



Perception of security in central Mali
Survey conducted from 4th to 19th October 2021

Survey of the perception of security among the population in the Mopti, San and Ségou regions.

///// Report of the field survey

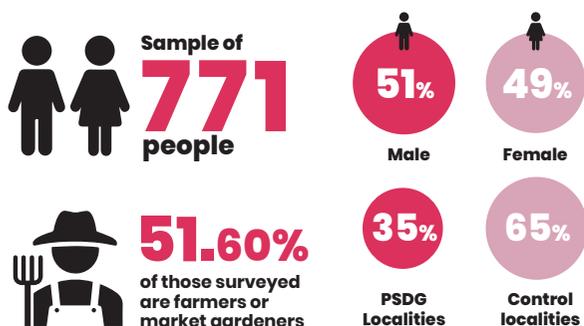


SIPRI and POINT SUD
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Context of the investigation

In accordance with the national policy of combating insecurity, the establishment of security, development, and governance hubs (PSDG) must promote social and economic development, the redeployment of public services and the restoration of trust between the population and the security forces.

In order to understand the effect of these PSDG hubs on the everyday life of the population, a first survey (Q0) was conducted in May 2021 in the localities of Konna and Timissa. The second survey was conducted from 4 to 19 October 2021 among a representative sample of 771 people distributed between an **experimental group (PSDG localities)** consisting of respondents living in communes where a security camp has been established (Konna, Tominian, Timissa and Saye) and a **control group (control localities)** consisting of people living in neighbouring communes without security camps (Takoutala, Senossa, Mougna, Soum-Bamanan, Diamankan, Kouara).*



Social and economic situation

- 95% of households are engaged in agriculture
- 92% own livestock

The produce is used to feed the family but is insufficient to cover all requirements.

The two main effects of insecurity:

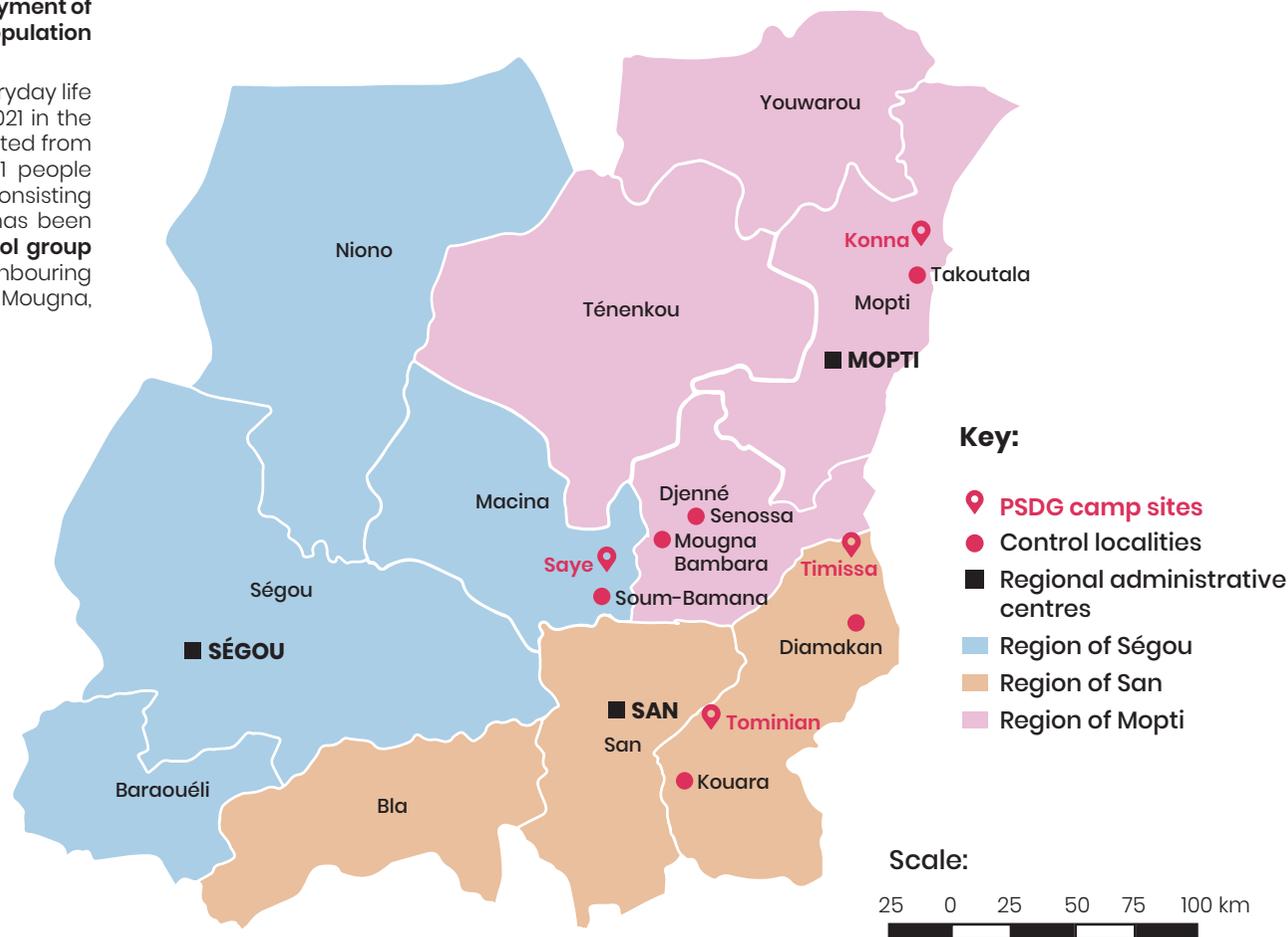
Increased food prices and reduced income.

For example, depending on the localities (May-Oct. 2021): prices of oil (+85%), sugar (+27%), rice (+21%)

Survey localities

Survey conducted in the regions of Mopti, San and Ségo

/// Source: Décentralisation du Mali/cartographie du Mali [Decentralization of Mali/Cartography of Mali], compiled by O. Dembélé, Coordinator, Projet Mali centre, 23.11.2021



Security

Situation at the national level

51% of those surveyed perceive a deterioration of the security situation in Mali.



Situation at the local level

The perception of the security situation has improved in all the localities except Konna and Takoutala.



For reference, May 2021: Konna Timissa

THE RESPONDENTS ANSWERED THE QUESTION, "ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE STATE TO COMBAT INSECURITY?", AS FOLLOWS:



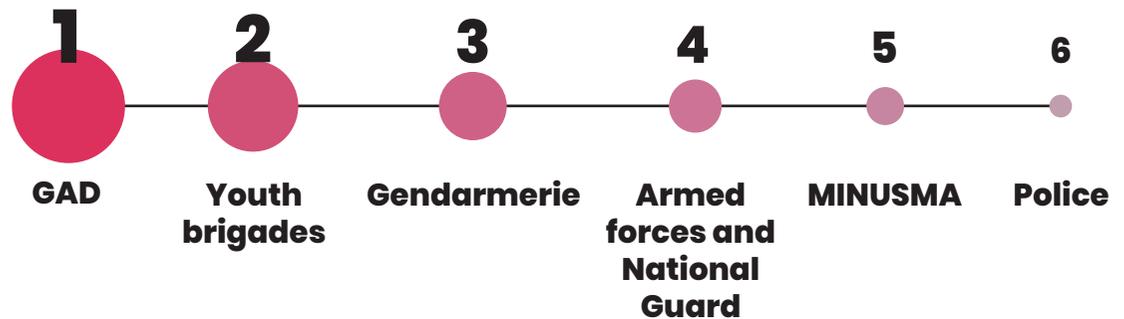
89% of the respondents said they were optimistic

Living with insecurity

Over 45% of respondents said they supported a self-defence group (GAD), and between 75% and 90% said they limited their movements or changed their modes of travel, in order to adapt their daily lives to the insecurity.



Presence of security actors



The survey respondents say they mainly trust the following:

- + 80 % armed forces, National Guard, Gendarmerie and civil protection, self-defence groups.
- + 75% police and youth brigades.
- + 30% MINUSMA



According to 83% of the respondents in the control localities and 73% in the PSDG localities, non-state armed groups (GANE) are a source of insecurity.

The three main threats:

1. Poverty and unemployment
2. Food insecurity
3. Physical attacks

The detachment and its functions



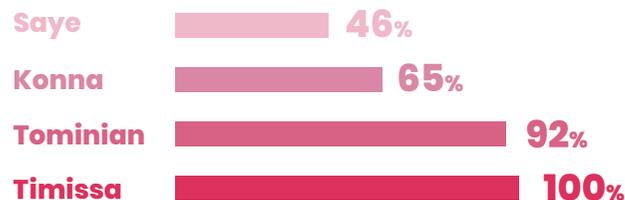
99.63%

of respondents are satisfied with the establishment of a camp in their locality.

Does the camp seem secure enough to you?



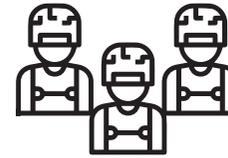
Level of satisfaction with the location of the camp



Functions of the detachment



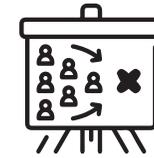
Road checkpoints



Patrols
(on foot/motorized)



Aid to the population



Escort duty

Our investigations show that the most visible functions of the detachment are **patrols** (79% motorized, 60% on foot) and **road checkpoints**.

THE RESPONDENTS SAY THAT THEY MAINLY ENCOUNTER PATROLS **at markets, in towns and on main roads**, and to a lesser degree on pasturelands.

At Tominian, the forces are more visible, and are engaged in securing public spaces and patrolling in remote fields and pasturelands.



When they meet these patrols, **the great majority of respondents say they feel safe.**

100% in Tominian and Timissa. 88% in Konna and **55%** in Saye.

The two main factors giving rise to a sense of insecurity are **a fear of reprisals by GANE and extra-legal behaviour of the armed forces.**

Impact and links with communities



Impact of the establishment of a camp on people's daily life

More than **70%** of respondents in Saye, Timissa and Tominian say that the establishment of the camp has **restored security**.

At Konna, the camp has led to the restoration of:

- security, for **36%** of respondents
- public services, for **29%** of respondents

The main problems identified are a lack of patrols and a lack of communication with the people.

Trust in institutions

Chief/Mayor



Prefect



Judge



Links with communities



Participation in social activities

Members of the detachments take part in **social activities in Konna, Timissa et Tominian**. **Participation in social activities is considered important**, particularly as regards social, cultural and sporting activities and meetings with local and traditional authorities.



Discussions between the detachment and the communities

Discussions have been organized in all the localities. The main topics that people wish to discuss are:

- **Restoring peace and combating insecurity**
- **Aid and co-operation with the population**
- **Development of the locality**

Focus on Saye

The survey brings out a more complicated situation in Saye: the population is satisfied with the establishment of the camp, but its location is thought to be inappropriate because it is too close to the locality.

However, the camp is considered to be sufficiently secure and **67%** of people are reassured by its establishment. On the other hand, the people report few activities other than road checkpoints and patrols at markets. Only **55%** of those surveyed say they are reassured when they meet patrols, as against over **80%** in the other three localities. The lack of communication or meetings between the forces and the population is highlighted.

Level of satisfaction



The percentages of those answering “yes” to the question, “Are you reassured by the establishment of the camp in your locality?” are as follows:

100% in Tominian and Timissa

72% in Konna

67% in Saye

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The main reasons for satisfaction



In Konna and Tominian, the camp has led to an improvement in the security situation.

80%

Tominian

64%

Konna



In Saye and Timissa, the camp enables economic activity to take place

39%

Saye

42%

Timissa



What ought to be improved

In Konna, Saye and Timissa:

Establish early warning mechanisms to respond as needed in case of attack.

In Tominian: **Organize regular discussions between the people and the forces deployed.**



Conclusion

- The situation varies widely between the localities surveyed
- The deployment of forces responds to people’s request for protection and provides reassurance
- But the impact of the deployment of defence and security forces remains limited to the locality

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