



## Country Report – Burkina Faso

Overall rating	Sub-Ratings	1	2	3	4	5
		3				
Significant	Political situation	3				
	Terrorism	3				
	Crime	3				
	Health / Natural Risks	3				
Risk Rating: 1: Low; 2: Moderate; 3: Significant; 4: High; 5: Very High						

### General situation

<b>Overall</b>	<b>Head of State:</b> Roch Marc Christian Kaboré (since December 29th, 2015)
	<b>Capital town:</b> Ouagadougou
	<b>Total population:</b> 18.11 million of residents in 2014
	<b>Official language:</b> French
	<b>Time zone:</b> UTC +0
	<b>International code:</b> +226
	<b>Emergency contacts:</b> Police: 17 ; Fire department: 18
<b>Economic data</b>	<b>GDP:</b> 11.1 billion USD in 2014
	<b>Currency:</b> Franc CFA (XAF)
	<b>Exchange rate:</b> 1 euro = 655.96 XAF at 2016/09/14
<b>Administrative</b>	<b>Passport:</b> Should be valid for a minimum period of 6 months
	<b>Visa:</b> Generally mandatory. Conditions may be eased depending on nationality and/or period.
	<b>Vaccination:</b> Yellow fever vaccination certificate required

### Political situation

The presidential and legislative elections took place on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015 after more than a year of upheavals on the Burkinabe political scene. Former Minister of B. Compaoré who joined the opposition on early 2014 and candidate of the Mouvement du Peuple pour le Progrès, Roch Kaboré, was elected on the first round with 53.49% of the votes.

- The project of amendment of Article 37 to the Constitution, dealing with the limit of the number of presidential mandates, has been presented on October, 2014 by B. Compaoré's government. Thus, demonstrations have spread in Ouagadougou and across the country to oppose this initiative, leading to the President's resignation, who had been in power for 27 years, and to the death of some thirty people. A 12 months transition period, led by President Kafando (a diplomat) and the Prime Minister Zida (a military), has been implemented on November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014 in order to organize general elections, as well as the creation of conditions for reconciliation...
- This transition period has been characterized by ...
- In parallel, relations between authorities and ...
- ...

### Risk Watch and Analysis Department

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## Terrorism

The terrorist threat in Burkina Faso has roughly increased in 2015. Thus, enhanced controls and cooperation with Sahelian neighboring countries has been decreed by Burkinabe authorities...

- The beginning of the French intervention in Mali on January 2013, ...
- Nevertheless, the situation has evolved since the abduction of a Romanian national in the Northern part of Burkina Faso on April 4th, 2015, an act claimed by Al-Mourabitoune group. Thereafter, ...
- Sporadic attacks against security forces were reported in the...

## Crime

The safety situation is mainly affected by petty crime (pickpocketing, robbery), especially in the largest cities. However, the formation of criminal gangs has been reported in the capital, Ouagadougou, and in rural areas where the risk of armed robbery is relatively present...

- ...
- Road blockers and highway bandits are particularly active in the areas close to...
- Crime is favoured by porous borders...
- An increase in the number of criminal acts can also be reported during heat periods as many citizens choose to sleep outside, a situation likely to attract criminals (robbers, rapists etc.).
- Because of breaches in the security deployment in rural areas, self-defense groups known as "Koglwéogo" have been created across the country since early 2016 and are suspected of....

## Calendar

### Major events

- **June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016:** Attack conducted by unidentified gunmen on Itangon police station (Oudalan Province, North) during the night. 3 policemen killed.
- **May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016:** Local elections. Localised incidents involving violence were reported across the country before and after the polls.
- **March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016:** Road blockers attacked a vehicle for public transportation in Nahouri Province (South). A Ghanaian national killed and 3 others wounded.
- **November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015:** Presidential and legislative elections. Roch Kaboré of the MPP elected on the first round while his party won 55 seats over 127 but...

### Upcoming events

- **October 31<sup>st</sup> (annual event):** Tribute day to the victims of popular revolt and attempted coup.

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## Regional situation

**Ouagadougou:** Pick-pockets and bag-snatchers represent the main risk faced by expatriates, especially near places frequented by Westerners. The former central market ...

**Southwest provinces:** ...

**Northern provinces (Loroum, Seno and Soum):** ...

**Eastern provinces:** This region is impacted by a strong insecurity (traffics, robberies, aggressions), especially in the locality of Fada N'Gourma. The criminal groups operating in this region are mostly targeting the owners of motorbikes and the economic operators of the sectors of the cotton, the sesame or the cattle. Thereafter, they operates indifferently at the home of the target or on the roads, and are likely to be violent. The insecurity faced by the region is mostly explained by the difficulties of the security forces to secure the whole region, the larger of the country. As well, the proximity with the Benin favors the development of the traffics towards Ouagadougou. Thus, clashes are frequently reported between the local traffickers and the security forces.

## Health/Natural Risks

## Health risks

In case of severe health condition, any travel toward Burkina Faso is discouraged as the emergency care is extremely limited in the country.

...

## Natural risks

The rainy season (from June to October) can result in strong disruptions of the transports and floods.

## Recommendations

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