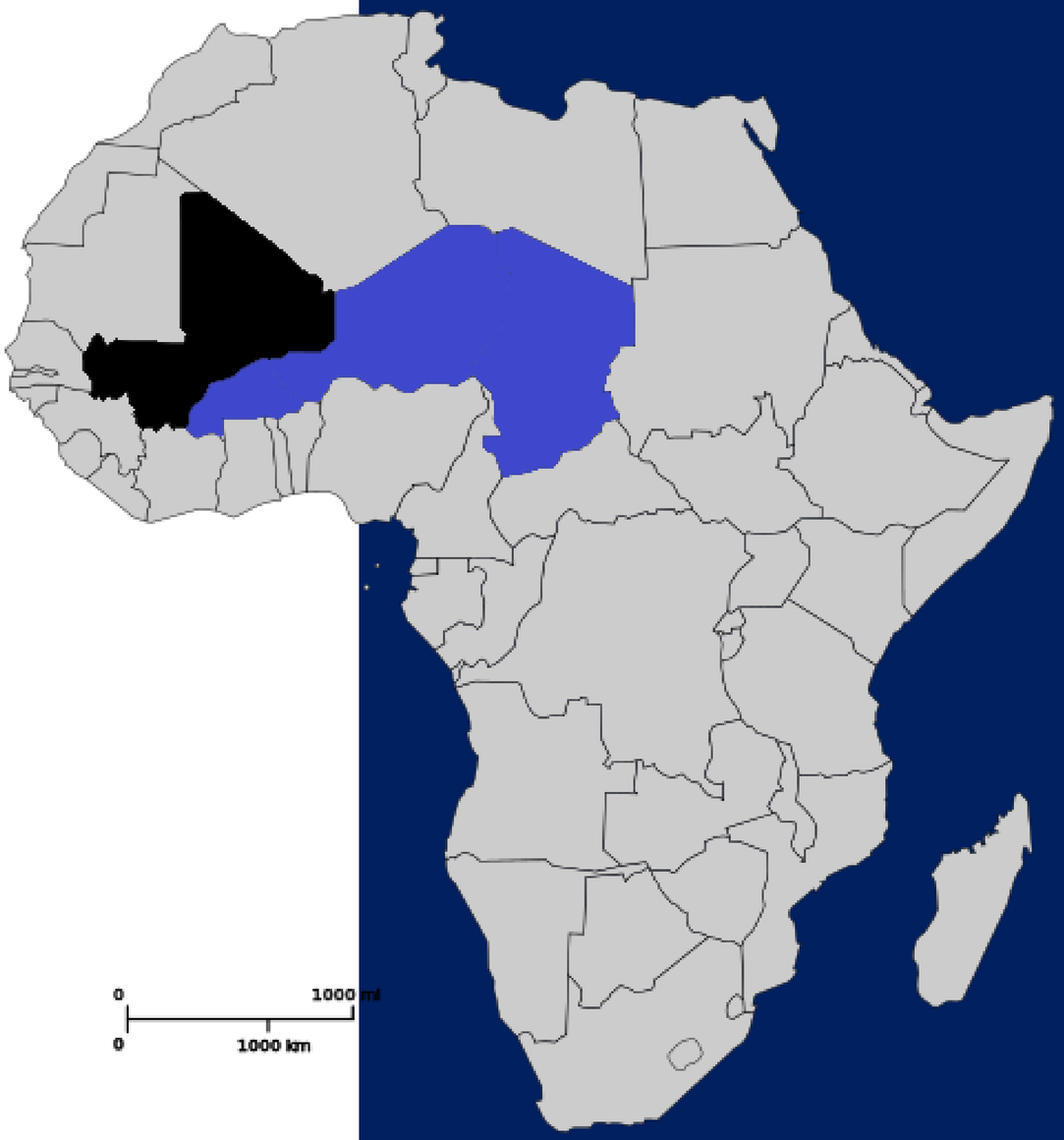
votre référence en leadership et management

Recent trends in Sahelian countries in transition

Part II : Recent developments in the transition in Mali

July – September 2022



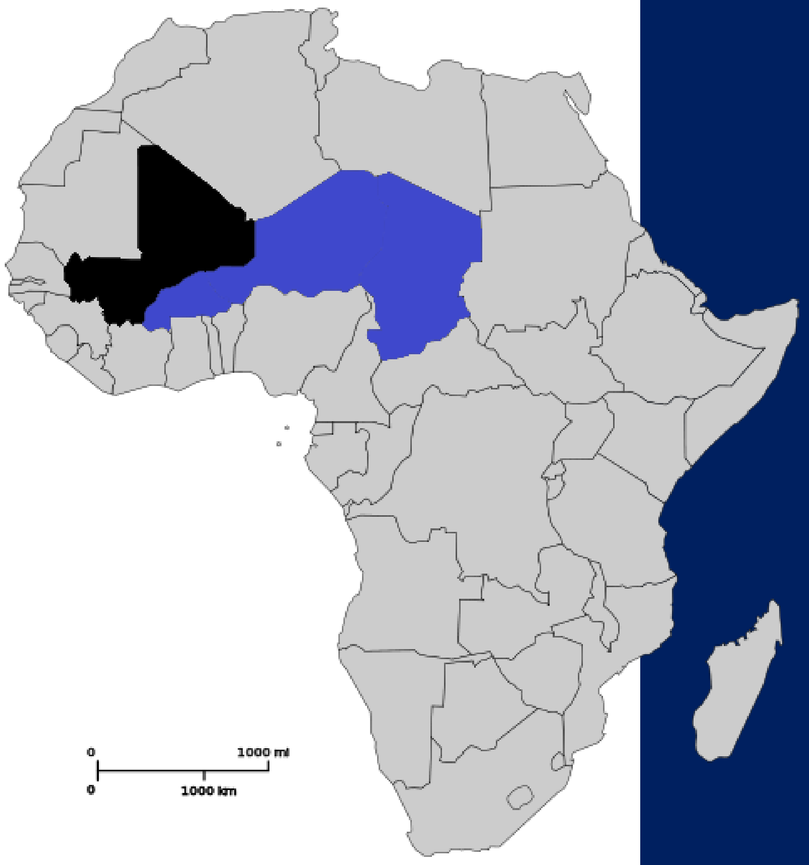


Introduction

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 second part, we provide an overview of the latest developments in Mali as well as the overall security dynamics of this country.

The other sheets in the series are as follows: an overview of recent developments in all Sahelian countries (part 1), a focus on Chad (part 3) and Burkina Faso (part 4).



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

What led to the current situation ?

- 18 August 2020:

  President Ibrahim Boubakar Keita is overthrown by the military and a transitional government is set up, managed by Mbah Ndaw and Assimi Goita.

- 24 May 2021

  Bah N'daw was overthrown by Assimi Goita, who became president of the transition.

Development of the transition process in Mali

IN 2021

07 June 2021

Appointment of Choguel Maiga as Prime Minister

10 June 2021

France decides to withdraw the Barkahne force from Mali. This decision is described by the Malian authorities as "unilateral" and "abandoned in mid-air".

August 2021

Adoption of the Transitional Action Programme by the National Transitional Council (NTC) based on four (4) priority areas, namely: (i) strengthening security throughout the national territory, (ii) political and institutional reforms, (iii) the organisation of general elections, and (iv) the promotion of good governance.

25 September 2021

Denunciation of France at the United Nations by Prime Minister Choguel Maiga

11 to 30 December 2021

Holding of the national conference on the refoundation of Mali, which proposed a transition period of between 6 months and 5 years. They took place from 7 to 26 December in nearly 725 of the 749 communes and in 51 of the 60 cercles. They were concluded at the national level in a dialogue from 27 to 30 December 2022.

Development of the transition process in Mali

IN 2022

9 Jan. 2022
ECOWAS sanctions against Mali.

3 July 2022
ECOWAS sanctions against Mali lifted

7 July 2022
Lifting of World Bank sanctions against Mali

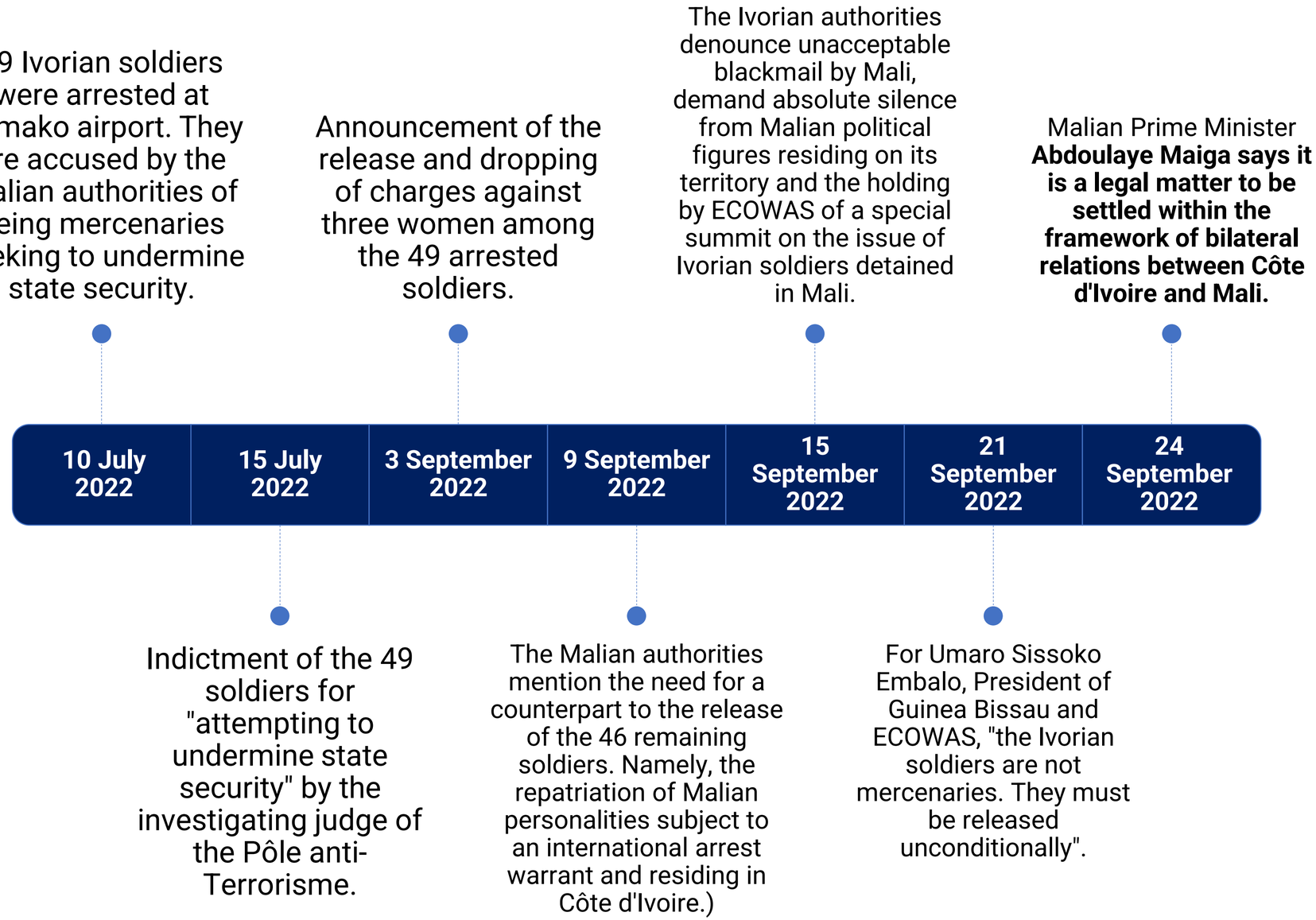
14 July 2022
Suspension of the rotations of the military and police contingents of the UN mission in Mali (Minusma)

22 July 2022
The Malian army claimed to have repelled a terrorist attack in the garrison town of Kati. At least eight people were killed.

15 Aug. 2022
Departure of the last French troops of the Barkhane operation from Mali

21 Aug. 2022
Appointment of Colonel Abdoulaye Maïga as interim Prime Minister to replace civilian Choguel Maïga

Tensions rise between Malian and Ivorian authorities over the issue of 49 arrested Ivorian soldiers



Diplomatic developments

05 August 2022 :

Mali and Russia decide to expand their cooperation. This expansion will cover :

- Commercial, economic, scientific, technical, social and other fields
- Deepening the political dialogue and strengthening the coordination of principled positions on issues of mutual interest discussed in the UN and other multilateral formats.

09 August 2022 :

Mali has received new military equipment delivered by its Russian partner.

10 August 2022:

Interview between Assimi Goita and Vladimir Putin on the following topics:

- Russian Federation support for Mali's transition
- A possible supply of Russian food, fertiliser and fuel to Mali.

17 August 2022 :

Malian authorities accuse France before the UN Security Council of violating its sovereignty, spying and supporting terrorist groups.

21 September 2022:

Visit of Mamady Doumbouya, President of the Transition, to Mali to celebrate the 62ième year of independence.

22 September 2022:

At the end of the extraordinary summit of Heads of State organised in New York, on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly, the Conference of Heads of State has :

- Welcomed the diplomatic initiatives undertaken by several ECOWAS Heads of State, which led to the release of three Ivorian female soldiers on humanitarian grounds on 3 September 2022.
- The continued incarceration of Ivorian soldiers is strongly condemned.
- Denounced the blackmail exercised by the Malian authorities in this case.
- Demanded the unconditional release of the 46 soldiers detained in Mali.
- Decided to send a high-level mission composed of the Heads of State of Ghana, Senegal and Togo for the release of the Ivorian soldiers.

Diplomatic developments

- **24 September 2022:** Acting Prime Minister's speech at the United Nations in which the following points were made:

  - The demand for a change of "paradigm" and "adaptation of MINUSMA" to the environment in which it is deployed, as well as a better articulation of this mission with the Malian authorities.
  - The expression of its "deep disagreement" with the UN Secretary General following his "recent media outburst", accusing him of "taking a position" on the case of the 46 Ivorian "mercenaries", "a bilateral and judicial matter", between two brotherly countries, which "does not fall within the remit" of Mr Guterres.
  - The expression of disapproval to the current President of ECOWAS, Umaro Sissoko Embalo on his positions on the crisis in Mali. He said that there is a "principle of subsidiarity" between ECOWAS and the United Nations and not "a principle of mimicry".
  - The commitment of the transitional authorities to implement the recommendations of the National Refoundation Conference through two timetables agreed with ECOWAS to achieve reforms and free elections by 26 March 2024.
  - The reaffirmation that restoring the authority of the Malian state required a development approach in addition to the military approach.
  - The "diligent and intelligent" implementation of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, resulting from the Algiers Agreement, which remains a strategic priority for the transitional authorities.
  - The reaffirmation of accusations against France of having violated Malian airspace more than fifty times by providing "intelligence, arms and ammunition to terrorist groups".
  - The reaffirmation of a session of the Security Council to help "establish the truth" in this case involving the French "junta".



Security and human rights developments

31 August 2022:

MINUSMA published a note on trends and human rights violations over April 1 to June 30, 2022.

The following points resulted from this note:

- **467 cases of violations and abuses** of human rights and international humanitarian law (**317 civilians killed, 73 abducted/missing and 77 injured**)
- This documented data represents a **42%** decrease compared to the previous quarter (**812 cases** recorded, including **543 civilians** killed, **107 abducted**/missing and **107 injured**).
- The main perpetrators of violence against civilians were groups such as the Islamic and Muslim Support Group (Jamāʿat nuṣrat al-islām wal-muslimīn - JNIM), the Islamic State in the Greater Sahara (EIGS) and other similar groups that have been responsible for 297 serious human rights abuses.
- Violence by militias and other community self-defence groups doubled from **15** in the previous quarter to **34** in the period under review.
- Human rights violations by the defence forces decreased by **62%** from **320** in the period January to March 2022 to **122** in the period covered by this report.



Security and human rights developments

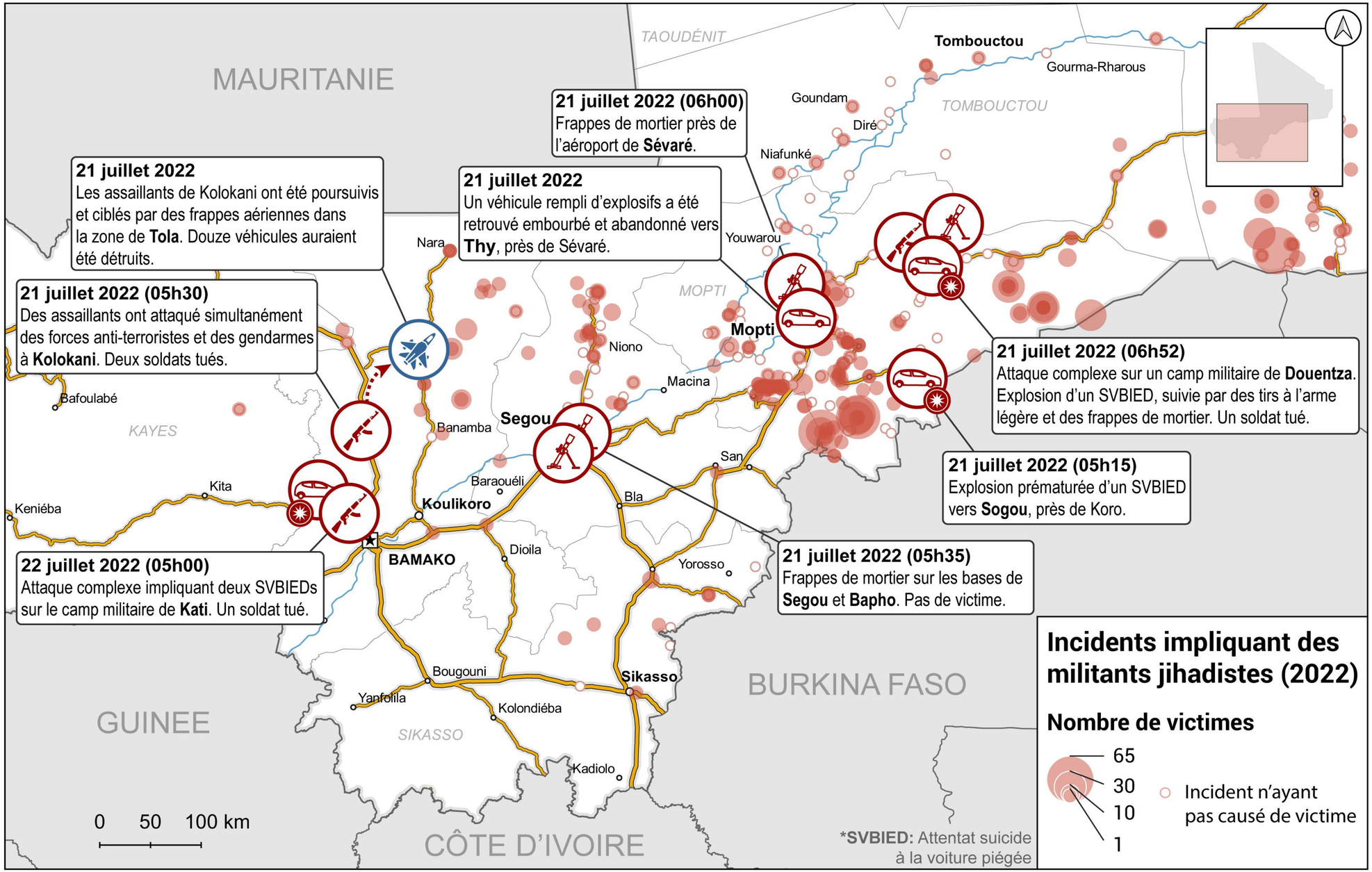
31 August 2022:

Globally, the security situation remained worrying during the period under review. By way of illustration:

- The centre of the country has been the scene of multiple attacks by extremist groups against civilians.
- Inter-communal tensions have contributed to the escalation of the situation.
- In the northern regions, the situation was mainly marked by a considerable deterioration of the security situation in the tri-border area.
- Civilians are paying a heavy price for the continious abuses by extremist groups.



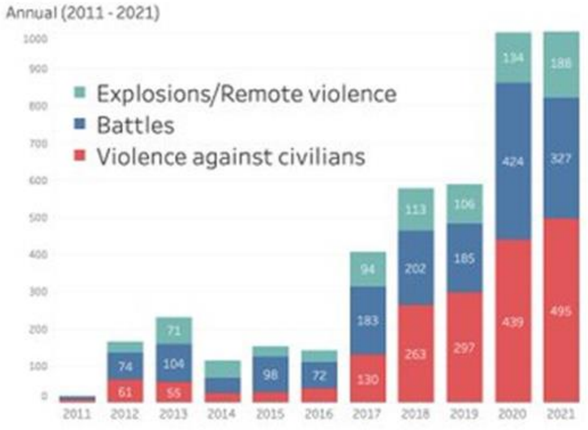
APERÇU DES ATTAQUES COORDONNÉES DU 21 ET 22 JUILLET AU MALI 2022

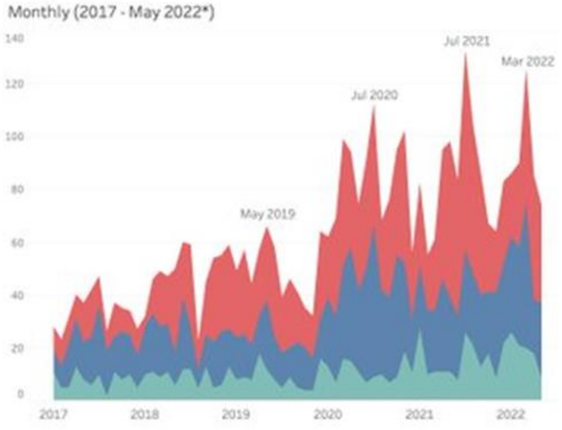


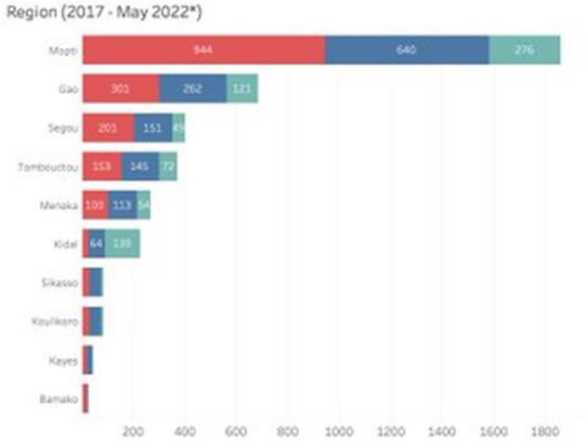
Credit : Jules Duhamel (@julesdhl)
Sources : ACLED (au 15 juillet 2022), MENASTREAM et DIRPA

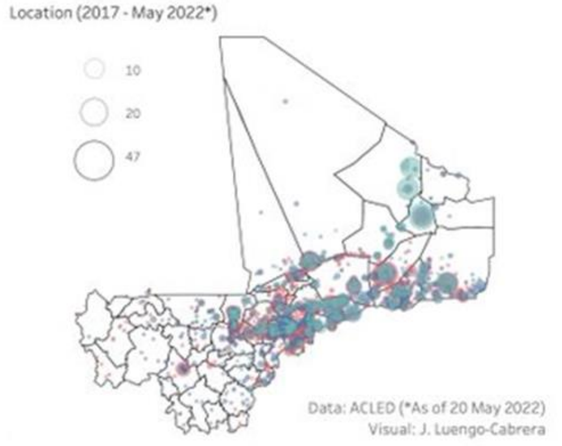
24 juillet 2022

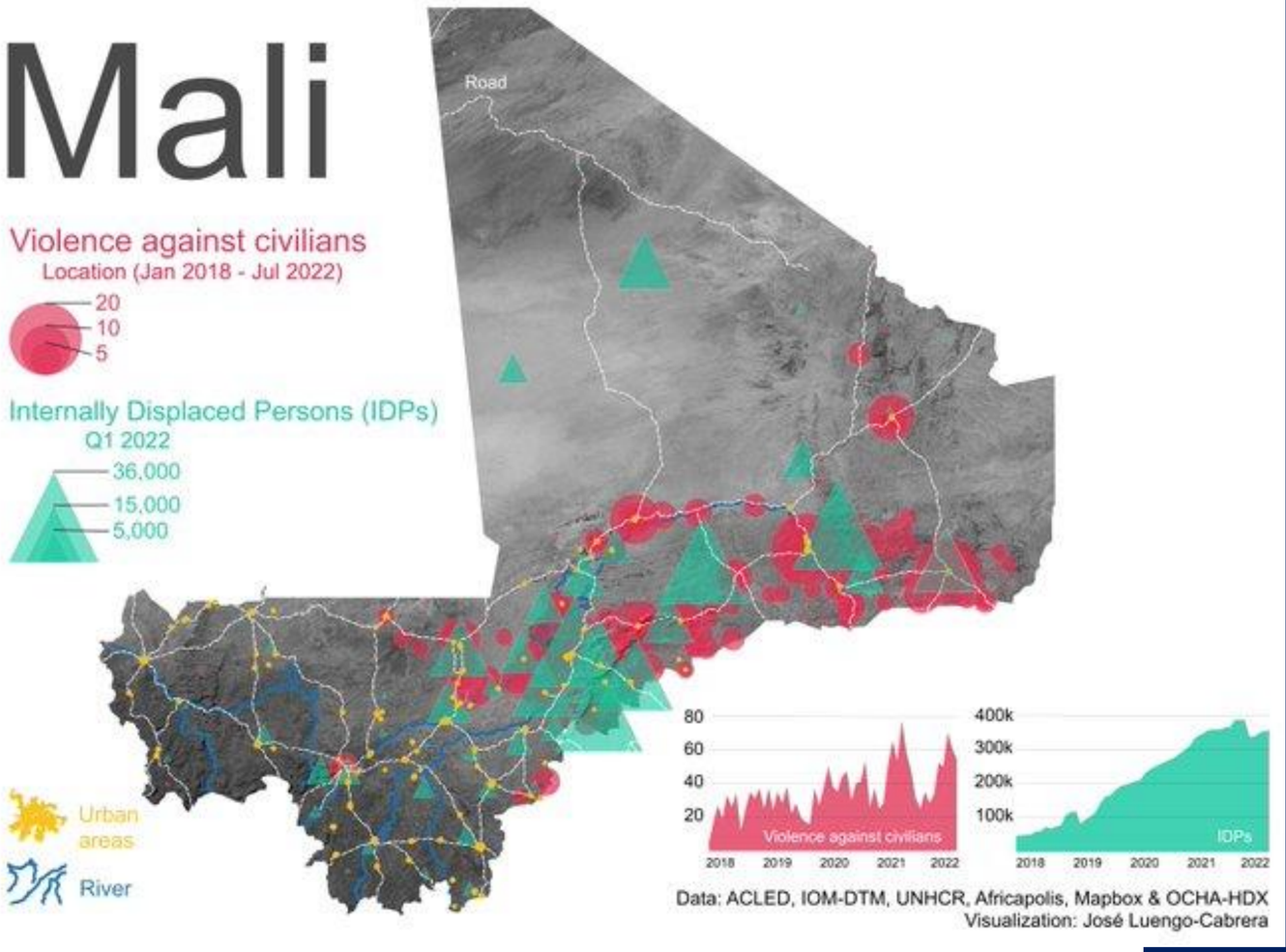
Mali: armed conflict incidents











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.

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