Burkina Faso

**SOURCES**: There are several sources of disinformation. The opposition party manipulates media and photos, and are able to spread them everywhere. They claim the military is killing civilians. They have contacts with press in western nations. Their methods include also influencers, they live abroad, and attribution is hard.

**RESPONSES**: We have mitigation measures to counter their activities: we share attribution to the public. The president doesn’t want to be in power, but he has to. Newton Amed Bahni, an influencer and former journalist for France, wanted to be in power.

**INFORMATION THREATS**: The Fulanis, or peuls, which has terrorists, targets the president and the government and represents the most important security threat. They claim that the present conflict is an ethnic cleansing and recruit people in Burkina Faso. They share on radio. They demand children and in rural areas it’s hard to defend. A hotline for the army would be good but it could also be a trap. Instead, new technology could help border management. ISIS doesn’t tend to kill civilians, but the Fulanis kill everyone, they are much worse. Though they are less good at communicating than us. They tax the people they control too. Their corruption also undermines the entire economy and discredits the army’s image and overall security forces too.

The Fulani have their own media channel, share it on social media. Tiktok is growing, Facebook and WhatsApp are the most popular. Mosques are spaces of communication. French TV and Jeune Afrique seeks to discredit us.

**Recommendations for the US**: there needs to be action expanded to social media. The target population is changing too. Counter these threats more efficiently, because you can’t respond to all the accusations, but especially more rapidly. It would be useful to share intelligence on the radio users in the country and all the other disinformation activity made by terrorists. And also sometimes the focus is too much on tiktok when some disinformation is just work of mouth. There also needs to be an incentive mechanism to lead people to act well.