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## Burkina Faso

**Total area:**

274,200 km<sup>2</sup>

**Population:**

17,322,796 (2014)

**Literacy:**

14%

**Official languages:**

French

**GDP (PPP) per capita:**

\$1,879 (2017 est.)

**Life expectancy:**

55 years

**Religions:**

61% Muslim, 19% Catholic, 15% indigenous beliefs, 4% Protestant, 1% other religions

### Prayer points

**African radio station**

This landlocked state near the Sahara Desert is still a pioneer missions country, with two-thirds of the population unreached. There are less than 1% evangelical believers here and breakthrough has not yet been seen. In the middle of the bush a little two-room concrete building is being renovated with solar panels on the roof; there is no electricity for miles around. This will be a radio station aimed at reaching 10,000 people that haven't yet heard the good news of Jesus. Pray for many to respond as they hear the gospel for the first time. (Reach Beyond - December 2018)

**The Fulani**

Praise God that a well-known witch doctor, almost dying because of an infection in his jaw, gave his life to Christ and was healed. He is a walking miracle! Now he, his wives and his children and grandchildren are all walking with the Lord and, according to his pastor, they are the strongest believers in his church. Pray for more believers and more such miracles among the Fulani. (AIM International - January 2018)

**Transformed by Reading the Bible**

The Bissa Barka people of Burkina Faso have the goal of having the New Testament completely translated into their language by 2020. Pray for God's protection over this translation work until they have the entire Bible in their language and for more much-needed staff for the translation team. Many Bissa Barka people are rejoicing over the fact they can now read and write. We want everyone to have the chance to engage with the message of Jesus - in the language that speaks to them best.

Pray for literacy centres to be opened in all Bissa Barka villages so more people can be transformed by reading the Bible. (Wycliffe Bible Translators - November 2017)

### **When rains fail**

Like most people in the Burkina Faso village of Pissila, Samuel and his family rely on the land for their food. Droughts are always dreaded but the villagers have a back-up when the rains fail - the community grain bank. Last year Samuel was able to buy millet from the grain bank (supported by CREDO) at a reduced rate to help his family through a lean patch when food was in short supply. The grain bank buys food in advance in the years when crop production is low so people don't have to leave to find work or find food. Furthermore, if someone is running out of food they can come and ask to buy food on credit. As rain patterns change and harvests become increasingly vulnerable, give thanks for this vital ministry. (Tearfund - September 2013)

### **Asking for forgiveness**

One villager in Hounde actively participated in the ceremonies and sacrifices in his village but he had developed a hatred for his parents. One evening he heard a message on the radio about forgiveness as a source of blessing. That night he couldn't sleep - a voice told him to kill himself and another to go and ask forgiveness from his parents and save his life. He decided to go wake his parents late at night and ask forgiveness. Having chosen to follow Jesus, he is now a changed person and is grateful for his deliverance. Pray for the growth of Christian radio in Burkina Faso. (Reach Beyond - July 2011)

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