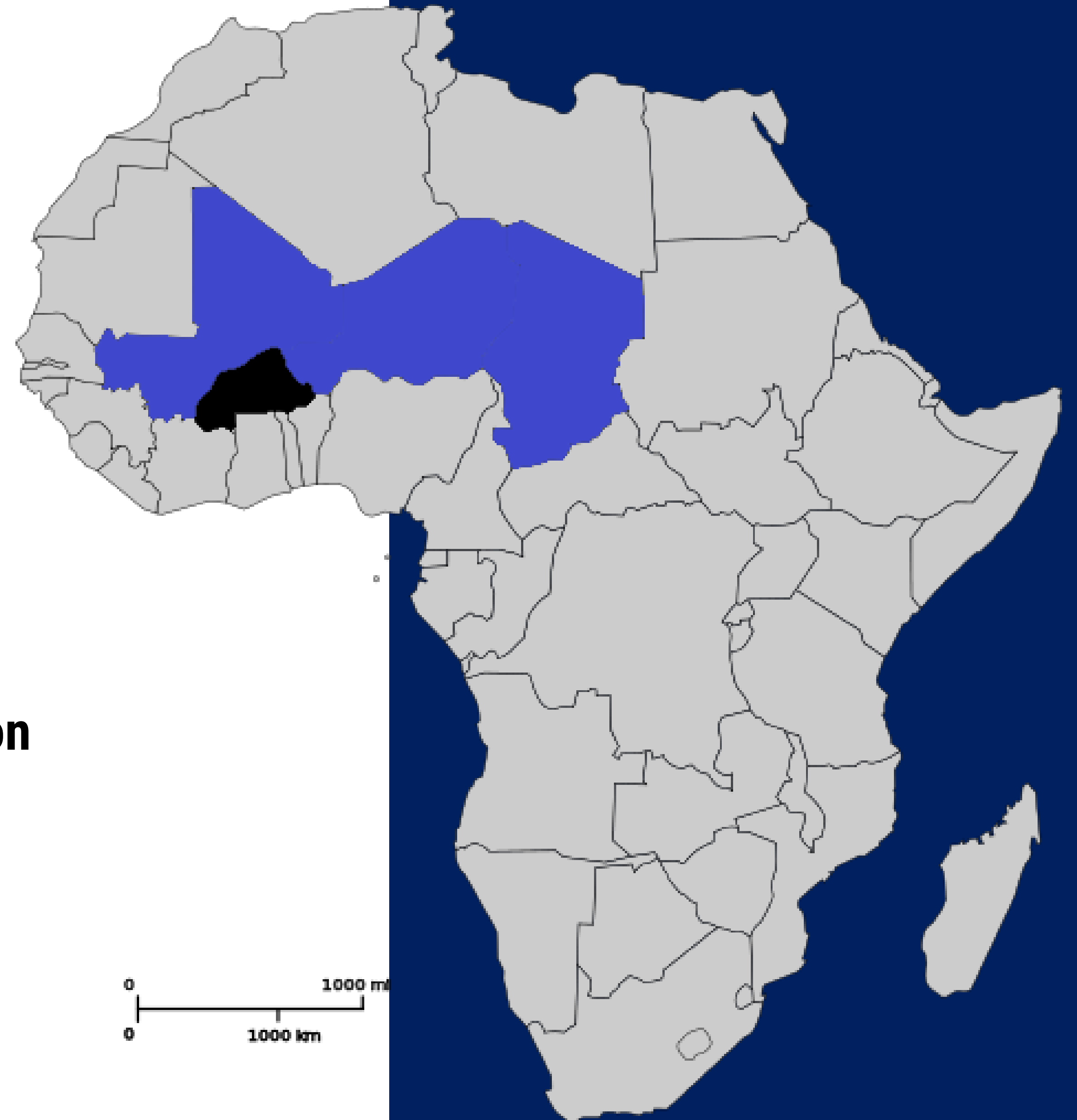


Recent trends in Sahelian countries in transition

Part III : Recent developments in the transition in Burkina-Faso

July – October 2022





Introduction

STRATEGIES! brings you a series on recent developments in a few transition countries in the Sahel over the period July to September 2022.

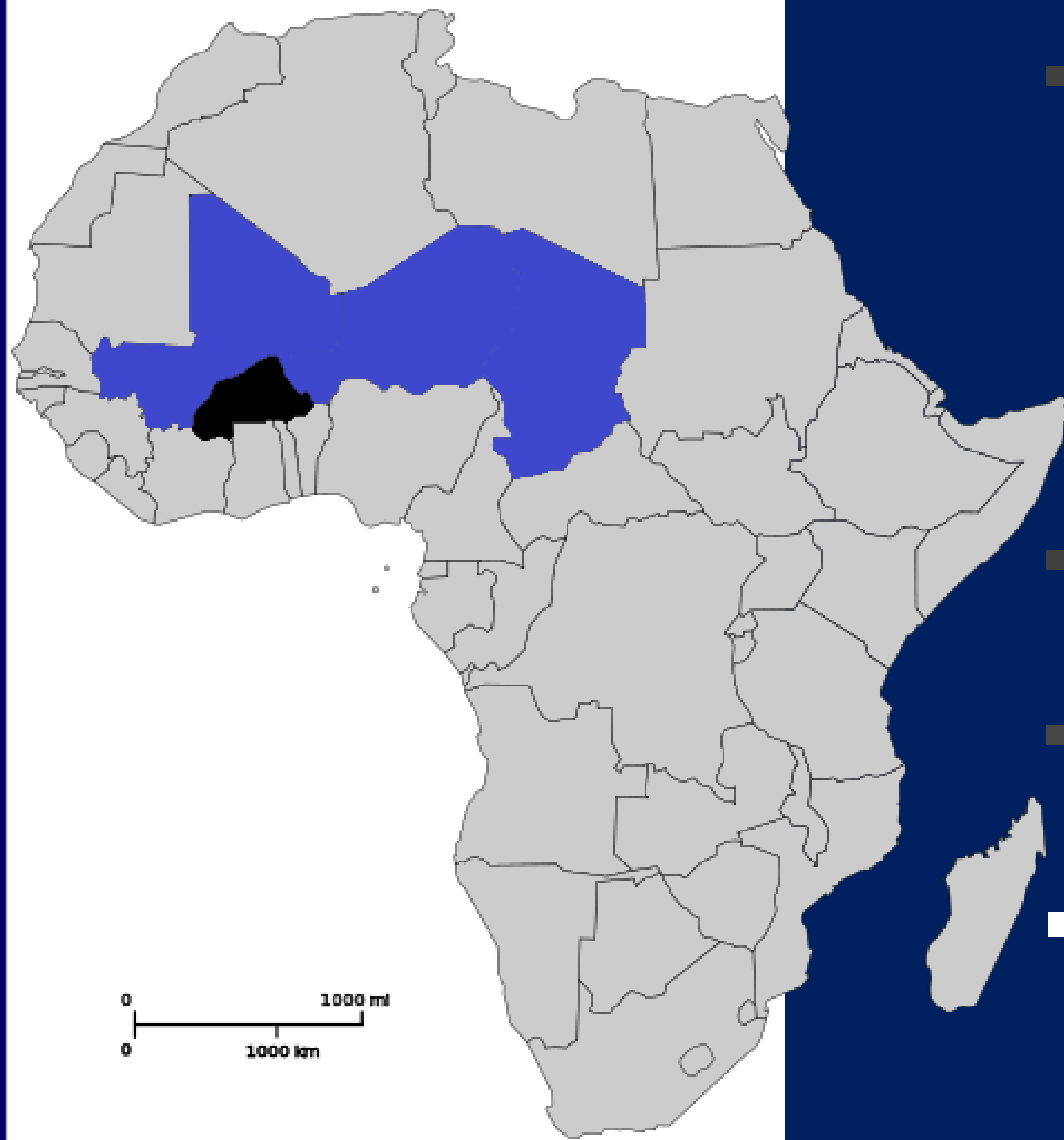
In this fourth part, we offer an overview of the latest developments in Burkina Faso and the overall security dynamics in the country.

The other sheets in the series are an overview of recent developments in all Sahelian countries (part 1), a focus on Mali (part 2) and Chad (part 3).



Recent developments in transition countries in the Sahel

- Part I: Key challenges and global security dynamics in the Sahel
 - Five strategic challenges for Sahelian countries
 - Disquieting developments in the security and humanitarian situation
- Part II : Recent developments in the transition in Mali
- Part III : Recent developments in the transition in Chad
- Part IV : Recent developments in the transition in Burkina-Faso



Key events in the current transition

- **22 November 2020:**
Re-election of the candidate of the People's Movement for Progress (MPP), Roch Marc Christian Kaboré as head of government.
- **14 November 2021:**
Jihadist offensive in the north of the country, Inata (53 gendarmes, 4 civilians killed).
- **21 November 2021 :**
Jihadist attack in the north of the country, Foubé (9 gendarmes, a dozen civilians killed) - Advanced health post (AHP) supported by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) burnt down in Foubé.
- **08 December 2021 :**
Sacking of PM Christophe Dabiré and resignation of the government.
- **10 December 2021:**
Appointment of Lassina Zerbo as PM.
- **10 January 2022:**
Attempted coup and arrest of Lieutenant-Colonel Emmanuel Zoungrana and 7 soldiers.

Key events in the current transition

- **22 January 2022:**
Demonstrations in several cities across the country against the government's incompetence in dealing with the security crisis
- **23 January 2022:**
Mutiny of soldiers in several barracks
- **24 January 2022:**
Military coup and seizure of power by the Patriotic Movement for Safeguard and Restoration (MPSR)
 - Arrest of Roch MC Kaboré, the president of the national assembly, and ministers by the military
 - Dissolution of the National Assembly and the government
 - Suspension of the constitution
 - Closing the borders
 - Introduction of curfew
 - Lieutenant-Colonel Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba takes power
- **31 January 2022 :** Re-establishment of the constitution
- **16 February 22:** Lieutenant-Colonel Damiba becomes Head of State

Development of the situation under the transition led by Lieutenant-Colonel Damiba

- **22 February 2022:** Adoption of a transition charter and a 36-month transition period. According to the charter, the main missions of the transition will be "to fight terrorism, restore the integrity of the national territory" and "ensure its security", and "to provide an effective and urgent response to the humanitarian crisis and to the socio-economic and community tragedies caused by the insecurity". It should also "strengthen governance and the fight against corruption".
- **6 April 2022:** Return of former President Roch Marc Christian Kaboré to his home. He had been under house arrest in a ministerial residence since the coup.
- **6 April 2022:** Blaise Compaoré is sentenced in absentia to life imprisonment in the trial of Thomas Sankara and his twelve companions.
- **8 July 2022:** Meeting of former presidents of Burkina Faso around Lieutenant Colonel Damiba to 'seal the national reconciliation'. Present were: Paul Henri Sandaogo Damiba, Blaise Compaoré and Jean Baptiste Ouédraogo. Absent: Roch Marc Christian Kaboré, Yacouba Isaac Zida and Michel Kafando. This meeting was decried criticized and considered a failure.
- **26 July 2022:** Blaise Compaoré asks for forgiveness from the family of Thomas Sankara and the people of Burkina Faso for the "sufferings" endured during his twenty-seven years in power.

Development of the situation under the transition led by Lieutenant-Colonel Damiba

- **July - September 2022:** Increased tensions between opposition and civil society political forces and the Damiba Government. Arrest of activists and militants. Deterioration of the security situation.
- **05 September 2022:** At least 35 people died as a result of the activation of a remote explosive device.
- **26 September 2022:** At least 11 soldiers killed and 50 civilians reported missing by armed men near Djibo while leading a convoy to supply the population. At least 90 of 150 trucks burned. Djibo has been under jihadist siege for months.
- **27 September 2022:** People's march to denounce insecurity.
- **30 September 2022:** Lieutenant Colonel Damiba is overthrown by Captain Ibrahim Ouattara.
- **03 October 2022:** Lieutenant Colonel Damiba issues a resignation speech and wishes success to the new leadership of Burkina Faso.
- **14 October 2022 :** Organisation of the national meeting and official designation of Captain Ibrahim Traoré as president of the transition until the organisation of elections in July 2024.



Reasons for the September 2022 coup

Reasons given

Arguments and illustrations provided by the MPSR

Rejection of military reforms to improve the effectiveness of the army

- The non-respect and rejection by Colonel Damiba of the army reorganisation programme that they had elaborated 'concertedly'. This programme "would have made it possible to make operational fighting units capable of launching counter-offensives".
- Colonel Damiba's persistence in "the military articulation that has been the cause of the failure of the regime of President Roch Marc Christian Kaboré.

Lieutenant Colonel Damiba's shift in priorities

- The deterioration of the security situation, which justified our action, has been relegated to the background in favour of unfortunate political adventures", denounce the members of the MPSR (Patriotic Movement for Safeguard and Restoration).
- The actions of Lieutenant-Colonel Damiba have convinced us that his ambitions are far removed from our common ideal," the MPSR added.

Reasons for the September 2022 coup

Reasons given

Arguments and illustrations provided by the MPSR

The general deterioration of the security situation in Burkina Faso

- Far from liberating the territories that were occupied, new areas have fallen under the control of armed terrorist groups. Our valiant people have suffered enough and are still suffering", says the MPSR.
- "The administrative red tape that characterised the fallen regime worsened during the transition, compromising strategic operations".

The serious threat to justice and the independence of Burkina Faso

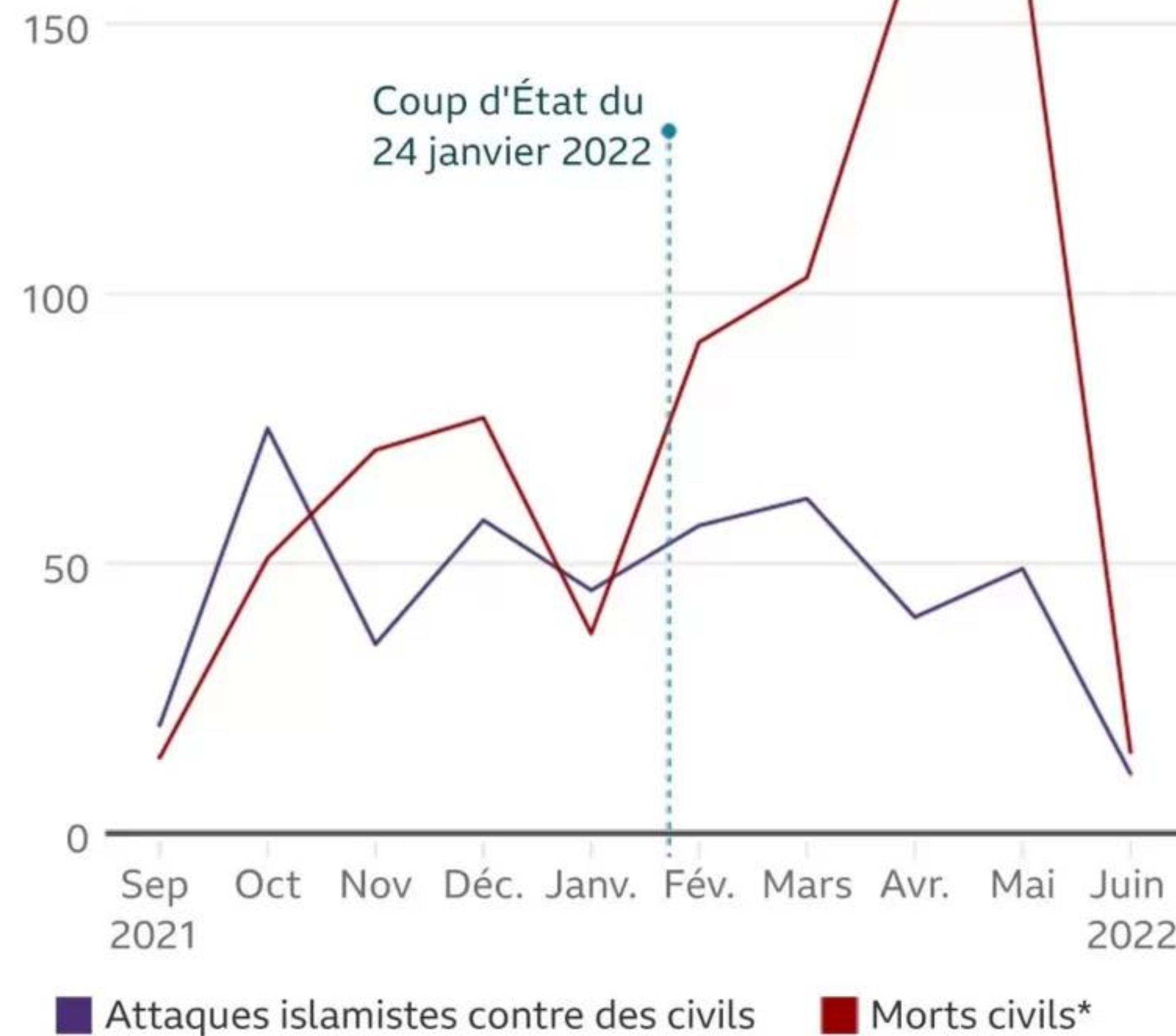
- The brief return of former president Blaise Compaoré, although sentenced to life imprisonment for attacking state security and complicity in the assassination of his predecessor Thomas Sankara in 1987, has caused controversy in Burkina Faso.

Development of the security situation

According to OCHA

- 1,520,012 displaced persons are registered in Burkina Faso as of 30 April 2022.
- 59.13% of these IDPs are children.
- 708,341 students are affected by the closure of 4,258 schools.

Les décès et les attaques islamistes augmentent depuis le coup d'État au Burkina Faso



*Morts dues à des attaques islamistes, à des activités militaires et à des milices, mais ne comprenant pas les émeutes ou les protestations

Burkina Faso

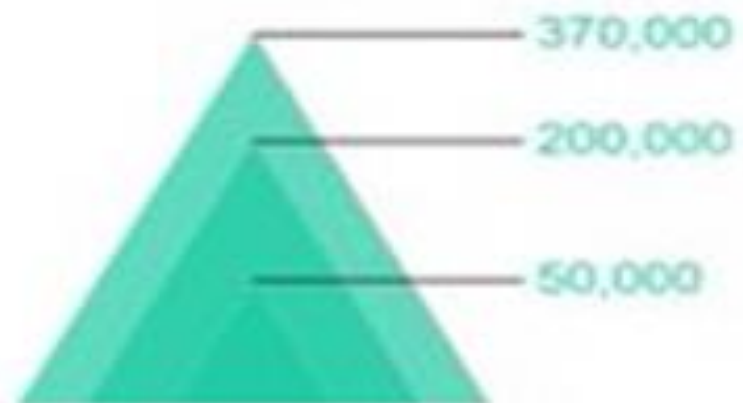
Urban areas

Rivers

Road

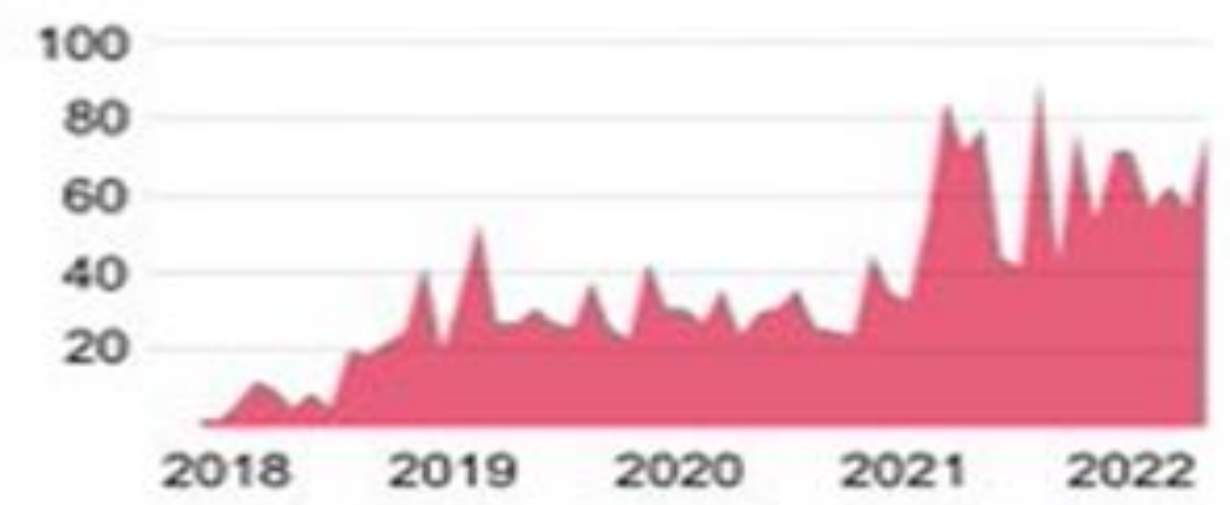
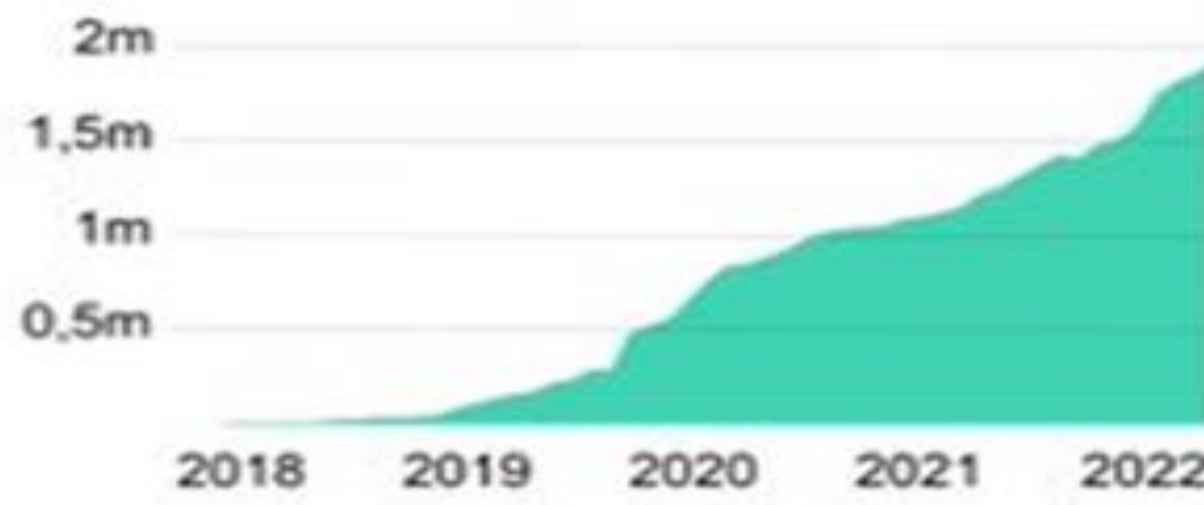
Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

Provinces (Q1 2022)



Violence against civilians

Location (Jan 2018 - Jul 2022)



Data: IOM-DTM, UNHCR, ACLED, Africapolis, Mapbox & OCHA-HDX
Visualization: José Luengo-Cabrera

About the authors

This fact sheet is produced by *STRATEGIES!* based in Douala, Cameroon. It is a firm specialised in leadership and management that delivers its services in Africa as well as in Europe and the United States.

STRATEGIES! supports private companies as well as national and international public institutions. It has been in existence for 27 years and is headed by Kah Walla.



Contact us



BP 3940 Douala, 322 Rue Bonamandone,
Behind ESAO-Bali College – face SOLEX



Tel: (237) 233 43 38 76 / 233 43 82 37
Cell: (237) 699 89 08 99



Website: www.strategiesconsultingfirm.com
Email: cabinetstrategies@gmail.com