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Research-grade wearables to assess the impact of extreme heat on residual labour capacity in subsistence farmers in Burkina Faso



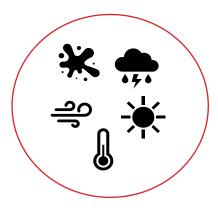






Background





23°C-28°C => strong heat stress 28°C-30°C => extreme heat stress

WBGT

Wet Bulb Globe Temperature

WBGT heat exposure

30 min/hr

Hourly work capacity for an acclimatised worker,

carrying out moderate activity (300W)

30.4

15 min/hr

31.6

(°C)

(°F)

29.3



Environmental Stress

0 min/hr

Heat Stress

Individual



Heat Strain



Labor Capacity



PSI

Physiological Strain Index



Response



28.2

83

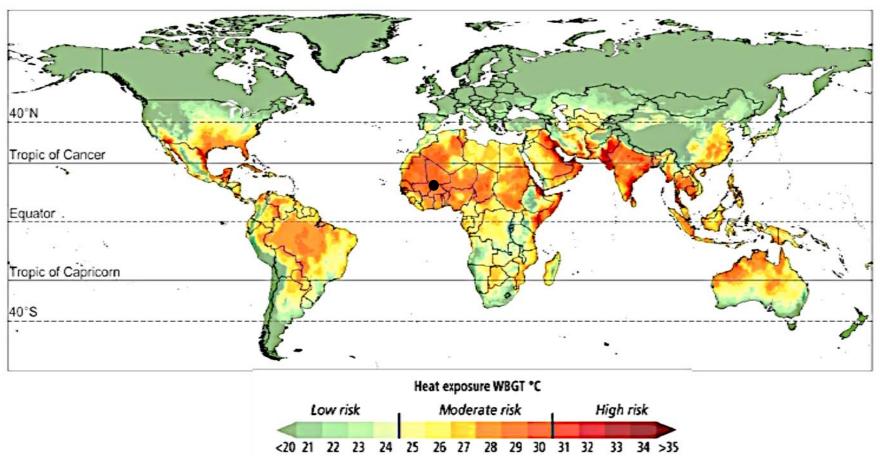
45 min/hr

60 min/hr





Background II - Climate change and heat stress 1980-2009



The **1980–2009** average wet bulb globe temperatures (**WBGT**) of the hottest months globally (Adapted from Smith et al. 2014)

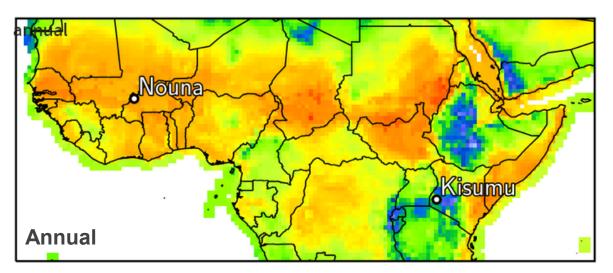


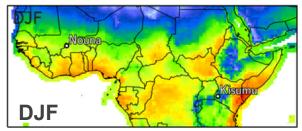


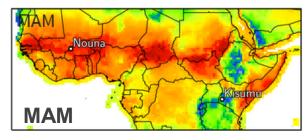


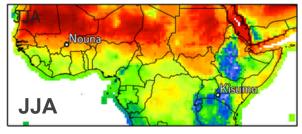


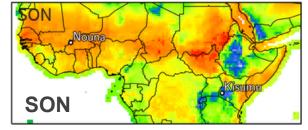
Background II - Climate change and heat stress- now in the century 2001-2030

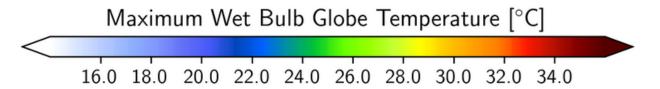














Climate Change and Health in sub-Saharan Africa



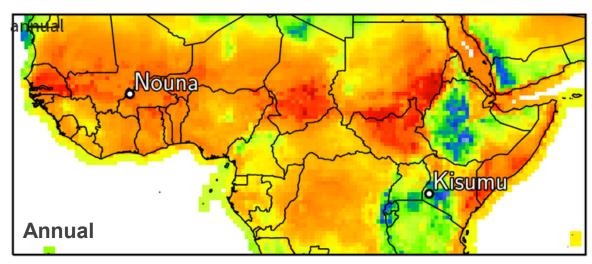
FOR 2936 DFG: Climate Change and Health in Sub Saharan Africa unpublished data: Frieler K, Hattermann F and Maggioni MA

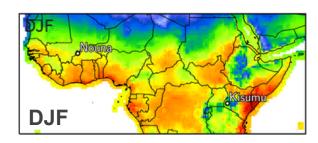


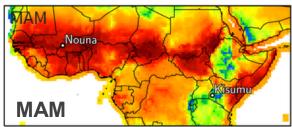


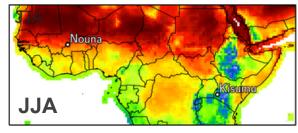


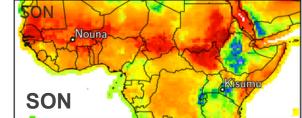
Background II - Climate change and heat stress- mid of the century 2031-2070



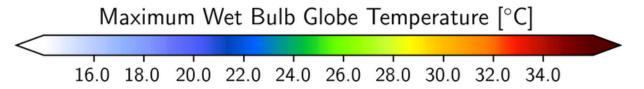








ISMIP3b (SSP 26-Low increase of GHG = below 2°C rise since 1850)





Climate Change and Health in sub-Saharan Africa



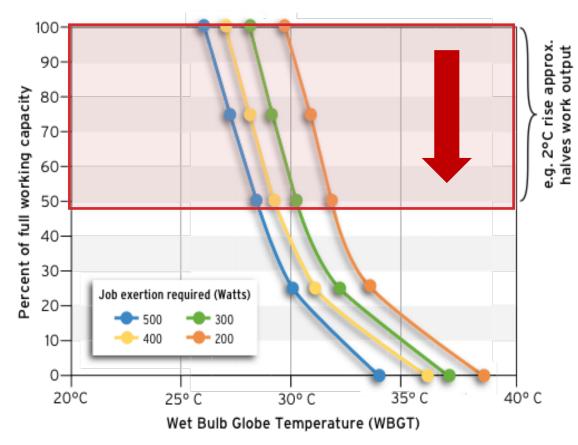
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Heat stress, environmental monitoring and labor





Percent of full working capacity with changing WBGT and different workloads- 200 to 500 Watts (adapted from Smith et al. 2014)

Continuous indoor and outdoor monitoring of **WBGT** (12 months)





Weather stations (<10 km radius) Indoor WBGT

To evaluate:

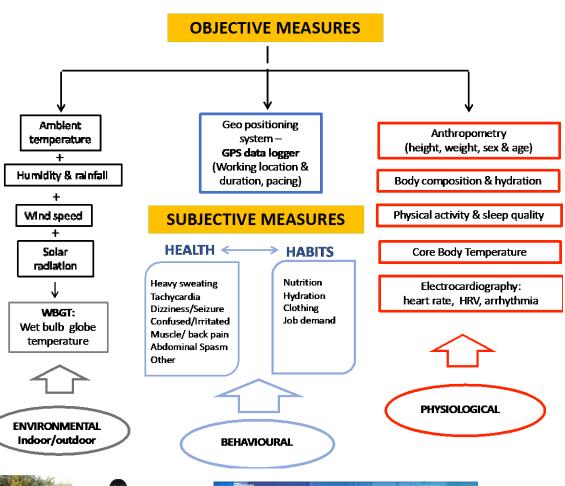
- ✓ Physical activity/labor in subsistence farmers
- ✓ During different seasons
- ✓ Men and Women (Nouna HDSS)





Integrated mixed methods, research established wearables





1. Quantitative data:



Physical Activity (PA), Energy Expenditure (TEE), sleep quality/quantity, intensity of light & exposure, continuously, over 12 months



Bioimpedance analysis, 1/month



Blood pressure, 1/month



1-lead ECG, 24h continuously, 1/month



Core Body Temperature, heat-flux, 24h continuously, 1/month



2. Qualitative data: Computer assisted Interview (CAI) for feasibility & acceptability - coping strategies- heat impact on health (1/month)

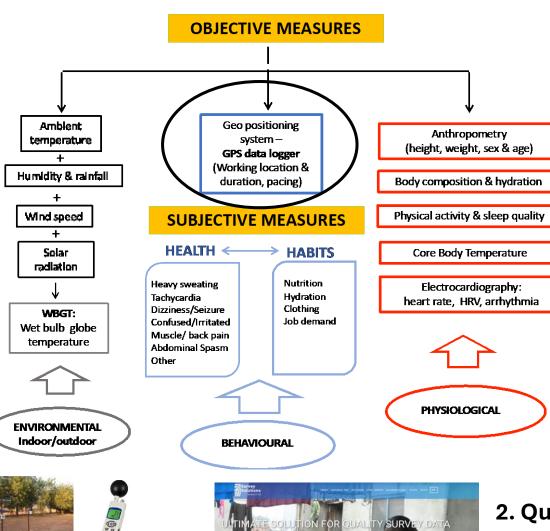






Integrated mixed methods, research established wearables





1. Quantitative data => individual tracking GPS



Woman 1

Time: 4:10 pm to 8:32 pm

Distance: 12.07 km

Man 1

Time: 12:00 pm to 5:33 pm

Distance: 8.26 km

2. Qualitative data: Computer assisted

Interview (CAI) for feasibility & acceptability - coping strategies- heat impact on health (1/month)



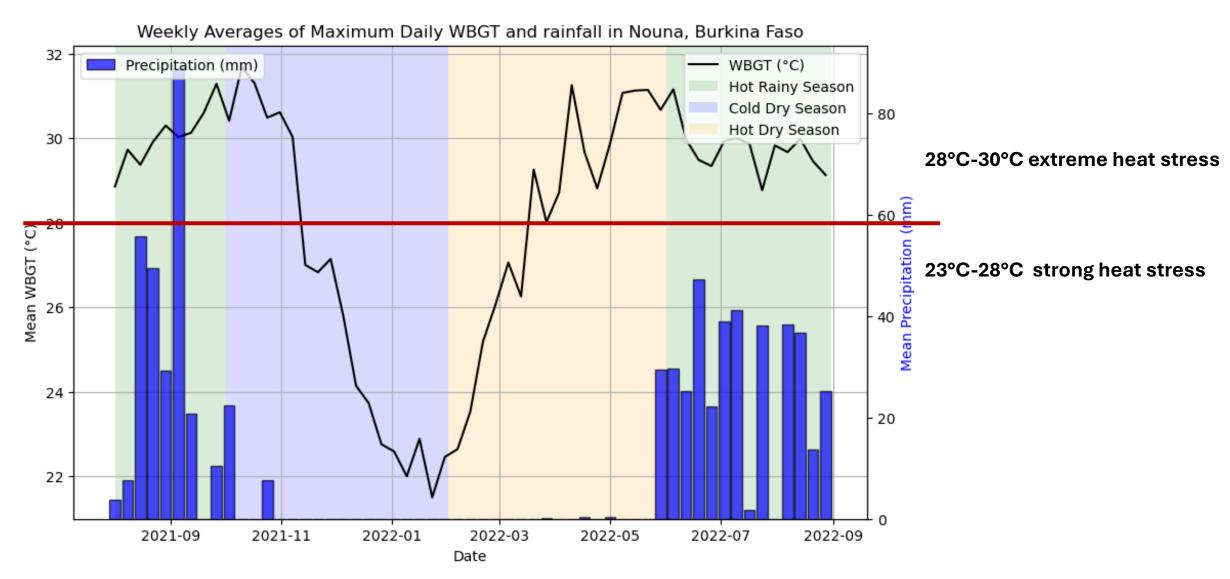
Weather stations & indoor

WBGT, 12 months



Results - outdoor environment (WBGT) in Nouna







Results – Sleep duration (WBGT indoor environment)













Farmers use self-adaptation strategies: reducing intensity/ duration / shifting tasks to cooler times



Women not able to implement such strategies as men **are** (house chores + farming)



This flexibility is **not possible for wage workers** in the same setting / urban areas



Due to the **fixed daylight duration in SSA** and **future climate change** scenarios, spontaneous adaptations will no longer protect farmers (women) from heat-related health risks and food insecurity => urgent additional sustainable adaptations.



















Thank you!

Special thanks to all our participants and the great team at CRSN Nouna!

Questions?











