INTERCONNECTED CHALLENGES IN CENTRAL SAHEL
Sharp decline in mortality

Continued high fertility

↑ 2 million in 2020s

↑ 3 million in 2040s

Continued population growth

Increased frequency of extreme climatic events

Rise in temperatures

Pressure on natural resources

Chart: © 2020. Sahel and West Africa Club Secretariat (SWAC/OECD) • Source: CILSS/Agrhymet • Get the data • Created with Datawrapper

High levels of urbanisation already exist
Urbanisation: a continental issue

Urban agglomerations in Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger in 1950
Urban agglomerations in Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger in 2000
Urban agglomerations in Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger in 2015
Importance of border & cross-border dynamics

Regional integration

Public policies need to adapt to local realities

Border areas: a source of problems & solutions

Proportion of population living < 100km from a border

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Rural population</th>
<th>Urban population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1997 – 2019:
32 737 events
143 840 killed

1997 – 2002:
5 138 events
25 845 killed

2003 – 2008:
3 282 events
14 637 killed

2009 – 2014:
8 140 events
41 623 killed

2015 – 2019:
16 177 events
61 735 killed
Border region dynamics are important
Ex: Liptako-Gourma

Events within 50 km of international boundaries
Categories of Violence in 2019

Source: Authors based on ACLED data 2019
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One third of the region’s food insecure people live in Central Sahel

Lean season 2020* (June-August), phases 3-5

- Burkina Faso: 2.2m**
- Mali: 1.3m
- Niger: 2m

Total Central Sahel: 5.5m = 1/3 of food insecure people in the region

*before Covid-19
**update August 2020: 3.4m
Structural fragility

High level of recurrent food insecurity in Liptako-Gourma area

- > 4m structurally vulnerable people
- 1-2m people in a crisis situation or worse every lean season

The absolute number of stunted children has risen in West Africa
Inadequate number of civil servants

Inadequate national budgets per capita

Growing population likely to mean weaker government capacity for the future

Weak government capacity

Number of civil servants per 1,000 inhabitants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Civil Servants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>78</td>
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<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>80</td>
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<td>France</td>
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<td>Canada</td>
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<td>Finland</td>
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<td>Sweden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Thank you for your attention

SWAC website
http://www.oecd.org/swac/

Visualise Urbanisation in Africa
https://www.africapolis.org/home

Food security
http://www.oecd.org/swac/topics/food-security/

This report and a series of books examining economic and social issues in West Africa are accessible here:

https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/