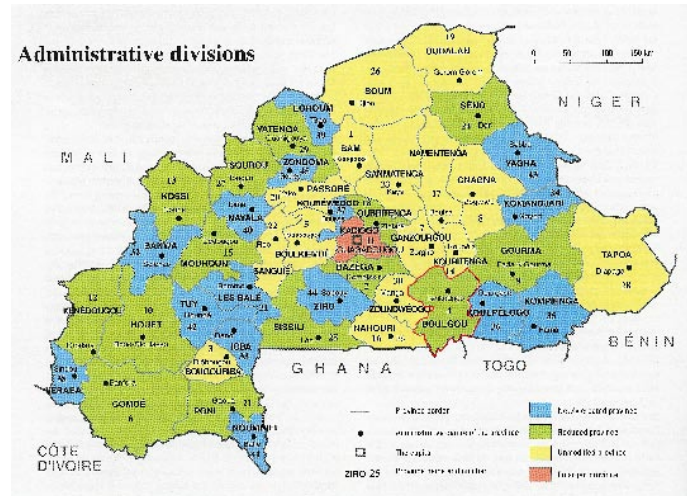


**REGION**



Pic. 1: map

**FACTS**

- Surface:** 6.850 km<sup>2</sup>
- Inhabitants:** 415,000
- Average Income:**
- Life Expectancy:** 52 years
- Language:** french, tribal dialects: Moré, Biss
- Religion:** Islam, Christianity, nature religions

**INTRODUCTION**

The region Boulgou lies in the southeast of Burkina Faso. The province was reduced in consequence of a new allocation of the administrative ranges 1996 in their size. From 30 provinces half was again divided and it developed altogether for 45 smaller provinces. So Boulgou has now only a surface of 6.850 km<sup>2</sup>. In the region live approx. 415.000 inhabitants. That means a density of approx. 60 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup> and a population growth of approx. 3,9%.

The capital of the region is called Tenkodogo. The city has 31.500 inhabitants. Tenkodogo lies in the east of the region at the road to Ghana and Togo. The road is asphalted and still one of the best roads in Boulgou, however there are also many impact holes and other road damage. As the second main road there is a connection from Tenkodogo to Garango. This is a smaller road. All other traffic routes are land runways. The village Gando is only attainable over a runway and approx. 4 hours

foot march from Tenkodogo.



Pic. 2: road in Tenkodogo (city)



Pic. 3: road in Gando (village)

The different roads are differently strongly frequented. The developed asphalted roads are very strongly traveled. Then there are the urban runways as broad sand ways and the runways on the village as narrow trampling paths.

There are schools much too little. The illiterate rate is very high with 95%. On approx. 3200 inhabitants comes one school. However there is an increasing slow upward trend to note in this range. The numbers of students doubled themselves von 1985 to 2000 and the girl proportion in this time of approximately 20% to 46,7%.

Also within the range health lacks it hospital wards and other health mechanisms. The existing mechanisms are badly attainable and medical assistance must be paid immediately. In addition the family must provide also for the accommodation and food supply of the patient. Only few humans can afford that.



Pic. 4: market



Pic. 5: drinking water

There are markets not only in the larger cities Tenkodogo and Garango, but also in the small villages. Everywhere it takes place into three a daily rhythm. There is everything to buy, which humans of the region produce, like agricultural products, in addition, many other things like cloth consumer goods, like cigarettes or building materials.

The drinking water supply of the region is still very bad. However one can determine an easy improvement also within

this range. By the new embankment near Garango and the increased building of wells more humans can be supplied with drinking water.

**HISTORY**

After the legend the Bissa (ethnic group) hunters and collectors came, as nomad people into the region and established there.

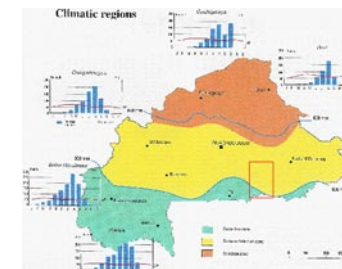
At first there are individual scattered housing developed, which formed self-sufficient yards. By military conflicts with the Mossi (ethnic group), which have trade with slaves, the Bissa built itself walls around its yards. Protection settlements are developed.

Since some years the population growth more and more. Mechanisms were added to the yards like a market place, schools and religious facilities. Village structures are formed.

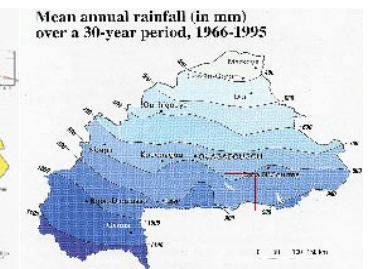
**CLIMATE**

The climate of the region is alternating-wet. Boulgou lies in the climate zone of the African savannah and has one drying time of November to April and a rain time of May until October, in which a precipitation from 800 to 1000mm prevails.

The rain comes short and violent and can be the cause of large damage of the buildings or in the agriculture. The rain time partly comes later, which is very bad for the farmers and their crop.



Pic. 6: climate



Pic. 7: rainfall

The average temperature lies in January around the 20°C and in April with maximum values around the 40°C.

**TOPOGRAPHY**

The topography of the region is flat and easily wavy. The region is on a height between 250-350m ue. NN. Isolated island mountains give an easy structure to the country. The Boulgou

CONTINENT: Africa > LAND: Burkina Faso > REGION: **Boulgou**

in the southeast of Garango has the highest elevation with 348m.

Runways and holes washed by the rain are not rare.

Into north south direction flows the river Nakambé, which accumulates itself in the rain time by the new dam.



Pic. 8: landscape



Pic. 9: landscape



Pic. 10: landscape



Pic. 11: landscape

### VEGETATION

In the drying time there is very little vegetation. Trees and bushes, which get along with a few water, survive.

Because of clearings there are less trees and the country becomes more balder. Wood is the only source of energy in this region, so many trees are cleared. The people there did not developed any environmental awareness.

The desertification is a large problem. By the absence of trees it can partly come to soil erosion and sandstorms become ever more frequently.

In the rain time the otherwise so meager region is richly overgrown with high grasses and bushes. Then the region is very green.

### ETHNICAL GROUPS

The population of Boulgou consists different ethnical groups. Predominant in the region are the Bissa. A small fraktion of Mossi and Peul (nomad people) live also there.

Apart from the office language French, taught in the schools, many tribal-dialects like Moré are spoken.

Around Boulgou religions of Islam, Christianity and different nature religions are existing. Some families also practice different religions at the same time.

#### Images:

Pic.-Nr.: 1,6,7 Pigeonnière, Jomni: jeune afrique atlases. Paris.1998; Pic.-Nr.:2-5,8,9 Inka Göbel, privat photos; Pic.-Nr.:10 [http://kinkodev.free.fr/register/cp/cp\\_burkina2.jpg](http://kinkodev.free.fr/register/cp/cp_burkina2.jpg); Pic.-Nr.:11 [http://porter.geo.brown.edu/planetary/LCLUC\\_Owens/Burkina\\_Faso\\_Pastoral.jpg](http://porter.geo.brown.edu/planetary/LCLUC_Owens/Burkina_Faso_Pastoral.jpg)

#### Literature:

Pigeonnière, Jomni: jeune afrique atlases. Paris.1998

#### Websites:

The economy of the region is mainly made up of self-supporter.

Most families supply themselves with their cultivated agricultural products. Sometimes a part of the crop is sold on the market. Millet, corn, rice, peanuts and cotton are mainly cultivated. Since the new artificial lake was created, there is fishing as new source of income.

The nomad people (the Peul) operate usually cattle breeding.