

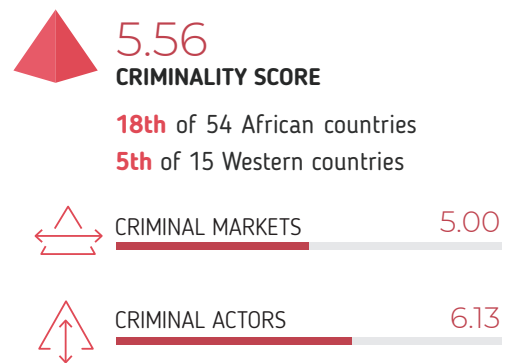
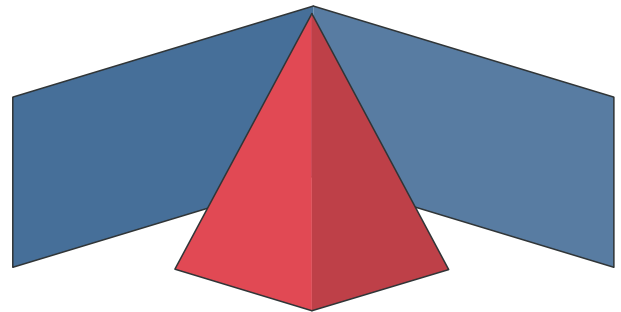
 TOGO

Togo is ranked 18th in the Index, reflecting higher levels of organised crime in the country than in the majority of other African nations.

In line with the general trend in African countries, Togo's **criminal actors** score is notably higher than its **criminal markets** score. Although no criminal market in Togo exerts a severe impact on society, there are nevertheless only two criminal markets that have a non-existent to minimal impact in the country. The criminal market that is most pervasive in the West African nation is the illicit **fauna** market, due to Togo's prominent role as a transit country for the illegal trade in pangolin scales and elephant ivory. Furthermore, Togo acts as a transit country for **cannabis** and the increase in consumption of the drug in recent years is a worrying sign.

Criminal networks, state-embedded actors and **foreign criminal actors** all have a severe influence in the country. These criminal actors are involved in a range of illicit markets, from drug trafficking to money laundering, and their activity is often aided by high levels of government corruption.

In terms of **resilience**, Togo performed better than the African average, ranking 23rd. Although the government has made commitments to fighting organised crime, the effectiveness and sincerity of these measures remain to be proven. Lack of enforcement of laws, a culture of impunity and corruption, and porous borders were all noted as concerns by experts.



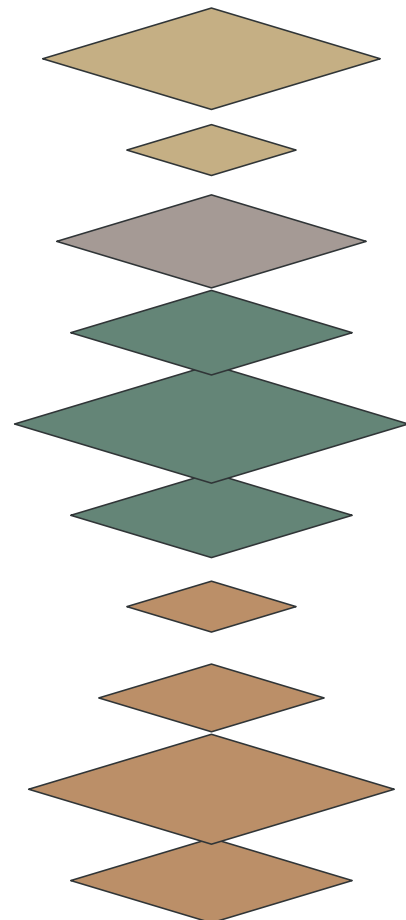
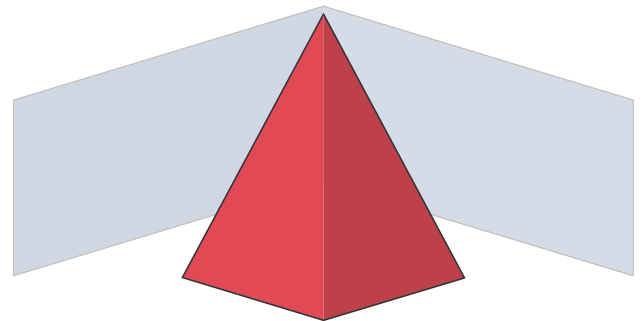
CRIMINALITY SCORE



CRIMINAL ACTORS	6.13
MAFIA STYLE GROUPS	1.0
CRIMINAL NETWORKS	7.5
STATE-EMBEDDED ACTORS	8.0
FOREIGN ACTORS	8.0



CRIMINAL MARKETS	5.00
HUMAN TRAFFICKING	6.0
HUMAN SMUGGLING	3.0
ARMS TRAFFICKING	5.5
FLORA CRIMES	5.0
FAUNA CRIMES	7.0
NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES CRIMES	5.0
HEROIN TRADE	3.0
COCAINE TRADE	4.0
CANNABIS TRADE	6.5
SYNTHETIC DRUGS TRADE	5.0



Criminal Markets

Togo ranks 22nd in Africa for **criminal markets**, with a score greater than the continental average. In Togo, there are three criminal markets that exert a significant impact on society, the most pervasive being the illicit **fauna** market, given Togo's prominent role as a transit country in the illegal wildlife trade. Togo serves as a transit country for fauna trafficking to Asian markets. Pangolin scales and elephant

tusks are the most common wildlife products smuggled through the country. The Mombasa cartel, which operates from Entebbe, Uganda, and Lomé, Togo, has been linked to fauna trafficking in Togo, using ports as transit points.

Cannabis trafficking is considered the second most pervasive market in Togo, 6.5. Togo mainly serves as a transit country for cannabis shipped between Ghana



and Nigeria. While most of the cannabis present in the country is imported from Ghana, there has been a recent increase in cannabis production, particularly in the border region with Ghana. Nigerian nationals have been identified by law-enforcement agencies as being among the main actors involved in the smuggling of cannabis from Togo.

The most prevalent forms of **human trafficking** in Togo, which scores 6 in the Index, are forced labour and sexual exploitation, with the country operating as a source and transit country primarily. Trafficking related to sexual exploitation, although not pervasive, has been linked to nationals from neighbouring countries and further afield from the Middle East. Furthermore, individuals from other countries in the region, particularly young boys, are reported to be victims of trafficking for labour exploitation, primarily in the agriculture sector. Cases of child trafficking from Benin and Ghana to Togo have also been reported. The pervasiveness of human trafficking in Togo is aggravated by economic needs, in that when people become vulnerable they are prone to being exploited.

There are several criminal markets in Togo that have a moderate impact, with scores ranging between 4 and 5.5. Firstly, vessels with Togolese registration are regularly involved in international **arms trafficking** (5.5). Furthermore, the frequency of armed robberies in the country is on the rise, which may be a result of the proliferation of small and light weapons in Togo. The two environmental markets of illicit **flora** and **non-renewable resources** are also prevalent in Togo, primarily the illegal logging of timber by Togolese criminal networks operating in neighbouring countries. Togo has also become a major smuggling corridor for gold illegally mined in Burkina Faso and Ghana. Although some informal gold mining occurs in Togo, it is primarily carried out by impoverished farmers and there is no substantial criminal economy surrounding the domestic gold industry.

Criminal Actors

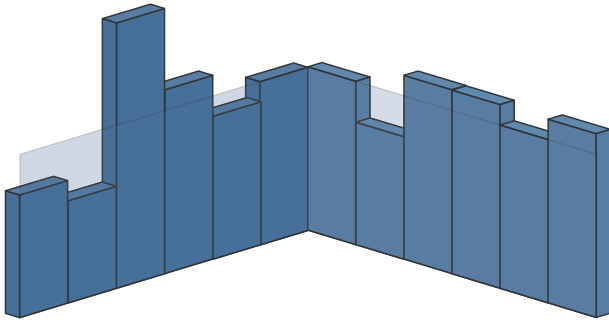
As with the majority of African states, Togo's score of 6.13 for **criminal actors** is greater than its **criminal markets** score, ranking 15th in Africa for the former. Togo has the highest score on the continent for **foreign actors**, highlighting their severe influence within the organised-crime landscape in the country. Most of the drug trafficking networks in the country have strong connections with criminal actors from Latin America, neighbouring African states and certain Middle Eastern countries. Furthermore, there are strong links between nationals from East Asia and criminal actors in Togo involved in fauna trafficking. Many of these reside in Togo and act as an interface between the criminal networks in the country and those abroad.

Likewise, **state-embedded actors** play a crucial role in the facilitation of organised-criminal activity in Togo, as a result of the rampant corruption present in the public and private sectors. Pervasive corruption in the state apparatus has a damaging effect on a raft of issues, including judicial proceedings, the awarding of contracts, and customs and tax governance, among others. Furthermore, state officials are involved directly in certain criminal markets, notable the fauna and drugs markets, by facilitating the movement of these commodities.

National **criminal networks** have a significant impact on Togolese society, given the dominant role they play in driving the illicit economies in the country. Local criminal networks are involved in illegal narcotics trafficking and smuggling, the sale of contraband, money laundering and the illegal trade in endangered animal species. It has been reported that there are links between these networks and state authorities, with facilitate such illegal trade. Furthermore, local gangs in Togo engage in armed robberies across the country.



RESILIENCE SCORE



POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE	3.0
GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY	2.5
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	6.5
NATIONAL POLICIES AND LAWS	4.5
JUDICIAL SYSTEM AND DETENTION	3.5
LAW ENFORCEMENT	4.0
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY	4.0
ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING	3.0
ECONOMIC REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT	4.5
VICTIM AND WITNESS SUPPORT	4.5
PREVENTION	4.0
NON-STATE ACTORS	4.5

Togo's **resilience** score is greater than the African average, ranking 23rd on the continent. Togo's resilience framework is characterised by mostly moderately effective regulatory and institutional frameworks, with only a few building blocks assessed to be extremely ineffective.

The lowest-scoring **resilience** indicator in Togo is **government transparency and accountability** (2.5), which reflects pervasive corruption in the state apparatus. A persisting culture of impunity encourages political crimes and corruption, and this continues to plague the machinery of the economy and the state. However, the government has introduced initiatives to increase transparency, accountability of government and cooperation between government and civil society. Improvements in these areas may therefore materialise in future years.

Where Togo stands out is with regard to **international cooperation**, with a score of 6.5, which reflects the country's extensive cooperation with numerous international organisations, including various UN bodies, INTERPOL, the European Union and ECOWAS. Togo has ratified all the pertinent international treaties and conventions, and takes part in numerous sponsored programmes to tackle organised crime.

While the scores are still low, Togo outperforms the majority of African nations on the social protection and civil society measures assessed in the index, with scores of 4.5, 4 and 4.5 for **victim and witness support**, **prevention** and **non-state actors**, respectively. The government

has introduced inspectors in an attempt to fight forced labour, as well as a contact number for an emergency unit providing care and shelter to victims. Furthermore, there are ongoing efforts to prevent organised crime, including the training of law-enforcement agencies and measures to improve border control. Lastly, media freedom in Togo does not appear to have been systematically repressed by the state. Nevertheless, poor governance and corruption remain critical obstacles to the effective control of organised-criminal activity.

With the support of international organisations and foreign governments, the country has improved its legal and institutional structures to combat organised crime, but the country suffers from lack of enforcement of existing laws and more effective judicial authorities. The **judicial system** is very often corrupted or influenced by the executive, hampering effective prosecution of organised-criminal actors.

Overall, compared to other African states, Togo performs adequately in its resilience to organised crime. The government appears to be willing to implement measures to tackle the phenomenon and has relatively robust frameworks in place to do so. However, ubiquitous corruption throughout the state apparatus is a key barrier in the fight against organised crime. Were levels of corruption in both the executive and the judiciary to be dramatically eliminated, Togo would be in a stronger position to reduce organised-criminal activity in the country.

