BURKINA FASO

LEGAL & TAX FRAMEWORK FOR INVESTMENT — JUNE 2026 EDITION

A major West African **gold** producer and a historic player in the **cotton** value chain ("white gold"), Burkina Faso has overhauled its extractive framework with a **new Mining Code (2024)**. A landlocked country at the heart of the Sahel, it relies on regional logistics corridors and applies the unified **OHADA** business law, being part of **WAEMU** — a single-currency monetary zone pegged to the euro. This factsheet summarises the macroeconomic, tax and legal data relevant to an entry decision, with particular focus on the **legal securing** of the investment.

POPULATION
~24.1 M
2025 est. (UN / Worldometer)

CURRENCY
FCFA · XOF
CFA franc BCEAO — fixed peg €1 = XOF 655.957

GDP GROWTH
+5.3%
2025e · ~5% projected 2026 (World Bank / IMF)

INFLATION
~2.1%
2026f · below the WAEMU 3% target

GDP PER CAPITA
≈ $1,126
2025 (IMF)

TOP ASSET
GOLD & COTTON
Gold, top export · cotton "white gold"

HEAD OF STATE
I. TRAORÉ
Captain Ibrahim Traoré — President of the Transition, since 2022

CAPITAL
OUAGADOUGOU
Economic and administrative hub

LOGISTICS PROFILE
REGIONAL CORRIDORS
Landlocked — dependent on neighbouring ports

GOLD, COTTON & LOGISTICS CORRIDORS

With growth expected around **+5.3%** in 2025 and then **~5%** in 2026 (World Bank / IMF), Burkina Faso confirms the resilience of its mining and agricultural economy. The country overhauled its **Mining Code in 2024** — state stake raised to 15%, local-employment quotas and technology transfer — to frame its **gold** sector, its top export. The **cotton** value chain ("white gold") remains a historic pillar, with more than 350,000 growers and local-processing potential for textiles. As a landlocked country, Burkina Faso relies on regional logistics corridors for its foreign trade, which calls for anticipated legal structuring.

A HARMONISED BUSINESS-LAW FRAMEWORK

- **OHADA** — Burkina Faso applies the uniform business law of OHADA (17 member states, 9 Uniform Acts: companies, security interests, debt recovery, insolvency, arbitration, etc.). Disputes may be brought before the **CCJA** (Common Court of Justice and Arbitration), whose awards are enforceable across the 17 states.
- **WAEMU** — an 8-state economic and monetary union (central bank: BCEAO); free movement of goods and a common foreign-exchange framework.
- **Revised SYSCOHADA accounting** — the mandatory accounting framework, readable by any investor across the zone.
- Also a member of the **African Union**, the **AfCFTA**, the **WTO**, **OAPI** (intellectual property) and **CIMA** (insurance).

COMMON OHADA COMPANY FORMS

FORM	MINIMUM CAPITAL
SA	XOF 10,000,000
SAS	Set freely by the by-laws
SARL	Set freely by the by-laws (share nominal value ≥ XOF 5,000)
Branch	Attached to the foreign company (OHADA duration limit)

Registration with the RCCM; investment one-stop shop: ABI (Agence Burkinabè des Investissements).

TAX REGIME — THE ESSENTIALS

TAX	RATE	DETAILS
Corporate income tax (CIT)	27.5%	No allowance. Minimum lump-sum levy: **0.5% of turnover** (floor of XOF 1,000,000 under the normal actual-profit regime, XOF 300,000 under the simplified regime), due even where no profit is recorded (Art. 24 CGI).
VAT	18%	Single standard rate. Registration threshold: annual turnover of XOF 50,000,000; simplified regimes below.
Withholding taxes (non-residents)	12.5-20%	Broadly 12.5% to 20%, depending on the type of income: dividends (tax on income from movable capital), royalties and services paid to non-residents — the exact schedule should be confirmed item by item against the CGI in force at the time of the transaction. Rates may be reduced under an applicable treaty.
Tax treaties	TUNISIA + WAEMU	WAEMU multilateral convention. **The France-Burkina Faso tax treaty has been terminated** and no longer applies — France-Burkina Faso flows now fall under domestic law. Source: DGI Burkina (dgi.bf).

Tax source: DGI Burkina / General Tax Code (dgi.bf, servicepublic.gov.bf) — minimum lump-sum levy: Art. 24 CGI (0.5% / floors XOF 1,000,000 and XOF 300,000).

ATTRACTIVE SECTORS

- **Gold** — the country's top export; Burkina Faso ranks among Africa's leading gold producers.
- **Cotton ("white gold")** — a major historic value chain; ~60% of export earnings, more than 350,000 growers; local-processing potential (textiles).
- **Livestock & agriculture** — livestock exports; food value chains.
- **Energy** — strong solar potential; electrification programmes.
- **Construction & infrastructure** — demand sustained by regional logistics corridors.

INVESTMENT INCENTIVES

- **Investment Code** (Law 038-2018) — freedom to invest, national/foreign non-discrimination, freedom of management and transfer; privileged regimes scaling benefits by amount invested and jobs created.
- **ABI** (Agence Burkinabè des Investissements, the Burkina Faso Investment Agency) — the single point of contact for investors, tasked with investment promotion and support for project sponsors.
- **New Mining Code (2024)** — state stake raised to 15%, local-employment quotas and technology transfer; the reference framework for any extractive project.

FOREIGN-EXCHANGE REGULATION

- **WAEMU / BCEAO framework.** Cross-border financial transactions fall under WAEMU's common foreign-exchange regulation, administered by the BCEAO; capital movements and transfers are regulated, channelled through approved intermediaries and subject to declaration.
- **Repatriation of dividends and capital.** Transfer is permitted but conditional on documenting the flows and paying the taxes due — to be structured from the moment of entry into the capital. Highly capital-intensive mining projects call for particular attention to the traceability of foreign-currency financing.
- **Good practice.** Funding in foreign currency and keeping documentary traceability of each flow secures the later transfer of funds.

Precise terms (thresholds, documents, timelines) to be checked with the BCEAO and an approved intermediary.

SECURING THE INVESTMENT

Beyond the figures, a successful entry rests on command of the legal framework. In a country where the mining sector (gold) drives foreign investment and where the treaty framework has changed, contractual and tax structuring is decisive.

THE UGGC ANGLE — OHADA LEVERS

- § **CCJA arbitration** — awards enforceable across OHADA's 17 member states.
- § **Security interests (Uniform Act)** — mortgage, pledge, autonomous guarantee, security agent; secure mining financings.
- § **FX & repatriation** — WAEMU/BCEAO rules: structure dividend and capital repatriation upfront.
- § **Governance & compliance** — OHADA company law, SYSCOHADA, 2024 Mining Code, early-difficulty prevention.

UGGC Africa supports you in Burkina Faso through its pan-African platform — africa@uggc.com.

Disclaimer. This country factsheet is provided for general information, as at June 2026; it does not constitute legal or tax advice and cannot bind UGGC Africa. The figures are drawn from public sources and are subject to change (notably through Burkinabè finance acts and the Mining Code). Any investment decision should be the subject of a tailored analysis.

Sources: World Bank (Macro Poverty Outlook Burkina) · IMF (Article IV / ECF, May 2026) · AfDB (Economic Outlook) · UN / Worldometer (population) · DGI Burkina / servicepublic.gov.bf (General Tax Code) · ABI — Agence Burkinabè des Investissements / Investment Code (Law 038-2018) · Ministry of Mines (2024 Mining Code) · Deloitte & BOFiP (treaty termination) · OHADA (ohada.org) · BCEAO · WAEMU · uggcafrica.com.