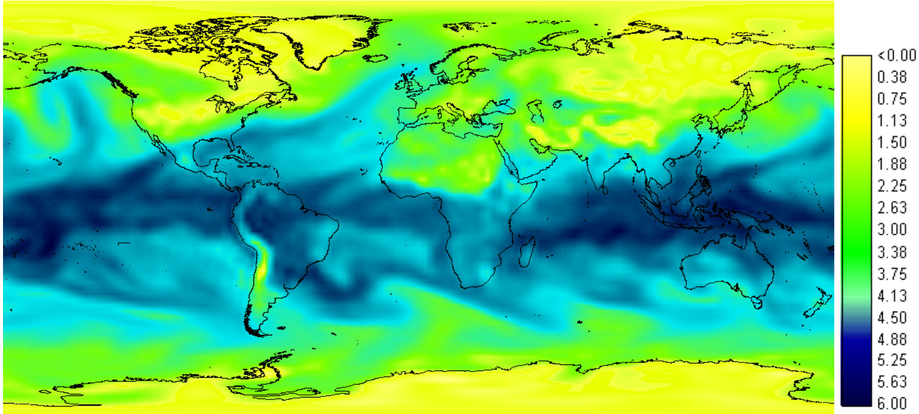


Figure 4: Water vapor daily mean for 7. February 2003 in cm[NTP] from NCEP/ NCAR-Reanalysis

<u>Aerosol</u>

The monthly climatological aerosol optical thickness data are taken from NASA-GACP, [http://gacp.giss.nasa.gov/index.html], (Mishchenko et al, 2002).

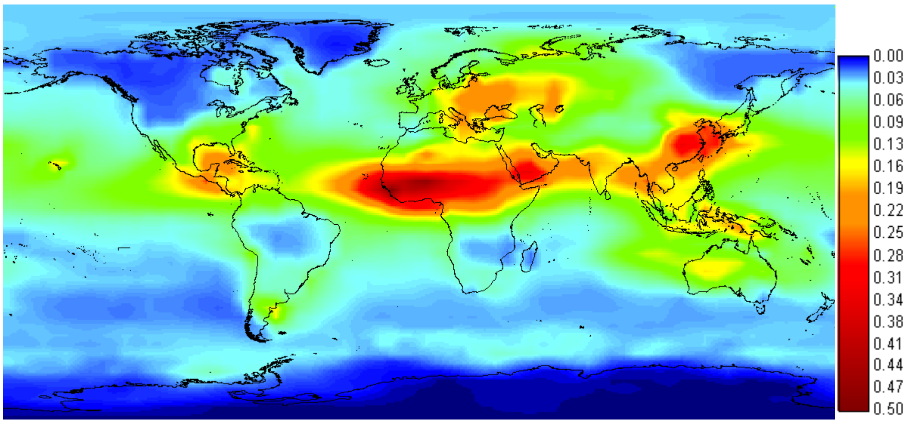


Figure 5: Aerosol optical thickness for February from NASA-GACP.

<u>Clouds</u>

The hourly cloud information are based on half-hourly Meteosat-5 IR and VIS data (© EUMETSAT, 2004). The determination of the cloud indices is described in detail in Mannstein et al. (1999) and Schillings et al. (2004). The basic approach for deriving VIS cloud information is described with

$$CI\_vis = \frac{\rho - \rho_{\min}}{\rho_{\max} - \rho_{\min}} \tag{22}$$

where ρ is the actual reflectivity measured by the satellite, ρ_{min} corresponds to the surface albedo and ρ_{max} is the maximum reflectivity measured for overcast cloudy conditions. The similar approach is used for IR-data, with the actual, minimum and maximum brightness temperatures T measured by the satellite:

$$CI\_ir = \frac{T_{\min} - T}{T_{\min} - T_{\max}} \tag{23}$$

Figure 6: Field of view of Meteosat (M-7, IR-channel) © 2004, EUMETSAT.

2 Model output

The solar radiation is calculated for the complete country for the years 2000, 2001 and 2002. The data are made available in a digital GIS-format (ESRI Vector-Shapefile). Within this report, maps of the annual average daily total sum of *GHI* and *DNI* are presented. The complete database (ESRI-Shapefile and MS-Access database) can be downloaded from the SWERA-homepage (http://swera.unep.net). Within the ESRI Vector-Shapefile, 3 annual and 36 monthly average daily total sums of *GHI* and *DNI* are given for each 10km x 10km georeferenced pixel as shown in the following figures. Additional, hourly time series for the same time period for several interesting sites are delivered in a separate ASCII-File. The output time of the hourly data is UTC.

Time series

For following sites hourly time series of GHI and DNI for three years are calculated:

Stations/Sites	Lat(degree)	Long(degree)	Elevation (m)
Abetifi	6.67	-0.75	595
Accra	5.60	-0.17	68
Adafoah	5.78	0.63	5
Akatsi	6.12	0.80	46
Akim Oda	5.93	-0.98	139
Akuse	6.10	0.12	17
Axim	4.90	-2.25	10
Bole	9.33	-2.48	240
Ho	6.60	0.47	157
Kete Krachi	7.82	-0.33	122
Koforidua	6.83	-0.25	166
Kumasi	6.72	-1.60	286
Navrongo	10.90	-1.10	201
Saltpond	5.20	-1.67	44
Sefwi_Bekwai	6.20	-2.33	171
Sunyani	7.33	-2.33	309
Takoradi	0.88	-1.77	5
Tamale	9.42	-0.85	183
Tema	5.62	0.0	14
Wa	10.05	-2.50	323
Wenchi	7.75	-2.10	339
Yendi	9.45	-0.17	195

The hourly time series can be downloaded from the SWERA web-site. The name convention of the file name is: Country_Sitename_Lat_Lon_Z_Year.
for example Ghana_Abetifi_N6.667_W0.75_Z595

<u>Important notice</u>: The following maps show classified values of *kWh/m²/day* with a common color ramp for all SWERA countries to give a first impression of the solar regime for each country and for easier comparison with other countries. The provided digital GIS data (available at http://swera.unep.net) give the real (and not classified!) values in *Wh/m²/day* for each georeferenced pixel with a signal resolution of 1 Wh/m²/day.

Global Horizontal Radiation

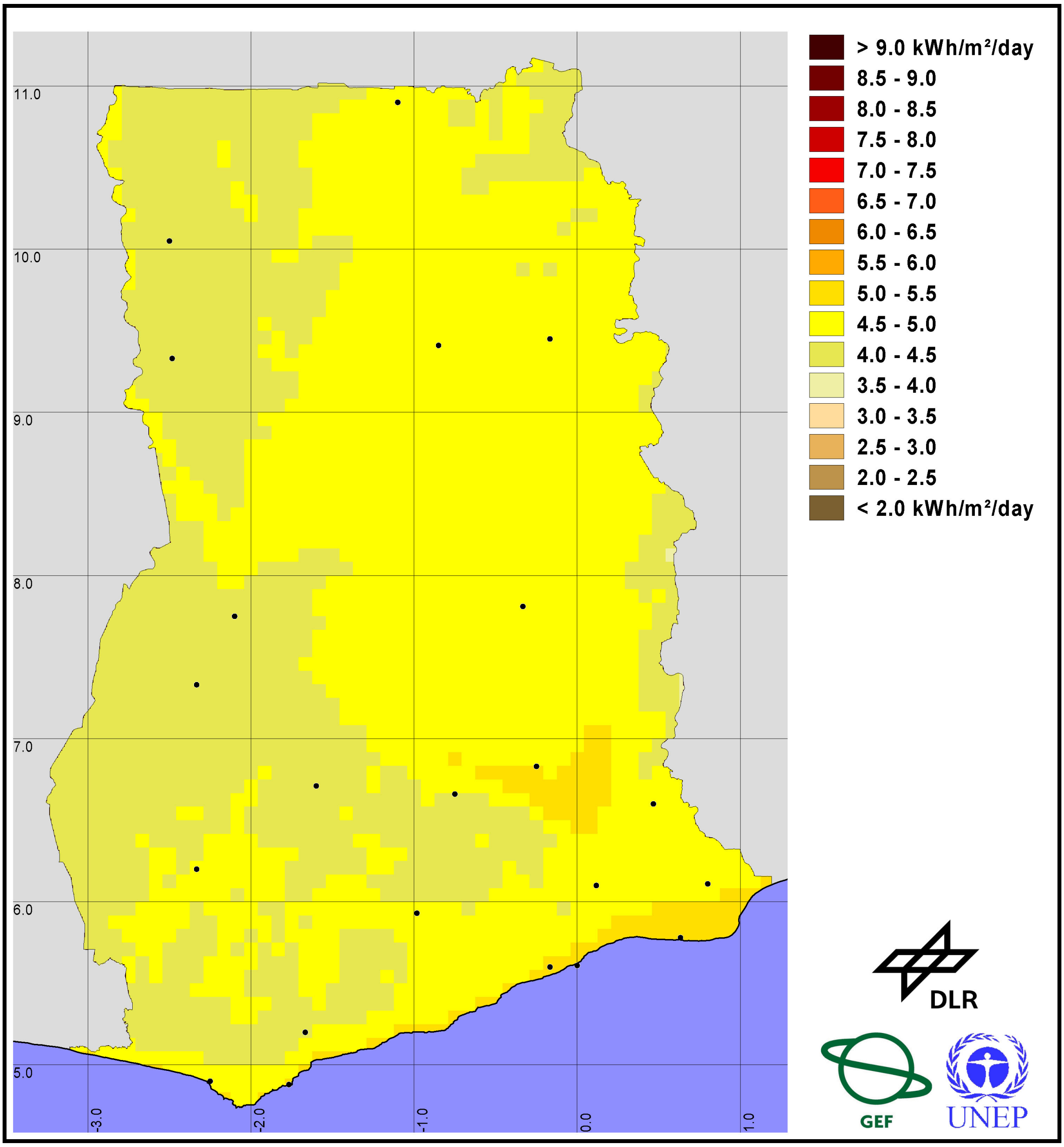


Figure 7: Annual average daily total sum of *GHI* kWh/m²/day for Ghana 2000

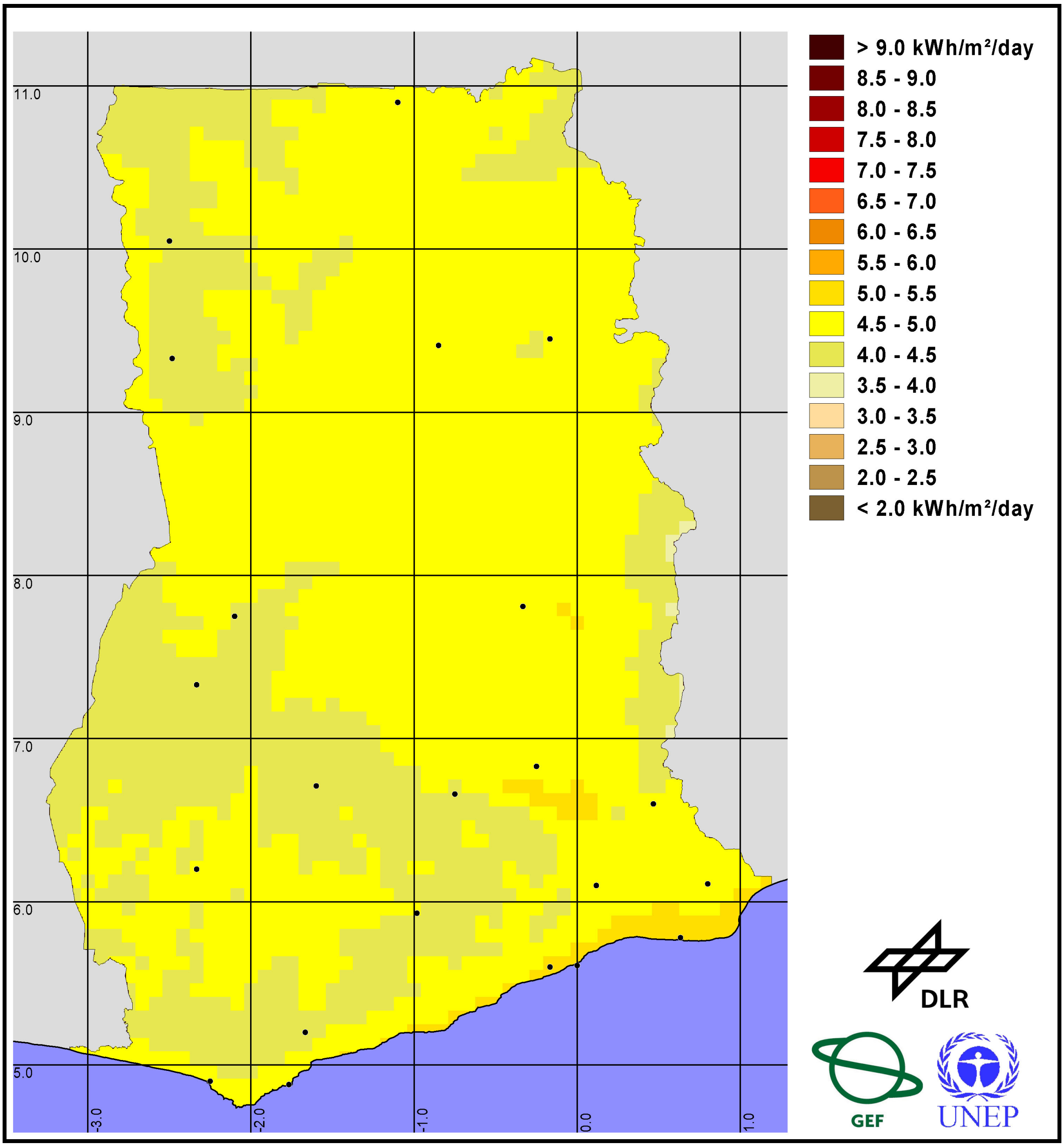


Figure 8: Annual average daily total sum of *GHI* in kWh/m²/day for Ghana 2001

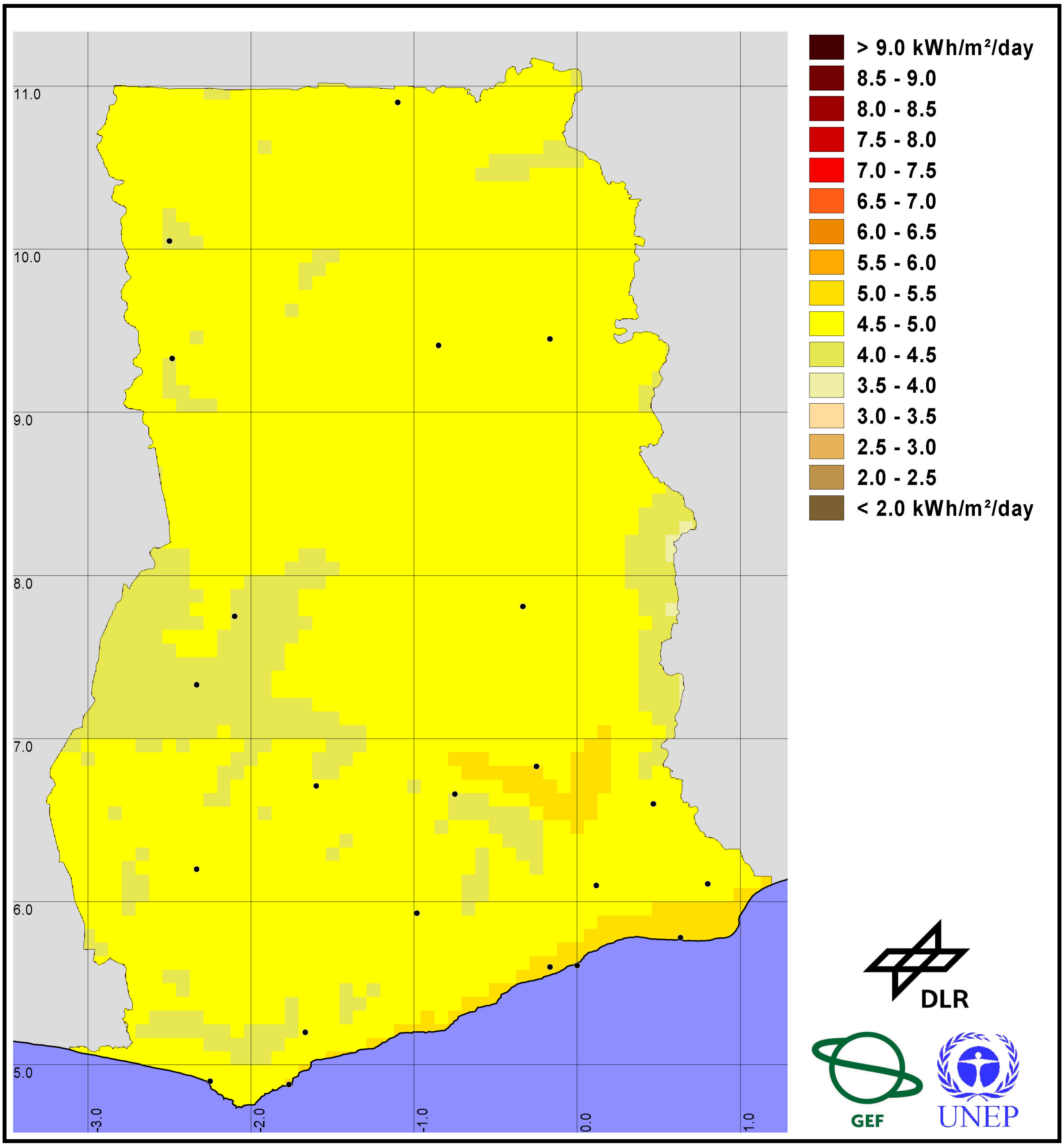


Figure 9: Annual average daily total sum of *GHI* in kWh/m²/day for Ghana 2002

Direct Normal Radiation

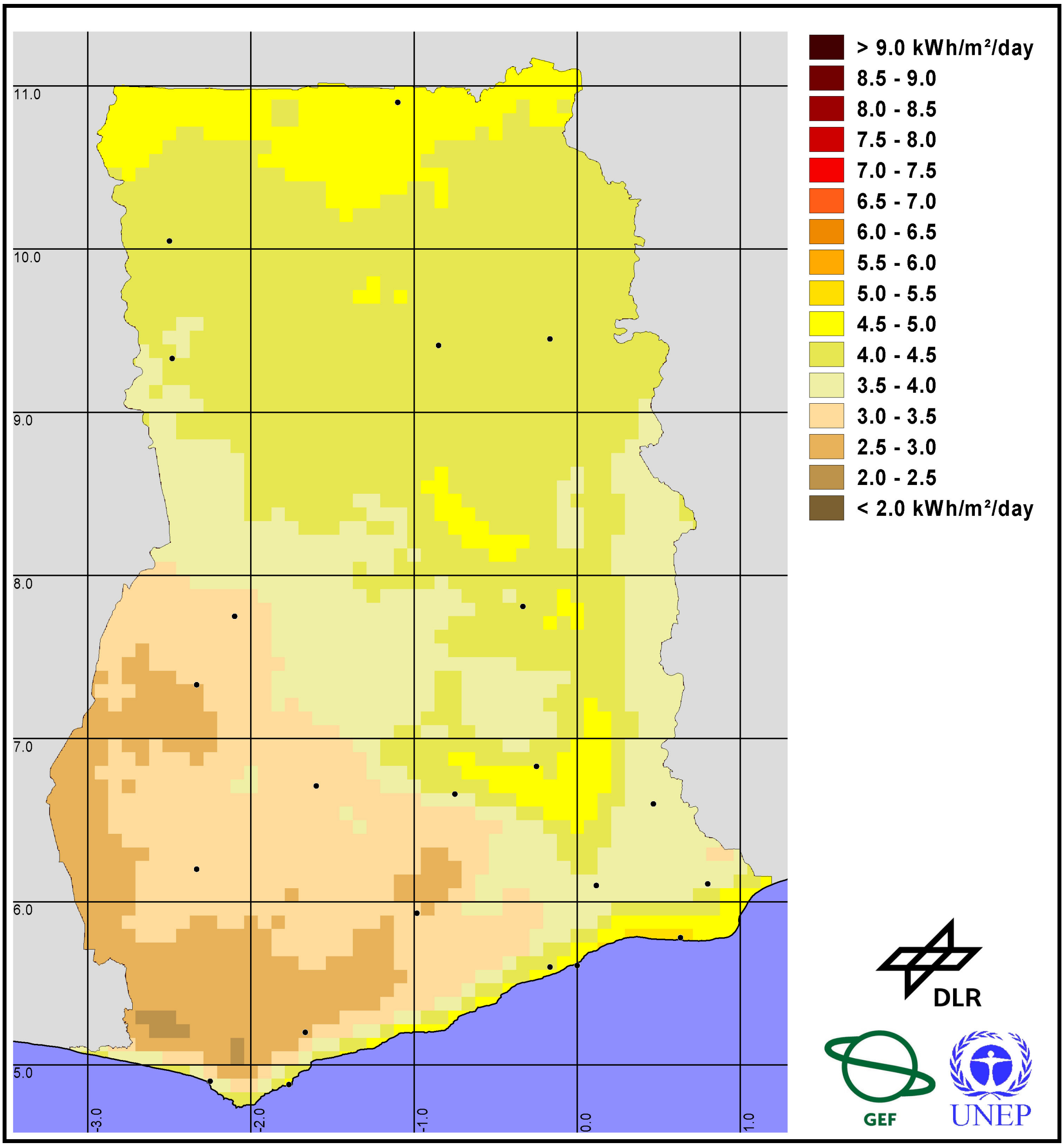


Figure 10: Annual average daily total sum of *DNI* in kWh/m²/day for Ghana 2000

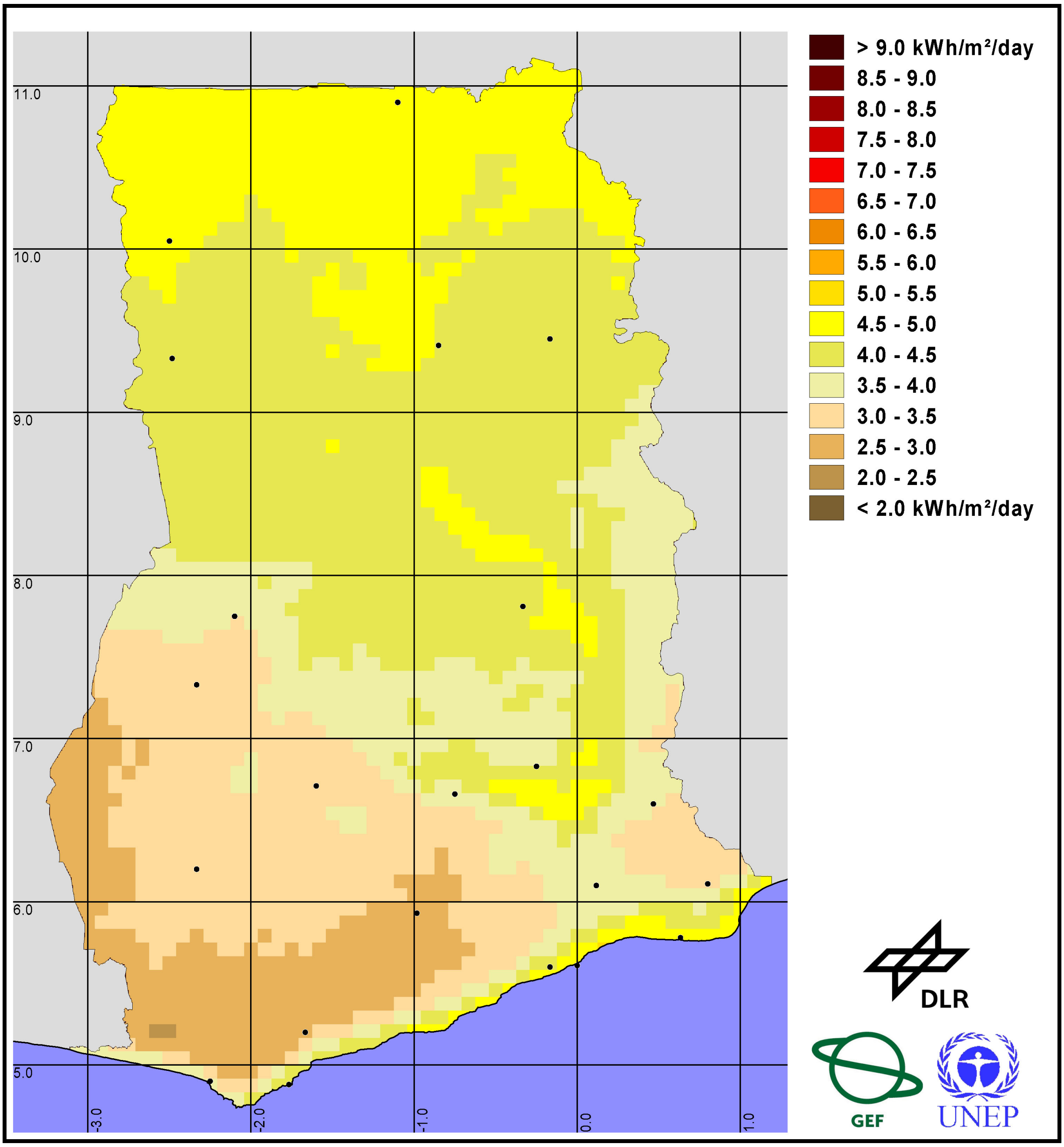


Figure 11: Annual average daily total sum of *DNI* in kWh/m²/day for Ghana 2001

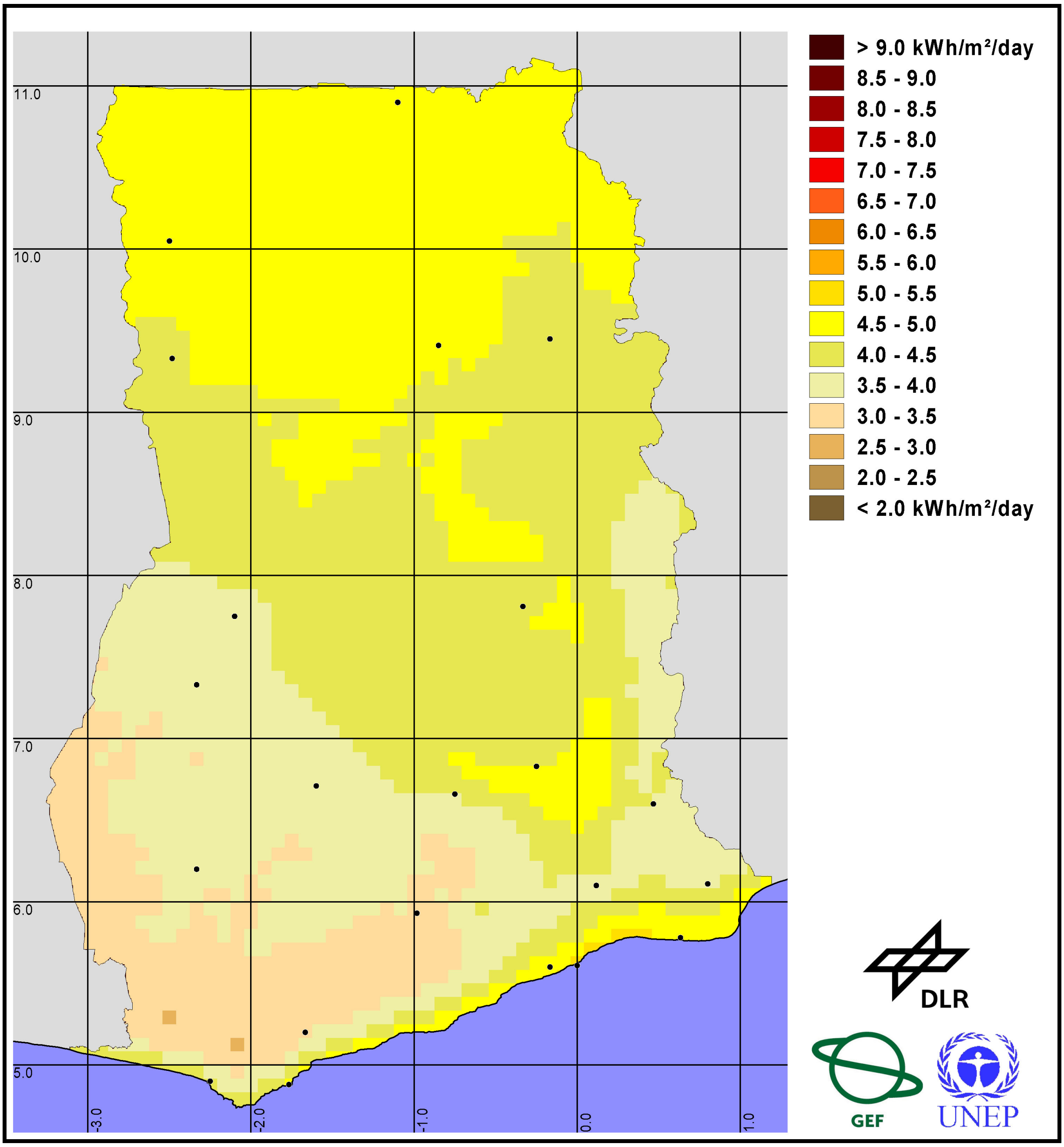


Figure 12: Annual average daily total sum of *DNI* in kWh/m²/day for Ghana 2002

3 Comparison with ground measurement in Ghana

Ground data: Ground measurements of the global horizontal irradiance are available for the several sites in Ghana (see figure 13). The *GHI* is derived from sunshine duration measurements (MSD). For the site Kumasi, *GHI* values are also measured by a pyranometer (KNUST) with a higher accuracy than the sunshine duration measurements. All ground data are taken from the "Solar Data Analysis Report" for Ghana (KNUST, 2003) provided within the SWERA-project.

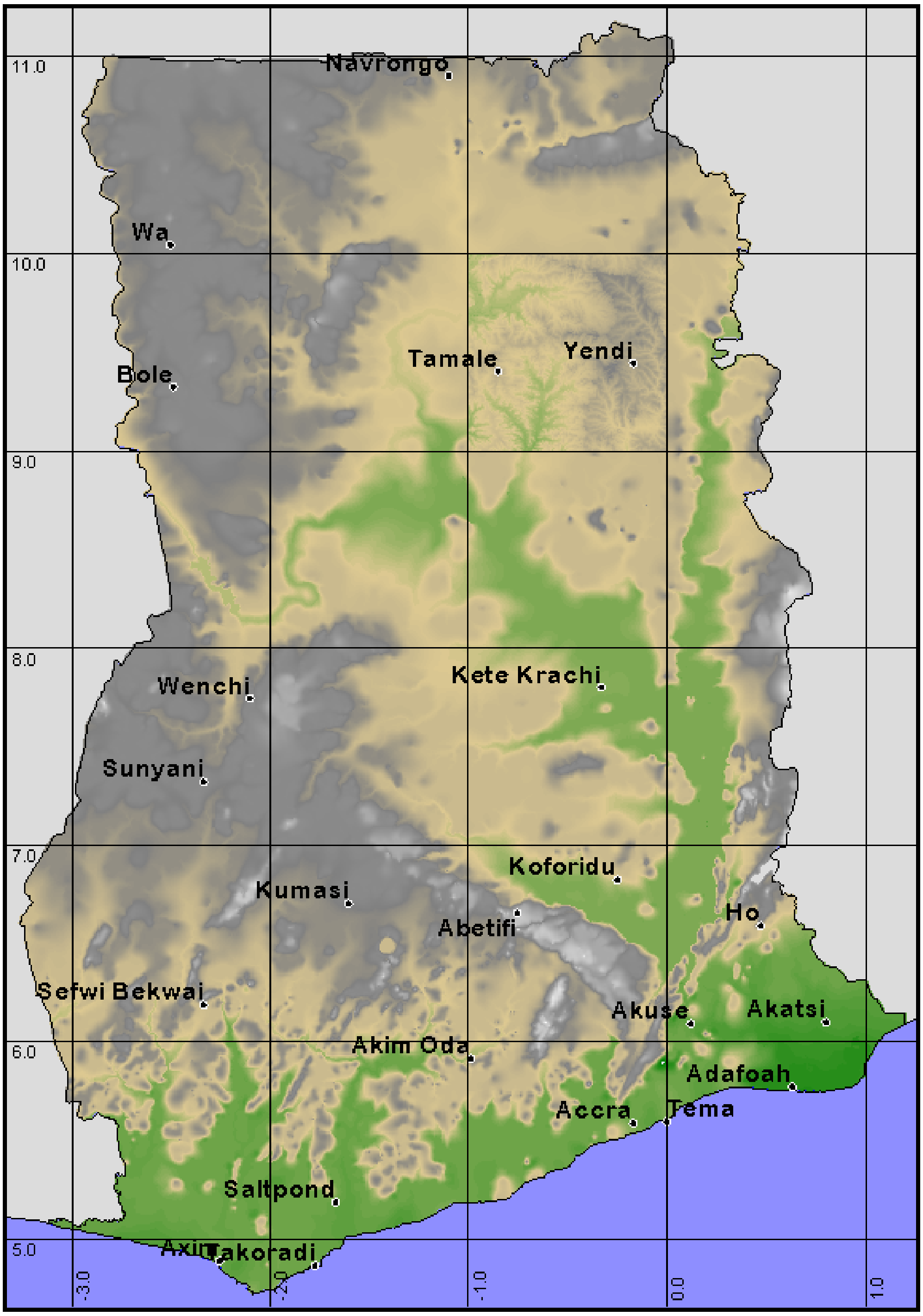


Figure 13: measurements sites in Ghana.

Satellite data: The complete years 2000-2002 are calculated and there are no data missing.

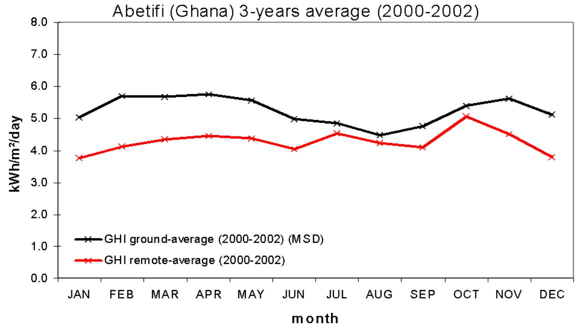
Comparison results: For this comparison, monthly average daily sums are compared for 19 sites. Kumasi is the only site with both, MSD and KNUST, measurements. The overall relative Root Mean Deviation (rMBD) is –11.6%, the relative Root Mean Square Deviation (rRMSD) is 16.3. For the more accurate *GHI* measurements of Kumasi using the KNUST pyranometer values, a rMBD of -0.4% and a rRMSD of 13.6% is performed as shown in table 1.

Station	rMBD (%)	rRMSD (%)	N (months)
Accra	-4.1	11.1	36
Abetifi	-18.5	20.7	36
Adafoah	-6.2	9.6	36
Akatsi	-7.3	10.7	24
Akuse	-5.1	10.3	36
Akim Oda	-4.2	9.4	36
Axim	-3.5	11.3	36
Bole	-16.4	19.9	36
Ho	-11.0	14.2	36
Koforidua	-5.5	12.0	36
Krachi	-12.6	15.7	36
Kumasi (MSD)	-10.7	14.0	36
Kumasi (KNUST)	**-0.4**	**13.6**	**36**
Navrongo	-19.0	20.9	36
Saltpond	-16.9	18.4	36
Takoradi	-2.4	11.0	36
Tamale	-16.1	18.8	36
Wa	-21.2	23.2	36
Wenchi	-15.5	18.4	36
Yendi	-18.5	19.9	36
All	**-11.6**	**16.3**	**672**

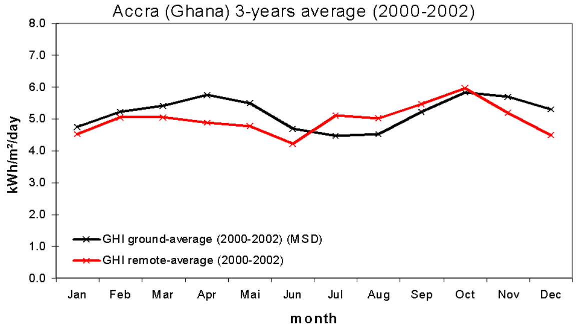
Table 1: Relative MBD and RMSD for monthly average daily sum of *GHI*. N gives the number of used months.

The next figures show the monthly average daily sum of *GHI* (ground and satellite), averaged over the complete analyzed period of the three years (2000-2002) for all sites. For Kumasi, both MSD- and KNUST- values are shown.

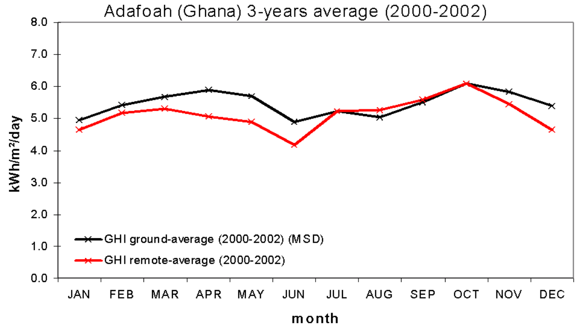
GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for Abetifi (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)



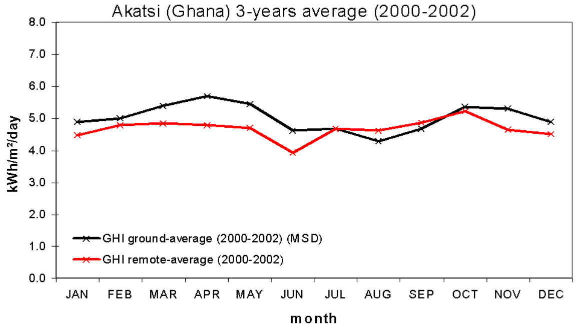
GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for Accra (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)



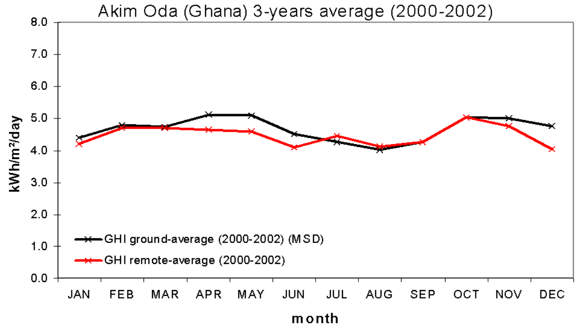
GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for Adafoah (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)



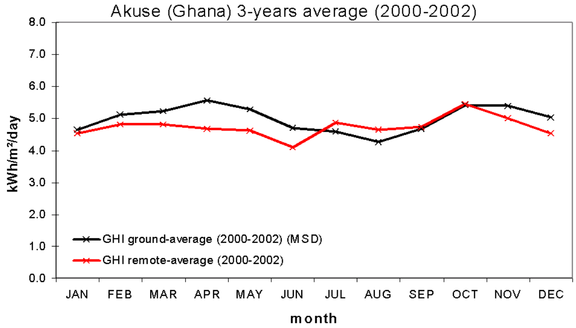
GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for Akatsi (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)



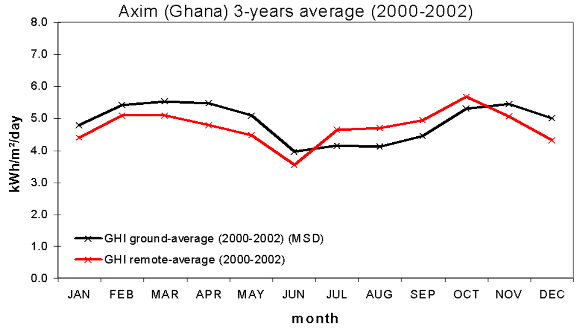
GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for Akim Oda (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)



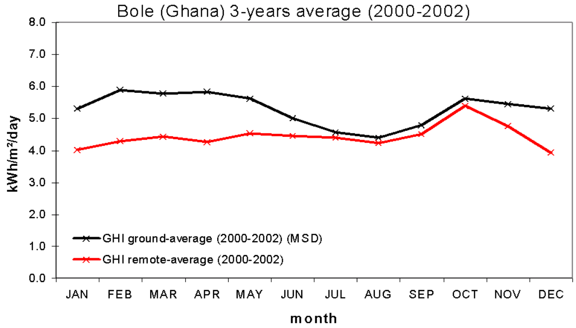
GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for Akuse (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)



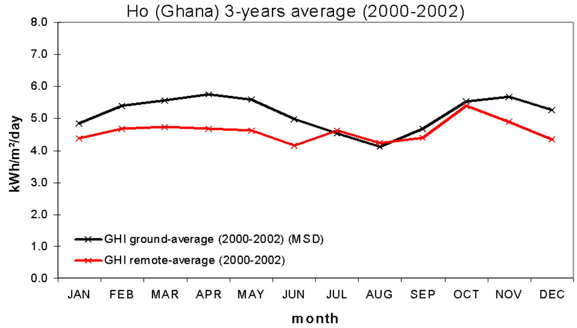
GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for Axim (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)



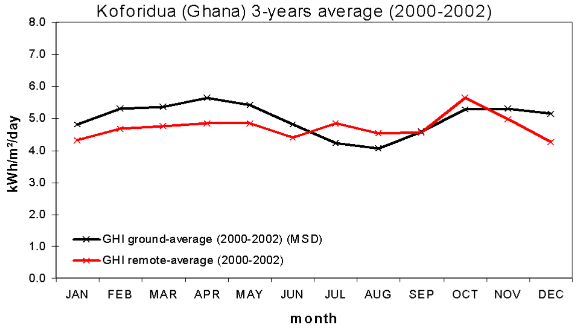
GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for Bole (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)

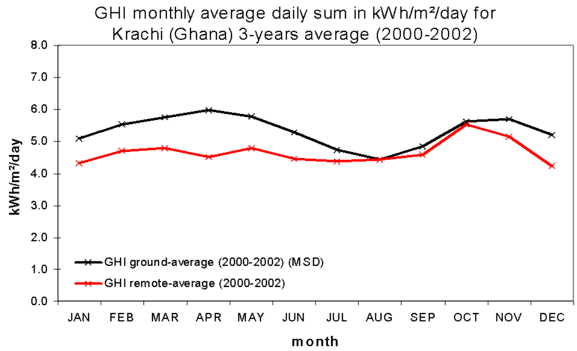


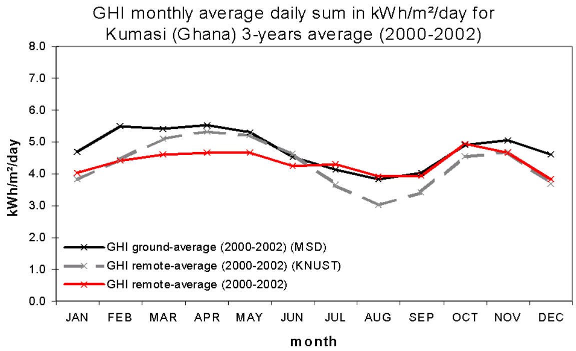
GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for Ho (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)

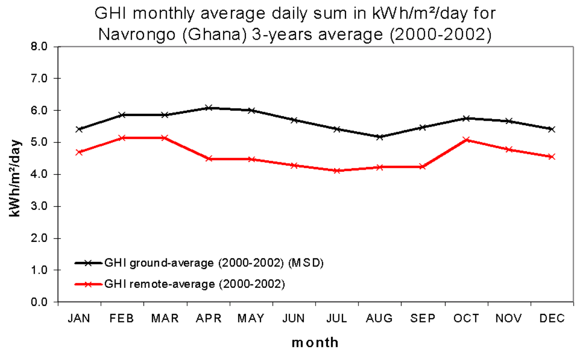


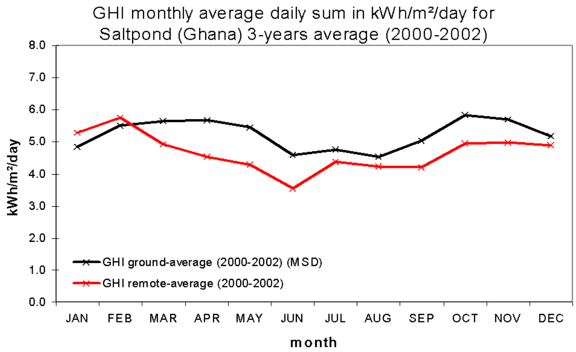
GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for Koforidua (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)

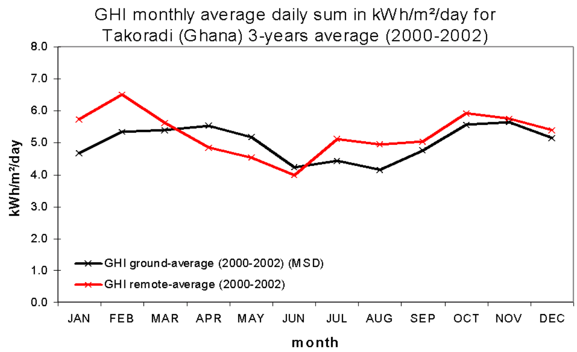


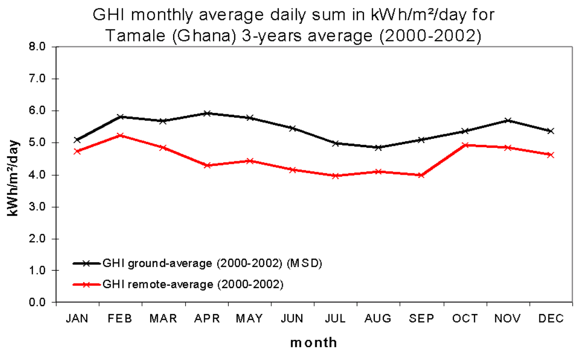

GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for
Krachi (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)
kWh/m²/day
GHI ground-average (2000-2002) (MSD)
GHI remote-average (2000-2002)
JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC
month

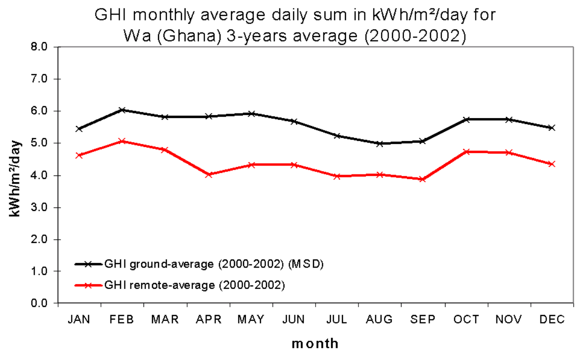

GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for
Kumasi (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)
kWh/m²/day
GHI ground-average (2000-2002) (MSD)
GHI remote-average (2000-2002) (KNUST)
GHI remote-average (2000-2002)
JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC
month

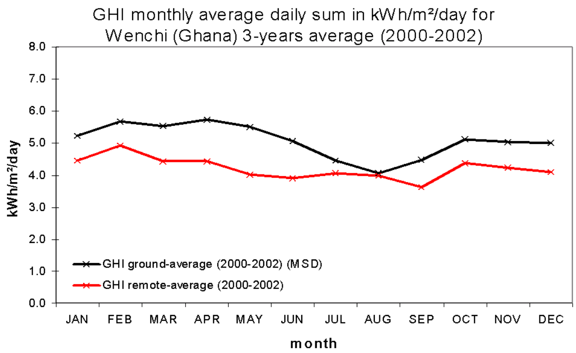

GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for
Navrongo (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)
kWh/m²/day
GHI ground-average (2000-2002) (MSD)
GHI remote-average (2000-2002)
JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC
month

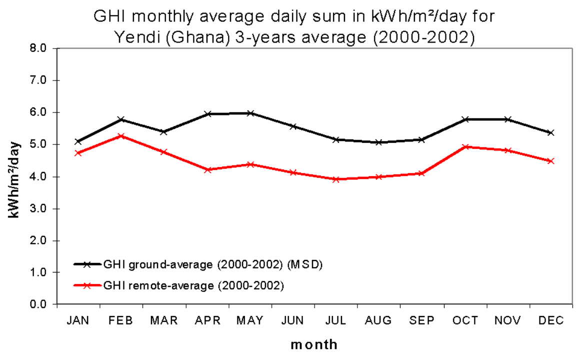

GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for
Saltpond (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)
kWh/m²/day
GHI ground-average (2000-2002) (MSD)
GHI remote-average (2000-2002)
JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC
month


GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for
Takoradi (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)
kWh/m²/day
GHI ground-average (2000-2002) (MSD)
GHI remote-average (2000-2002)
JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC
month


GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for
Tamale (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)
kWh/m²/day
GHI ground-average (2000-2002) (MSD)
GHI remote-average (2000-2002)
JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC
month


GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for
Wa (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)
kWh/m²/day
GHI ground-average (2000-2002) (MSD)
GHI remote-average (2000-2002)
JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC
month


GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for
Wenchi (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)
kWh/m²/day
GHI ground-average (2000-2002) (MSD)
GHI remote-average (2000-2002)
JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC
month


GHI monthly average daily sum in kWh/m²/day for
Yendi (Ghana) 3-years average (2000-2002)
kWh/m²/day
GHI ground-average (2000-2002) (MSD)
GHI remote-average (2000-2002)
JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC
month

Acknowledgement:

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