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United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Distr.
LIMITED

ID/WG.66/34
2 October 1970

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Second African Meeting for the Promotion of
Specific Industrial Projects in African Countries

Nairobi, Kenya, 30 November - 4 December 1970

D01684

COUNTRY INFORMATION SHEET

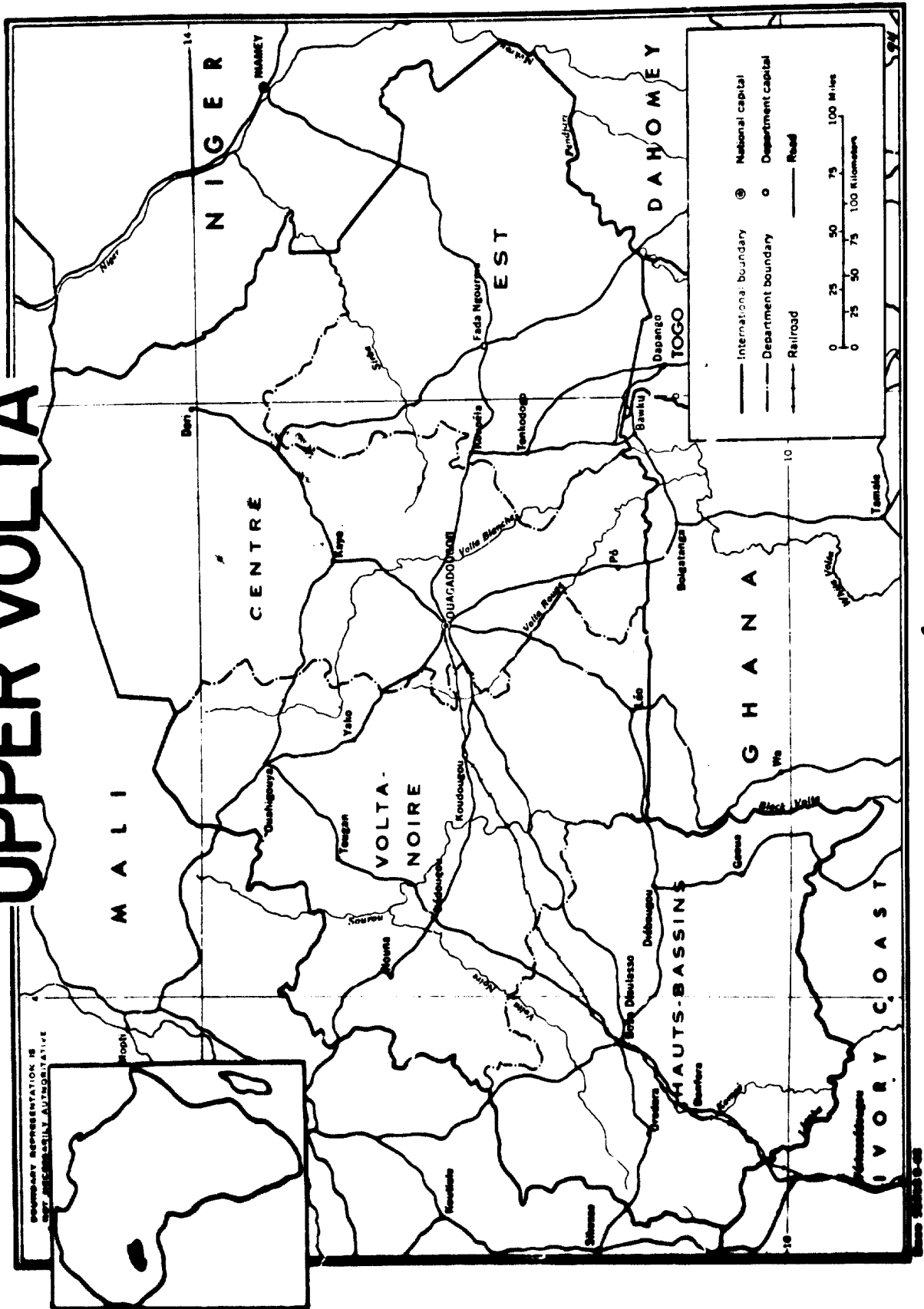
UPPER VOLTA

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id.70-5497

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UPPER VOLTA



ECONOMIC BACKGROUND HIGHLIGHTS

A. THE COUNTRY AND ITS PEOPLE

- 1) ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY:
- a) AREA: 105,900 sq. miles; 274,300 sq. kms.
 - b) GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE: Upper Volta has Mali and Niger to the north, and the Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo and Dahomey in the south.
There are two cool seasons from November to February and from June to September and two hot seasons from February to June and from September to November with a short rainy season from June to October.
 - c) POPULATION: 5.135,000 (at the end of 1968). Rate of growth 2%.
 - d) LANGUAGES: French is the official language. Dioula is used in business or trade.
 - e) MAIN CENTRES: The main cities are Ouagadougou (Capital) 110,000
Bobo-Dioulasso (economic centre) 68,000
Koudougou 25,000.
 - f) TRANSPORT FACILITIES: - The roads cover 17,000 kms. The plan has allocated 6,729 million CFA francs to remake the roads and maintain the routes of communication.
 - The Abidjan-Niger line of 1,145 kms, with 517 of these in Volta territory, forms the only real railway line.
 - The airports at Ouagadougou and Bobo-Dioulasso can take the largest conventional aircraft.
- 2) POLITICAL STATUS AND GOVERNMENT
STRUCTURE IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD: The proclamation of independence on August 1960. Admission to UN on September 1960. There is permanent representation in UN, UNESCO, the EEC and the FAO.
The ministries in the economic field are:
Ministry of Finances and Commerce
Ministry of Agriculture
Ministry of Planning and public works.

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- SOURCES:
- I.B.R.D. Current Economic Position and Prospects of Upper Volta.
 - Africa 1969/1970 - The editorial staff of "Jeune Afrique"
 - EUROPA Year Book 1969
 - A.I.D. Economic Data Book - Africa 1970

B. BASIC ECONOMIC DATA

1) ECONOMIC INDICATORS:

a) NATIONAL CURRENCY: The national currency is the CFA Franc.
The rate of exchange is US\$ 1 = CFA Francs 275.

b) GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT: (1964) US\$ 225 m.
Per Capita: US\$ 51
Primary Sector: 57%
Secondary Sector: 13%
Transport, Trade, Services: 30%
100%

c) PER CAPITA INCOME: US\$ 42 in 1966

d) CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: 1961 1962 1963 1964 1966 1967
Cost of living: 100 101,5 107,2 109 111 105

e) BALANCE OF PAYMENTS: 1964 (million CFAF)

Exports and Re-exports of goods	4,834	
Imports of goods (incl. for re-exports)	<u>11,924</u>	
Trade Balance	-7,090	
Services	<u>- 490</u>	
Balance of goods and services		<u>-7,580</u>
Public transfers and capital (net)	6,542	
Private transfers abroad and factor payment	-1,170	
Private transfers from abroad	2,000	
Debt service	- ,147	
Overall balance	<u>- ,355</u>	<u>7,580</u>

2) NATURAL RESOURCES: - The agricultural land is 32% of area.
- Sheanuts, peanuts, rice, beans and recently cotton are the main cash crops.
- Animal husbandry is the principal economic activity and source of wealth.
- Large deposits of high-grade manganese ore. Limestone, bauxite, copper, tin, graphite also found.

3) LABOUR FORCE: Of the 2.6 million economically active, over 87% are engaged in agricultural pursuits. About 24,000 were wage earners in 1967.

- 4) MAIN INDUSTRIES: Food: Food industry is the most advanced. It produces about half of the total industrial production. A rice mill - oil mill - soap factory - 2 breweries and mineral water factories - a dairy products factory - - two slaughter houses with cold stores.
- Textile and Leather: 3 cotton ginning factories - a clothes factory - a tannery and leather working factory. A textile complex.
- Chemicals: Soap manufacture - plastics and matches.
- Building and Wood: Numerous saw mills - a dozen or so metal workshops and three brick works.
- Mechanical and Metal: Bicycle assembly factory - inner tube manufacture - agricultural tools - bedding - cash books and metal furniture. 5 metal workshops.
- Various: Cigarettes.
- Projected: Sugar refinery - tinned fruit and vegetables - oil mill and soap factory - two cotton ginning factories - two dairies - a new slaughter house and cold store - two urban waste processing plants.

C. DEVELOPMENT PLAN

- 1) INVESTMENTS: Upper Volta has a development plan for 1967-1970. This is a frame plan intended to be indicative rather than imperative. The general orientation of the plan is reflected in the proposed distribution of investments: (million CFAF)

		<u>Total 1967-1970</u>
<u>Rural Development</u>		<u>9,414</u>
ORD's (regional plans)	7,344	
Livestock	1,230	
Water supplies	470	
Others	370	
<u>Modern Sector</u>		<u>5,956</u>
Manufacturing	4,500	
Transport, commerce, services, tourism	812	
Others	644	
<u>Infrastructure</u>		<u>11,400</u>
Roads	6,763	
(of which secondary roads)	(1,000)	
(of which new equipment)	(600)	
Railway	1,900	
Posts and Telecommunications	413	
Urban development and housing	2,198	
Air transport	126	
<u>Social Sector</u>		<u>4,548</u>
Education and vocational training	2,724	
(of which rural education)	(1,306)	
Health	1,334	
Others	490	
<u>Information, Research, Studies, etc.</u>		<u>1,606</u>
Scientific research	1,125	
Others	481	
<u>Total</u>		<u>32,924</u>
(of which "optical tranche")		5,543

- 2) SOURCES OF FINANCING: The financing of the plan could be pictured as follows:

	<u>(billion CFAF)</u>
<u>Total to finance 1967-70</u>	<u>27.4</u>
<u>External:</u>	
- obtained (public)	12.0
(of which loans)	(0.9)
- to obtain	11.0
(of which private)	(2.0)
<u>Internal</u>	
- budget 1968 (estimates)	0.6
- private and banks	1.8
- to obtain	2.0

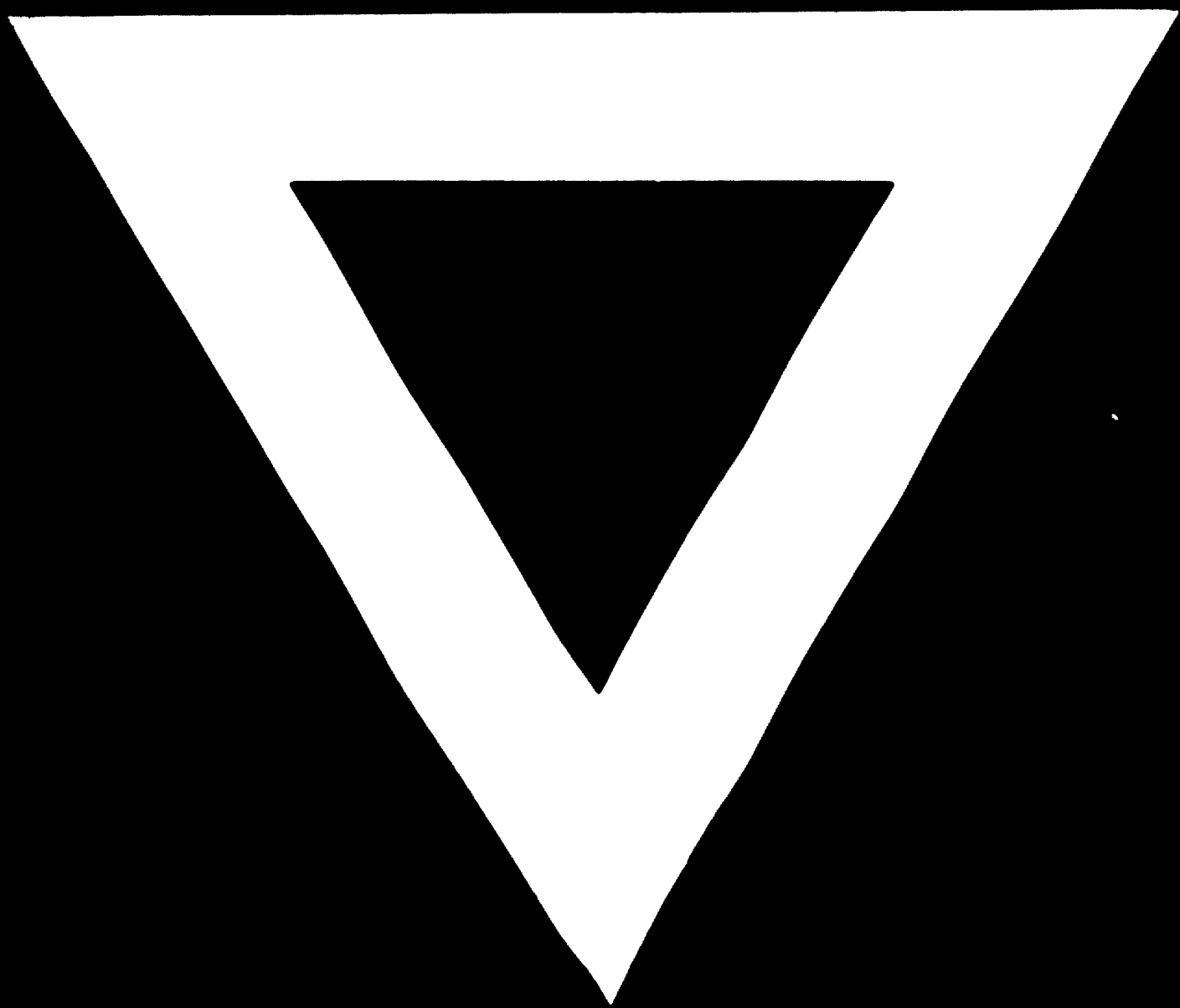
D. FOREIGN TRADE DATA

1) VALUE OF IMPORTS; MAIN PRODUCTS (million CFAF)

	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Food, beverages, tobacco	3,146	2,238	2,580	2,313
Petroleum products	345	390	545	586
Raw products	2,465	1,082	1,070	831
Animal and vegetable	(2,450)	(955)	(892)	n.a.
Mineral	(15)	(127)	(178)	n.a.
Semi-finished goods	1,071	1,267	1,032	5,240
Manufactured goods				
For agriculture	41	87	40	
For industry	1,122	1,098	1,102	
For consumption	3,500	3,007	2,925	
TOTAL	<u>9,484</u>	<u>9,169</u>	<u>9,293</u>	<u>8,970</u>
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2) VALUE OF EXPORTS; MAIN PRODUCTS (million CFAF)

	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>
Livestock	1,840	2,143	2,208	2,270
Meat	64	66	200	261
Hides and skins	251	106	190	85
Groundnuts (shelled)	119	162	204	283
Shea nuts	118	62	155	80
Sesame	61	88	64	117
Cotton	90	257	304	844
Gold	227	248	116	-
Others	<u>544</u>	<u>548</u>	<u>744</u>	<u>489</u>
TOTAL	<u>3,314</u>	<u>3,680</u>	<u>3,985</u>	<u>4,429</u>
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