

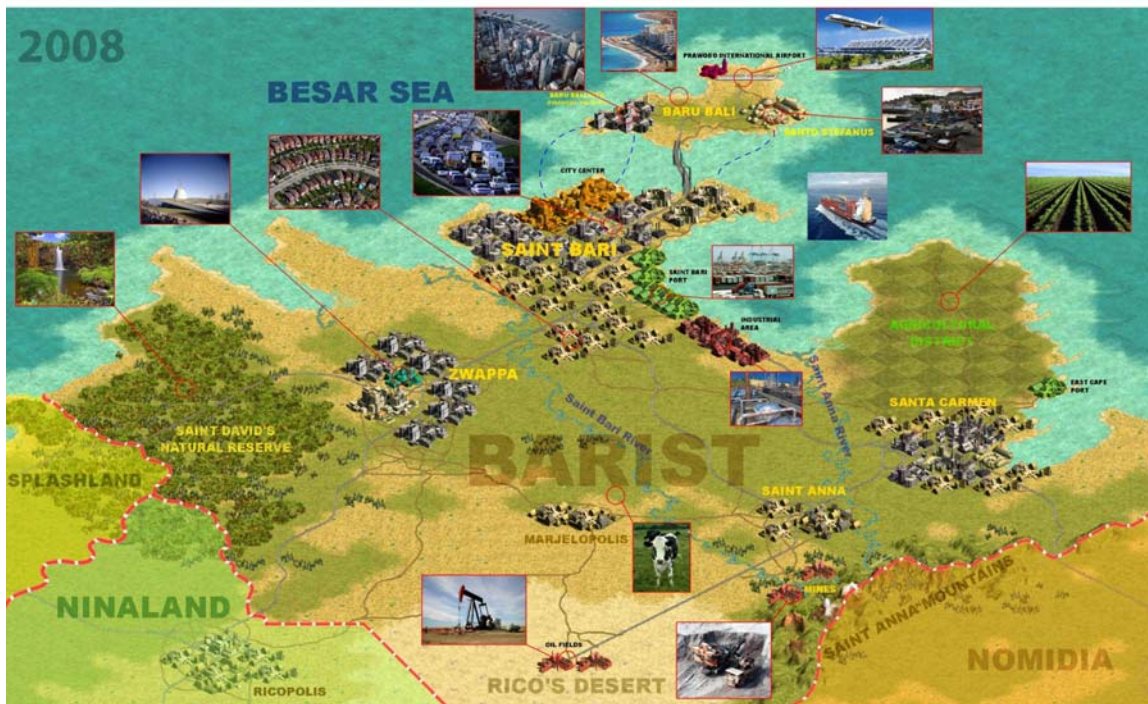
Barist 2008

Client: COMBIGROEP CARROSSERIEËN

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Project date & place: 2008 – 2009 The Netherlands.

OFFICIAL NAME: Republic of Barist	LANGUAGES: Dutch, Indonesian & Spanish	GOVERNMENT: Presidential Republic	POPULATION: 17.8 million	GDP TOTAL: € 652,322 million	CURRENCY: Baristian Pound (B€ 1 = € 0.75)
CAPITAL: Saint Bari	DEMONYM: Baristian	LAND AREA: 45 063 km ²	POPULATION DENSITY: 395 p/sq km	GDP PER CAPITA: €36,647	



GEOGRAPHY: Barist is a relatively small coastal country, bordered on the north by the Besar Sea, on the south-east by Nomidia, on the south-west by Ninaland and on the west by Splashland. The island of Baru-Bali is located in the Besar Sea just off the north coast. The country is defined by a varying landscape, with a big mountain range at the south-east (Saint Anna's mountains), a desert in the south (Rico's desert) and two main rivers (Saint Bari and Saint Anna).

Arable land is scarce and mainly situated in the east, near the city of Santa Carmen. Saint David's National Natural Reserve was established in the western border of the country to protect the last remaining natural forest left in Barist, which is rich in local fauna and flora.

DEMOGRAPHICS: Ethnic Dutch, the country's original inhabitants, remain a majority of the population (55%) despite the increasing migration from neighboring countries. Other ethnicities making up an important part of the population include Indonesians (23%) and Latin Americans (15%). The most important minority is comprised of Ninans (4%) migrating into Barist in search for a better life. As can be expected from these numbers Barist is truly a multicultural melting pot.

The local population is aging, but many young immigrants from all social classes are flowing into the country. The population is concentrated in 3 main urban areas, with Saint Bari being the

biggest (7 million including the financial district of Baru Bali City), followed by Santa Carmen (4.5 million) and the relatively new city of Zwappa (1.7 million).

Other important but smaller urban concentrations include Santo Stefanus (350,000) in Baru Bali island, Marjelopolis (300,000) and Santa Anna (200,000). Income and living standards are good in most of the country and comparable to those of western European countries, yet there are still some very poor areas (like the slums of the fishermen village of Santo Stefanus) where the population consists mainly of low skilled immigrants from the neighboring countries.

ECONOMICS: As a small country with a relatively large population, the resources are quite limited. The Saint Anna mountain range at the south-east of the country provides a source for various metals and minerals, exploited mainly for local industrial use. Rico's Desert has a small reserve of oil used entirely by the local market and peak oil has been reached. This supply is not enough and Barist still relies heavily on imported oil to fulfill its energy needs. These resources are processed in the main industrial area close to Saint Bari's port facilities.

Arable land is relatively scarce (the most important location being the agricultural district near the city of Santa Carmen) and the quality is decaying due to the heavy use it must endure. The crop production is unfortunately not enough to feed the Baristian population in its entirety.

Some cattle is bred in the vicinity of Marjelopolis, and its derived products are used entirely by the local market.

Due to these limited resources, Baristian economy is based mainly on services and commerce, and relies heavily on the import of raw materials, food and other basic products. Saint Bari's port is one of the biggest and most modern of the continent and it handles goods for Barist and its neighboring countries.

Zwappa has recently become a hi-tech and knowledge hub, due mainly to the influence of the Technical University located in this city, which can explain the growing importance that the rising technology related and R&D industries are taking in the local GDP.

The financial district of Saint Bari (located in Baru Bali Island and known as Baru Bali City) is a major player of the region's economy, and most major banking and commerce multinationals have established offices here. The district provides a high floating population of business people, who also have a big impact on Baru Bali Island as a high-end tourist destination with big and luxurious hotel resorts in its northern coast.

GOVERNMENT: Barist is a presidential republic with a stable government. Overpopulation is a major concern, as it lays even more pressure on the few resources of the small nation.

Population distribution is also a main concern of the government, and this can be seen reflected in some of the policies applied in the last decade, like for example the city of Zwappa, which was founded 8 years ago under a strict urban planning as an attempt to shift some of the pressure away from the capital and as a center for the development of the new technology and R&D industries.

The aim of the government is to promote the growth of the commerce and services industries, for which the transportation system and the financial district (Baru Bali City) play a key role.

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM: Due to the limited resources and the big imports industry, the local transportation grid plays a major role in the economical development and growth of not only Barist, but the whole region.

The transportation system in Barist is an intermodal system composed of a major international airport (Prabowo International Airport) located in Baru Bari Island, a major port in the south-east of the capital which is the main maritime gateway to the continent, a minor port in the vicinity of Santa Carmen (dealing mainly with agricultural products) and a fairly good network of railways and roads interconnecting all the major urban and industrial areas. A new port is also being developed in the north of Zwappa.

The public road system is under a lot of pressure from the growing population, and certain key nodes are having a hard time keeping up with this growth. Traffic jams are a common sight during rush-hours in Saint Bari's city center and main highways, as a lot of people who work here actually live in the suburban outskirts of the capital city or in other urban areas. The government is making efforts to reduce this impact by updating the public mass transit network within the city and its vicinity, and encouraging people to use it by means of tax cuts and experimental policies such as restraining the use of privately owned cars in certain areas or during certain time periods.

The transportation between Baru Bali Island and the mainland was maintained by ferries until not so long ago, when the International Airport was constructed along with a bridge (railway and road) connecting it to Saint Bari. Some ferry lines still work mainly to transport passengers.

The connections between Barist and the neighboring countries are quite good, especially for freight transport, in order to efficiently distribute the goods that enter the continent via Saint Bari's port.