



Global Observatory of Lake Response to Environmental Change

Water Quality Information for the Benefit of Society | University of Stirling, 29-31 August 2018

Estimating Drivers of Change

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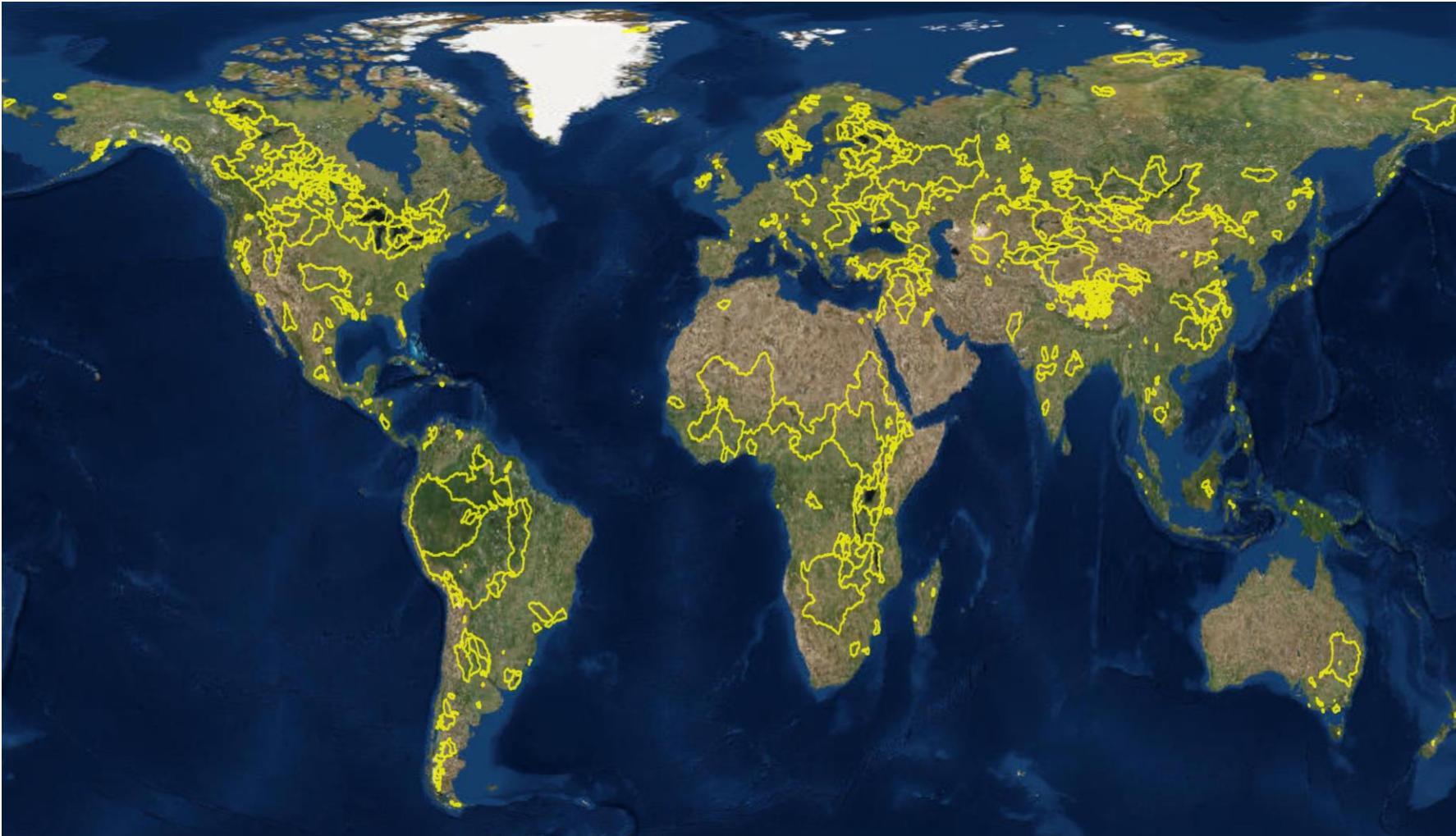
Terry Dawson, Kings College London

Laurence Carvalho, Stephen Maberly & Steve Thackeray | Centre for Ecology & Hydrology





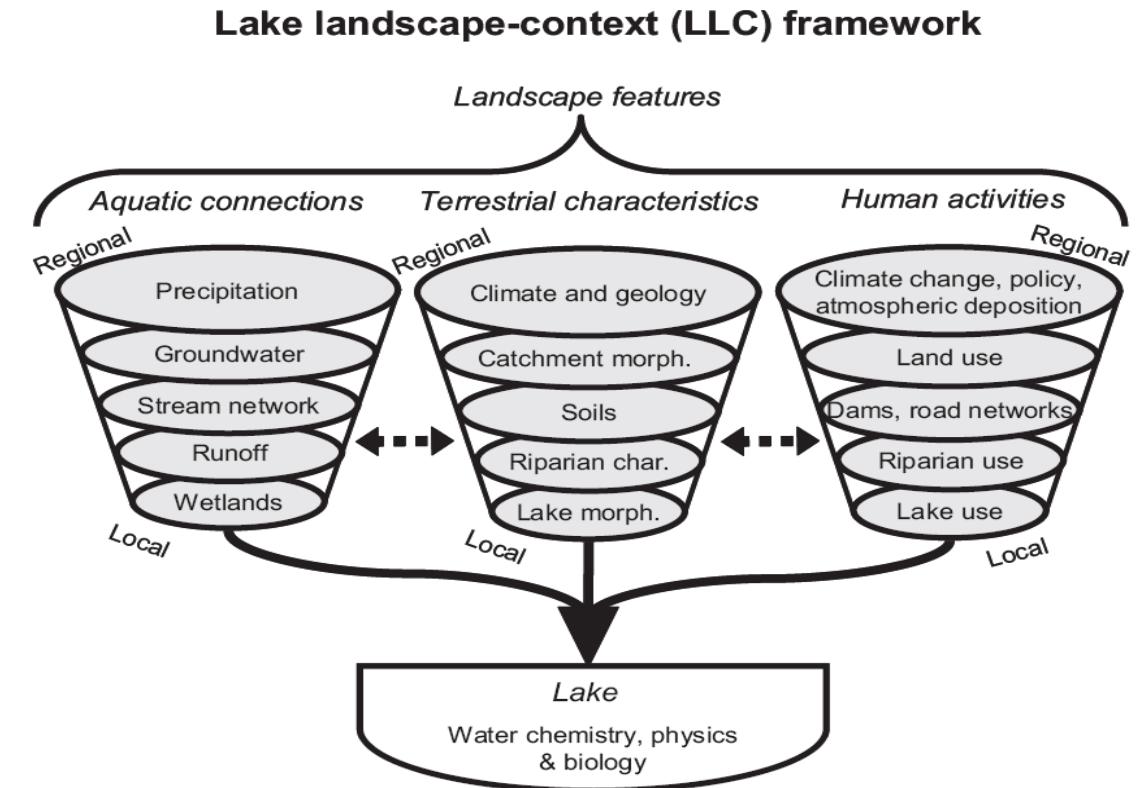
Lake Catchments



- Our 'GloboLakes' integrate responses from a vast proportion of the Earth's terrestrial surface
- Total GloboLakes Catchment Area (cumulative)
~ 131,180,824 km²

Lake Landscape Context

- To explain and interpret change in lake behaviour we need to understand the drivers of change
- To do this globally requires bringing together global standardised datasets and information
 - Globolakes Catchment database
 - Mixture of pre-existing datasets, literature-derived and modelled data for our 997 Globolakes

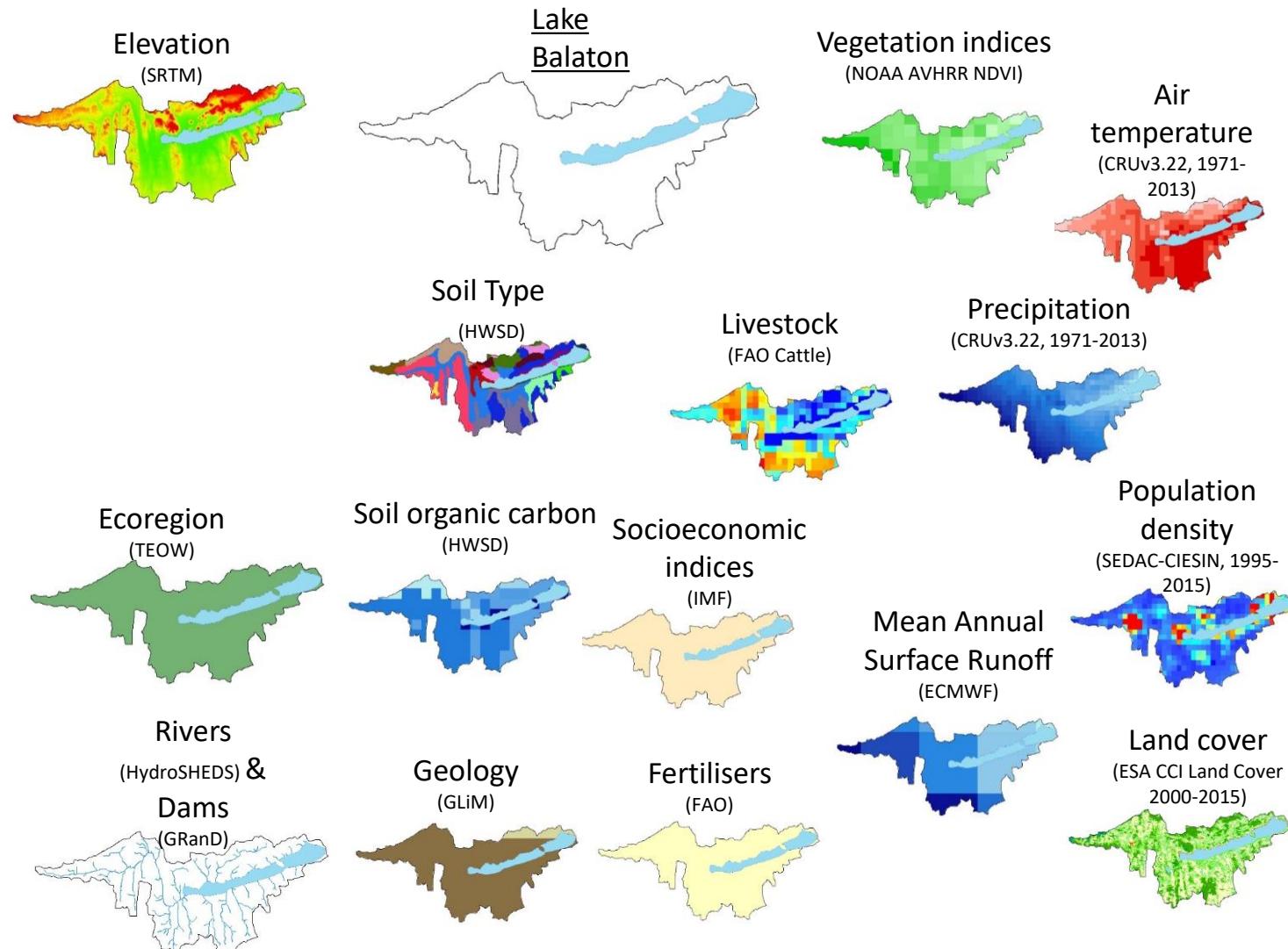


(Soranno *et al.*, 2009)



Lake Landscape Context

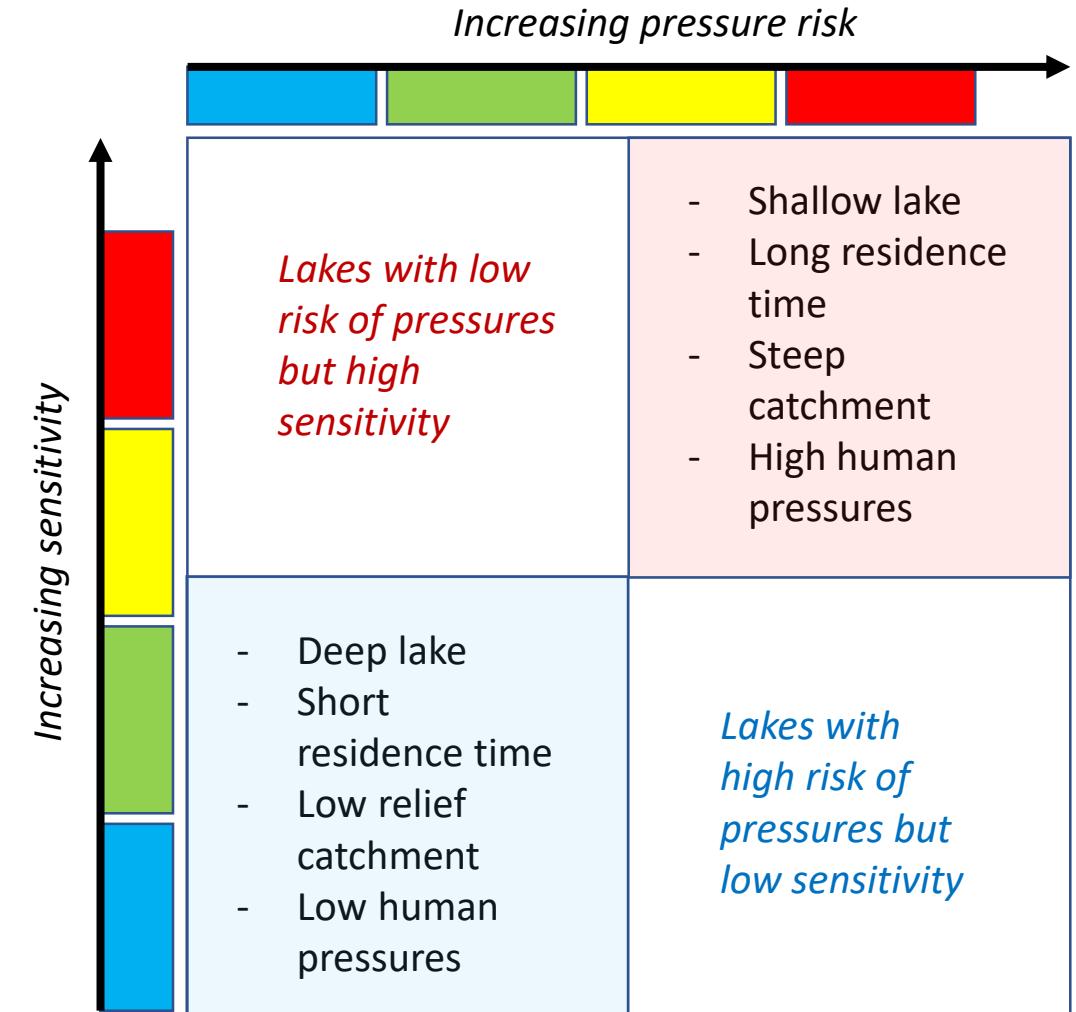
- Sensitivity factors
 - Lake morphometry
 - Lake location, residence time etc
 - Geology/soils/river network
- Spatio-temporal variable drivers
 - Atmospheric (e.g. air temp)
 - Catchment (e.g. productivity, land cover, population)



Lake vulnerability – our conceptual approach

Aim of study:

- To estimate global lake vulnerability based on human pressures in the catchment and lake/catchment system characteristics.
- Exploitation of the GloboLakes Catchment Database v2.1





Lake vulnerability at global scales

RISK FACTOR

- **Human Pressures** - Data used*:

- Population density (2000-2015)
- Dominant Catchment Land cover (2010)
- GDP (2000-2012)
- Fertilisers (Nitrogen + Phosphate) (2002-2010)
- Total livestock (2000-2010)

LAKE SENSITIVITY TO CHANGE

- **Lake/Catchment system** – Data used:

- Mean depth
- Volume-to-Shoreline-length ratio
- Residence time
- Ohle's index (i.e., catchment surface area over the lake surface area)
- Catchment relief ratio

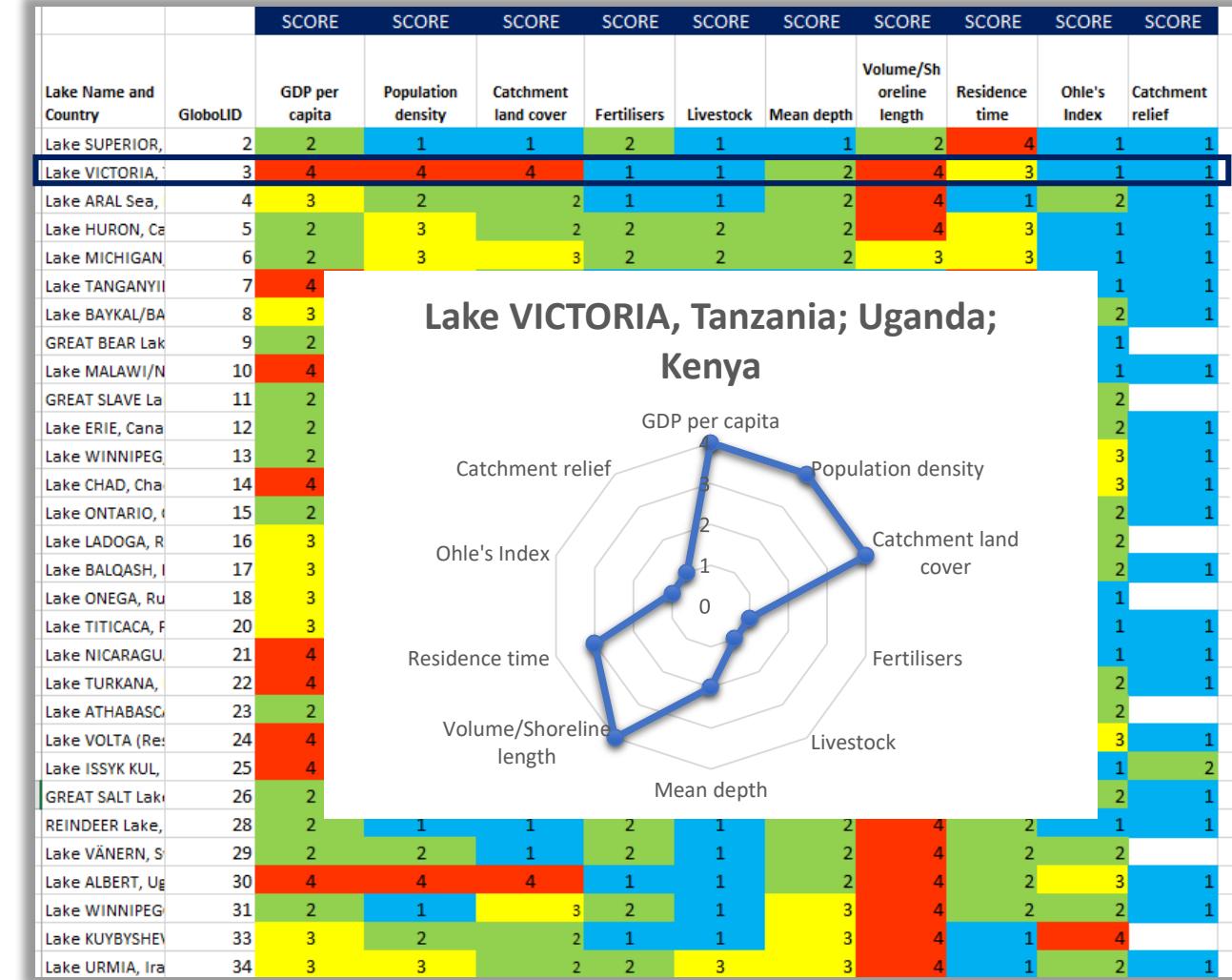
Risk factor + Lake sensitivity = Lake vulnerability

Scoring approach*:

Step 1: Current condition (“the present”)



*Variables classified into classes according to statistical properties, reference to WFD, World reference standards and literature

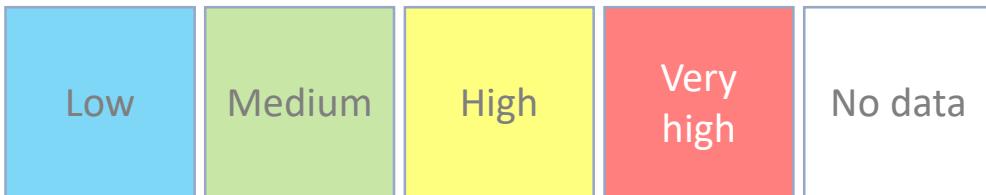




Lake vulnerability at global scales

Scoring approach:

Step 1: Current condition (“the present”)



GloboLID	RISK FACTOR				
	SCORE GDP per capita (2000-2012)	SCORE population density (2000-2015)	SCORE Land Cover 2010	SCORE Fertilisers (2002-2010)	SCORE Livestock (2000-2010)
2	++	-		+	+
3	++	++		++	+
4	++	++		++	++
5	+	+		+	+
6	+	+		+	+
7	++	+++		++	+
8	++	++		++	+
9	++	--		+	+
10	+	+++		+	+
11	++	++		+	+
12	+	+		+	+
13	++	++		+	+
14	++	+++			+
15	+	+		+	+
16	++	--		++	+
17	++	+		++	++
18	++	--		++	+
20	++	++		+	++
21	+	+++		-	++
22	++	+++		-	+
23	++	++		+	+
24	++	+++		++	++
25	++	--		++	++
26	+	++		+	+
28	++	-		+	+
29	+	--		-	+
30	++	+++		++	+
31	++	--		+	+
33	++	-		++	+
34	++	++		--	+++

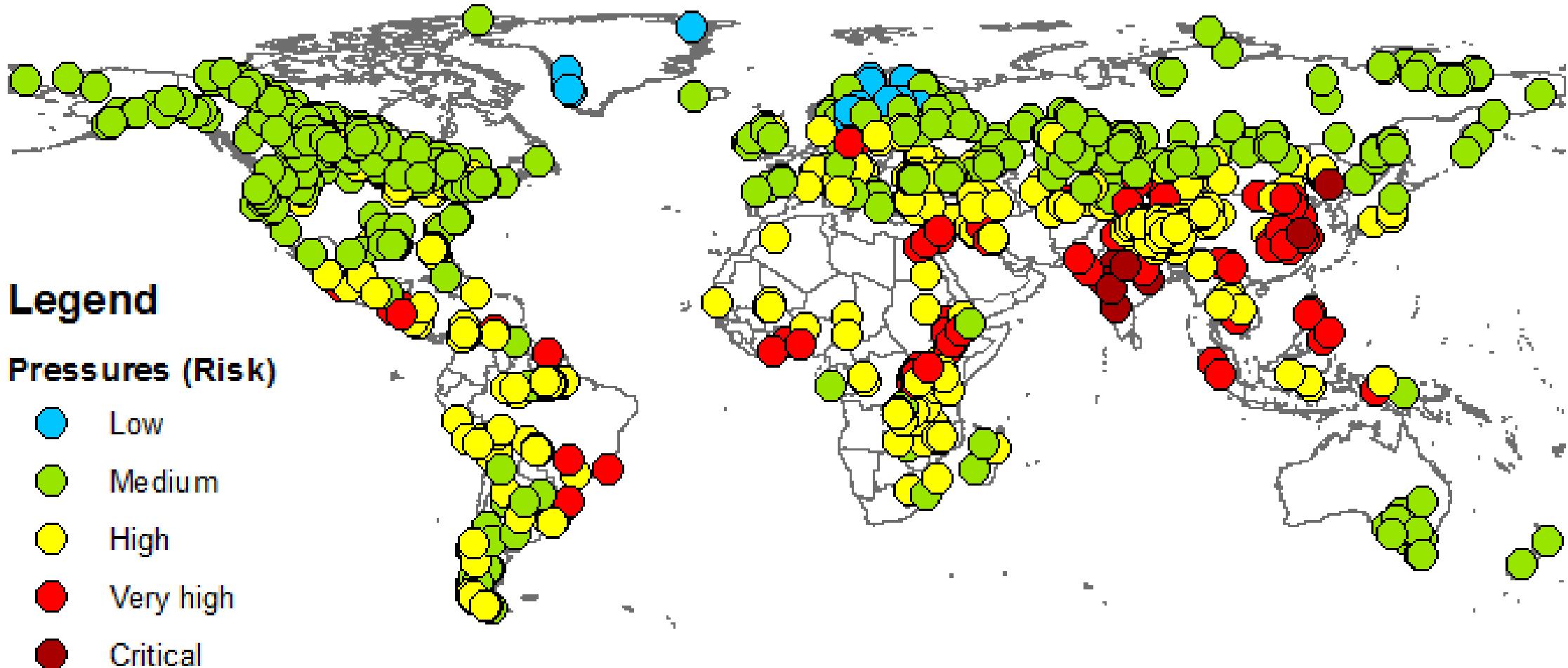
Weighted average classified into five classes: low, medium, high, very high & critical

Step 2: Past trend (magnitude of change in last decade)

+ / -	Slow increase/decrease
++ / --	Fast increase/decrease
+++ / ---	Very fast increase/decrease
0	No change



Lake Risk Factor



Legend

Pressures (Risk)

- Low
- Medium
- High
- Very high
- Critical

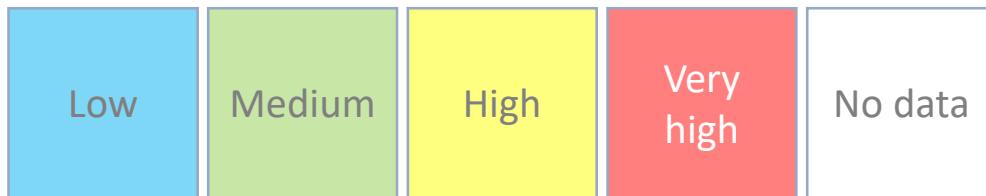


Lake vulnerability at global scales

Step 3: Integrate risk and sensitivity

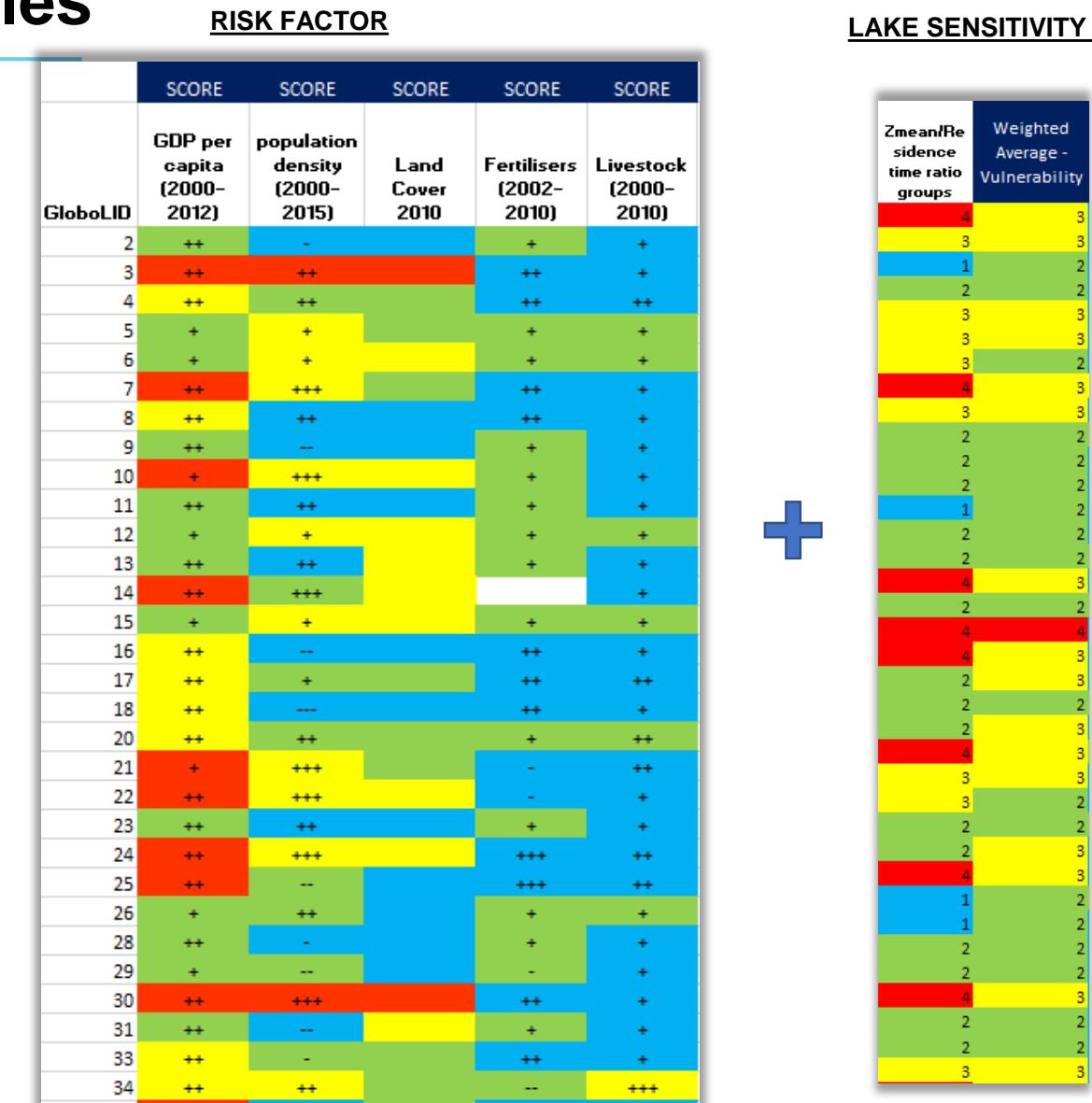
Scoring approach:

Step 1: Current condition (“the present”)



Step 2: Past trend (magnitude of change in last decade)

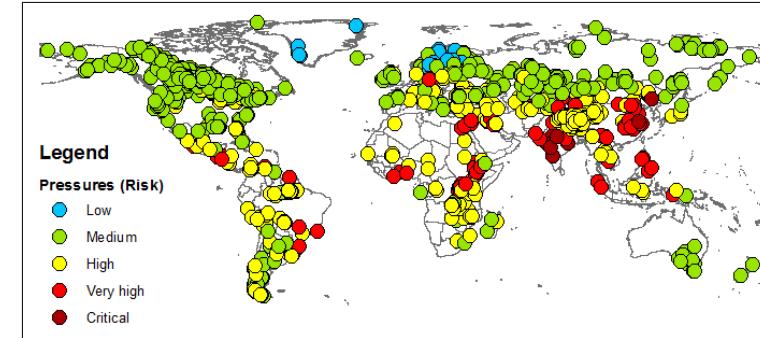
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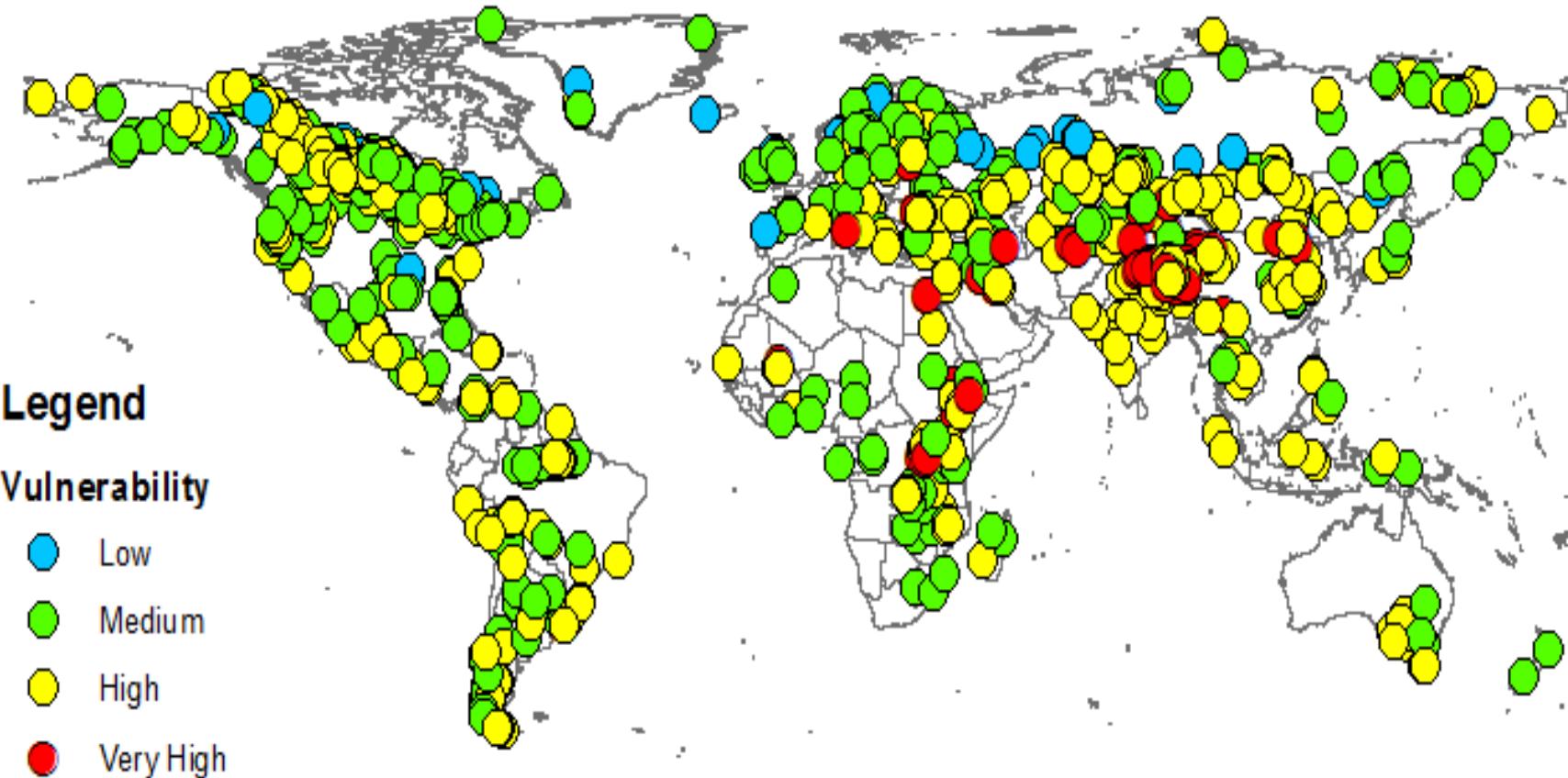


Lake (risk and) vulnerability at global scales

Risk Factor



Lake vulnerability





Key Messages

- We have put together a lake / catchment database of lake properties and drivers of change
 - Global datasets
 - Sensitivity factors (lake properties) and climatic and terrestrial spatio-temporal variables
- Aim is to release this in an appropriate format to the community in due course
- Understanding patterns of lake vulnerability important for societal response and resilience to environmental change (especially in the context of SDGs)
- We have modelled lake vulnerability by analysing ‘human pressure risk’ and ‘lake sensitivity’
- At an early stage, but:
 - Hot spots of lake vulnerability
- Requires integration with observed responses and analytical/empirical analysis....more on that after lunch!

Thank you

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This research was funded by the Natural Environment Research Council (NE/E009328)



Lake vulnerability at global scales

