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African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism
Centre Africain d'Etudes et de Recherche sur le Terrorisme

AFRICA TERRORISM BULLETIN

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ABOUT AFRICA TERRORISM BULLETIN

In line with its mandate to assist African Union (AU) Member States, build their Counter-Terrorism capacities and to prevent Violent Extremism, the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT) has developed tools that enable it to collect, analyze, process and disseminate information on terrorism-related incidents occurring in Africa. One of the products of this effort is the Bi-weekly Africa Terrorism Bulletin (ATB) that is published by the Centre.

The ATB seeks to keep AU Member State Policymakers, Researchers, Practitioners and other stakeholders in the fields of Counter-Terrorism (CT) and the Prevention and Countering Violent Extremism (P/CVE), updated fortnightly, on the trends of terrorism on the Continent.

Notwithstanding the lack of a universally accepted common definition of **Terrorism**, the AU, in its [1999 OAU CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND COMBATING OF TERRORISM, Article 1 paragraph 3, \(a\) and \(b\), and Article 3](#), defines what constitutes a **Terrorist Act**. The ACSRT and therefore the ATB defer to this definition.

THE BULLETIN IS PRODUCED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACSRT	African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism
ADF	Allied Democratic Forces
AFRICOM	United States Africa Command Forces
AMISOM	African Union Mission in Somalia
AMM	Africa Media Monitor
AQIM	Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb
AS	Al-Shabaab
AU	African Union
BH	Boko Haram
CAERT	Centre Africain d'Etudes et de Recherche sur le Terrorisme
CAR	Central African Republic
CT	Counter-Terrorism
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EUC-JRC	European Union Commission's Joint Research Centre
FAMa	Forces Armées Maliennes
FDPC	Front Démocratique du Peuple Centrafricain
GAF	Ghana Armed Forces
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IS	Islamic State
ISCAP	Islamic State Central African Province
ISGS	Islamic State in the Greater Sahara
ISS	Islamic State in Somalia
ISWAP	Islamic State West Africa Province
JNIM	Jamaat Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimeen
KAIPTC	Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Center
KUBN	Uqba Nafi Batallion
LCB	Lake Chad Basin
LRA	Lord's Resistance Army
MNJTF	Multinational Joint Task Forces
MINUSMA	Mission Multidimensionnelle Intégrée des Nations Unies pour la Stabilisation au Mali (
MSA	Mouvement pour le salut de l'Azawad
NISA	National Intelligence Service Agency (Somalia)
OAU	Organization of African Unity
PBIEDs	Person-Borne Improvised Explosive Devices
RCIEDs	Remotely-Controlled Improvised Explosive Devices
REC	Regional Economic Community
RM	Regional Mechanism
SALW	Small Arms and Light Weapons
SNA	Somalia National Army
US	United States (of America)
VBIEDs	Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Devices

SUMMARY

General Situation. The reporting period, 1st to 15th July 2019 recorded almost the same number of attacks by terrorist and violent extremist groups across Africa compared to the period 16th to 30th June 2019. There was, however, a drastic reduction in the number of deaths resulting from terrorist attacks.

Terrorist Attacks. A total of 74 terrorist attacks were recorded across Africa during the period compared to 75 attacks during the preceding period.

Countries Most Affected. The five countries most affected by terrorism during the period are Somalia, Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso and DRC (In decreasing order of deaths recorded).

Target of Terrorist Attacks. While 48 out of the 74 terrorist attacks were launched against civilians, 14 were targeted at Security Forces. Seven attacks targeted Personnel of International Peace Operations (AMISOM and MINUSMA) and five others targeted Government Institutions/Officials. The attacks by al-Shabaab, Boko Haram (SF), ISGS, ISCAP, and JNIM were mainly against civilians whilst, ISWAP mostly targeted Security Forces.

Weapons Used. The terrorist groups used Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in 42 out of the 74 attacks. Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) were used in 23 of the attacks. Other two attacks involved the use of both IEDs and SALW. Six other attacks were cases of kidnapping.

Terrorism Deaths/Casualties. A total number of 224 deaths resulting from the 74 terrorist attacks were recorded during the period. The actual casualty figures for the period were 147 civilians, 64 Military/Security personnel and 13 terrorist.

Casualties Inflicted by Terrorist Groups. Al-Shabaab killed 104 persons (63 civilians, 41 security); ISGS killed 21 persons (3 civilians, 18 Security); ISCAP killed 11 (9 civilians, 2 military); Boko Haram (SF) killed 5 persons (4 civilians, 1 Security); JNIM killed two civilians and Unknown/Other groups killed 68 persons (66 civilians, 2 Security).

Casualties Sustained by Terrorist Groups. Al-Shabaab suffered the highest casualties. Security forces killed 47 Al Shabaab fighters during the period. IS affiliated groups in Libya lost one fighter and two militants from Unknown /Other groups were also killed.

Kidnapping. 6 cases of kidnapping were recorded and a total of 49 persons were taken hostage in Cameroon, Somalia, Mali and Niger. One out of the 49 persons kidnapped was killed and 48 others remained in hostage.

Focus on Epicentres. Out of the total of 74 terrorist attacks, Sahel region accounted for 36, Horn of Africa recorded 19, and Lake Chad Basin recorded 6. The Horn of Africa recorded 116 deaths from terrorist attacks, the Sahel region recorded 45 deaths and the Lake Chad Basin recorded 11 within the period under review.

High Profile Incidents. On 12 July, Kismayo town, Juba, Somalia, Al-Shabaab militants attacked the As-Asey Hotel with PBIEDs. 33 persons were killed and 56 others injured. On 15 July, in Hangan, Hiraan, Somalia, A military truck transporting Ethiopian soldiers serving under AMISOM hit IED killing 20 soldiers.

Counter-Terrorism Response. Deliberate CT operations resulted in the neutralization of 39 militants of terrorist groups.

Conclusions/Recommendations. Local terrorist groups with an affiliation to either al-Qaeda or Islamic State (IS) continue to dominate the terrorism landscape across Africa. While the local terrorist groups do advocate some specific local grievances, their operations and attacks assume the nature and character of attacks by al Qaeda or Islamic State depending on their affiliation. The wave of renewal of the oath of allegiance (Bay'at) by various IS affiliated groups on the continent to the IS "Caliph" Abu Bakr al Baghdadi continued. This is anticipated to increase the momentum of IS affiliated groups on the Continent. Somalia remained a challenging situation within the period. The country accounted for almost 52% of all deaths that occurred on the continent and is therefore the focus of this edition of the Bulletin. A well thought through response generation mechanism that mobilizes all available assistance and support, and incorporates a 'Whole of Government' and 'Whole of Society' approaches are worthy pathway in addressing the root causes in many quarters. A reinforcement of the technical capability of the intelligence effort and providing adequate equipment for the security forces are issues that should engage the urgent attention of the policy makers in the country as well as their development partners.

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Objective: The objective of the Africa Terrorism Bulletin is to provide a fortnight assessment of terrorism and violent extremism situation and trends on the continent. This is aimed at providing African Union Member States up to date information on terrorism incidents and its related activities. The data for the analysis of this Bulletin, is limited to information stored in the ACSRT Database, collected in conformity with the definition of terrorist acts as defined by the 1999 OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism.

Database: The ACSRT maintains a robust database that stores information on terrorism, more specifically, on terrorist groups, their leaders and members, and activities and avails this information to the African Union Commission and the African Union Member States. Information for the Database is collected by the ACSRT Situation Room Team using the Africa Media Monitor (AMM) developed in collaboration with the European Union Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) for advanced web mining and information extraction. With the AMM, the Situation Room Team scans and accesses over 1400 websites 24/7 and retrieves real time information on terrorist incidents. The Centre also stores terrorism-related information received from Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Mechanisms (RMs) based on existing cooperation. The AU Continental Early Warning Situation-Room and reports from AU Field Missions and other field missions are also sources of information for the bulletin.

Validation: To ensure credibility and reliability, the Centre validates all accessed terrorism incidents from the ACSRT Focal Points of the Member States. The Focal Points are the institutions in AU Members designated to collaborate and share terrorism and Counter-Terrorism related information with the ACSRT. In accordance with its mandate, the information validated by the ACSRT on the number of attacks, deaths and injuries recorded are considered as the official data for the ACSRT Database irrespective of other conflicting figures.

THREAT UPDATE

General: The period under review, **1st to 15th July 2019** recorded almost the same number of attacks by terrorist and violent extremist groups across Africa compared to the preceding period of **16th to 30th June 2019**. The period recorded **74** attacks compared to **75** attacks during the preceding period. All regions recorded slight increases in the number of attacks except Central Africa and North Africa. Whilst West, East and Southern Africa regions recorded marginal increases in attacks, the Central Africa witnessed a sharp decline in the number of attacks. The situation in North Africa was relatively stable with no recorded attacks for the period. There was a drastic reduction in the number of deaths resulting from terrorist attacks in all regions except East and Southern Africa regions. East Africa recorded a sharp increase in the number of deaths resulting from attacks, whereas the deaths in Southern Africa remained at the same level.

Local terrorist groups with an affiliation to either al-Qaeda or Islamic State (IS) continue to dominate the terrorism landscape across the length and breadth of Africa. The global wave of renewal of the oath of allegiance (Bay'at) by various IS affiliated groups to the IS "Caliph" Abu Bakr al Baghdadi continued within the period. The IS-Affiliate in Libya released a video on 05 July, renewing their pledge of allegiance, whilst the leader of the Islamic State in Somalia (ISS) Abdulkadi Mumin, in a similar video also renewed his allegiance to the IS Caliph claiming it to be a demonstration of the sustained cohesion of the group. For the period, the Sahel belt of West Africa (Northern Burkina Faso, Central and Northern Mali and the Tillaberi Region of Niger), and the Horn/East of Africa (Eastern Kenya, Southern, Central, South-Western Somalia and the Capital Mogadishu) remained the epicentres of terrorist activities on the continent.

Sahel Belt of West Africa. The region witnessed a marginal increase in the number of attacks by the various terrorist groups operating in the territory. Deaths resulting from attacks however, declined drastically. JNIM and ISGS were the two main groups that claimed responsibility for attacks during the period. Personnel of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and the civilian population bore the brunt of terrorist activities within the mobility corridors of the various terrorist groups. Out of 74 terrorist attacks recorded in the continent, 36 occurred in the Sahel region resulting in a total death of 45 persons. In **Burkina Faso**, armed groups continue to cause devastating atrocities against civilian population and the security forces. A total of 12 attacks were recorded resulting in the death of 17 persons within the period. Majority of the attacks occurred in the Soum, Sanmatenga, and Loroum provinces. In **Mali**, the various terrorist groups continued the planting of IEDs in areas where their movements have been restricted by the security forces. A total of 17 attacks were recorded resulting in the deaths of 25 civilians. The Northern and Central Mali regions of Timbuktu, Gao and Mopti were the areas most affected by terrorist activities within the reporting period. In **Niger**, ISGS scaled up its attacks against security forces. On 01 July in the village of Inatas located in Tillaberi region, ISGS attacked a military base, killing 18 soldiers and seizing 10 military vehicles.

Lake Chad Basin. There was a sharp decline in terrorist activities in the LCB during the period under review. The preemptive attacks of the Multi National Joint Task Force (MNJTF) to degrade the capacity of Boko Haram and the Islamic State West African Province (ISWAP) appear to have accounted for the sharp decline in terrorist activities. A total of six attacks were carried out in North-Eastern Nigeria, South-Eastern Niger, South-Western Chad and Far North region of Cameroon resulting in the deaths of 11 persons. In **Chad**, a total of 10 persons were killed in attacks that occurred in the villages of Meliya and Farchana on 07 July and 13 July respectively. In the Far North region of **Cameroon**, Boko Haram attacked the village of Goldavi and killed one woman on 10 July. In **Nigeria**, the security forces successfully repulsed two attacks by Boko Haram and ISWAP without casualties to civilians or security agencies. A number of militants were neutralized by the security forces.

North Africa and the Maghreb. The region was relatively stable without any reported terrorist attack. Deliberate CT operations were launched against suspected terrorist hide-outs by security forces. **Algerian** security services discovered and destroyed caches of arms and ammunition in Tamanrasset during routine CT operations. In **Libya**, security forces killed *Mohamed Bin Ahmed al-Falata* known to be in charge of the media outreach of IS in the country. Another IS member *Ayoub Salah Abdul Aziz al-Alsoinai*, was also arrested. In **Tunisia**, *Aymen Smiri*, who masterminded the twin suicide bombings on 27 June in Tunis, blew himself up during a police manhunt.

Central Africa. In the **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)**, the activities of armed groups in the Ituri Province requires the urgent attention of policy makers in the security sector. Reports of the emergence of terrorist elements in the region has further complicated the situation. The historical dispute between **Hema and Lendu** ethnic group over land continue to dominate the situation. The ethnic clashes are being exploited by the various armed groups operating in the country to advance their interest. On 01 July, in Djugu, unidentified assailants shot dead 10 IDPs who went to their fields looking for food. Also, on 02 July, in Bahema-Nord, unidentified attackers killed five people with machetes.

East and Horn of Africa. There was escalation of terrorist activities in the region during the period under review. Al-Shabaab continued to threaten safety, stability, peace and security in the region. It retained safe havens, access to resources, and *de facto* control over parts of Somalia within which it has freedom of

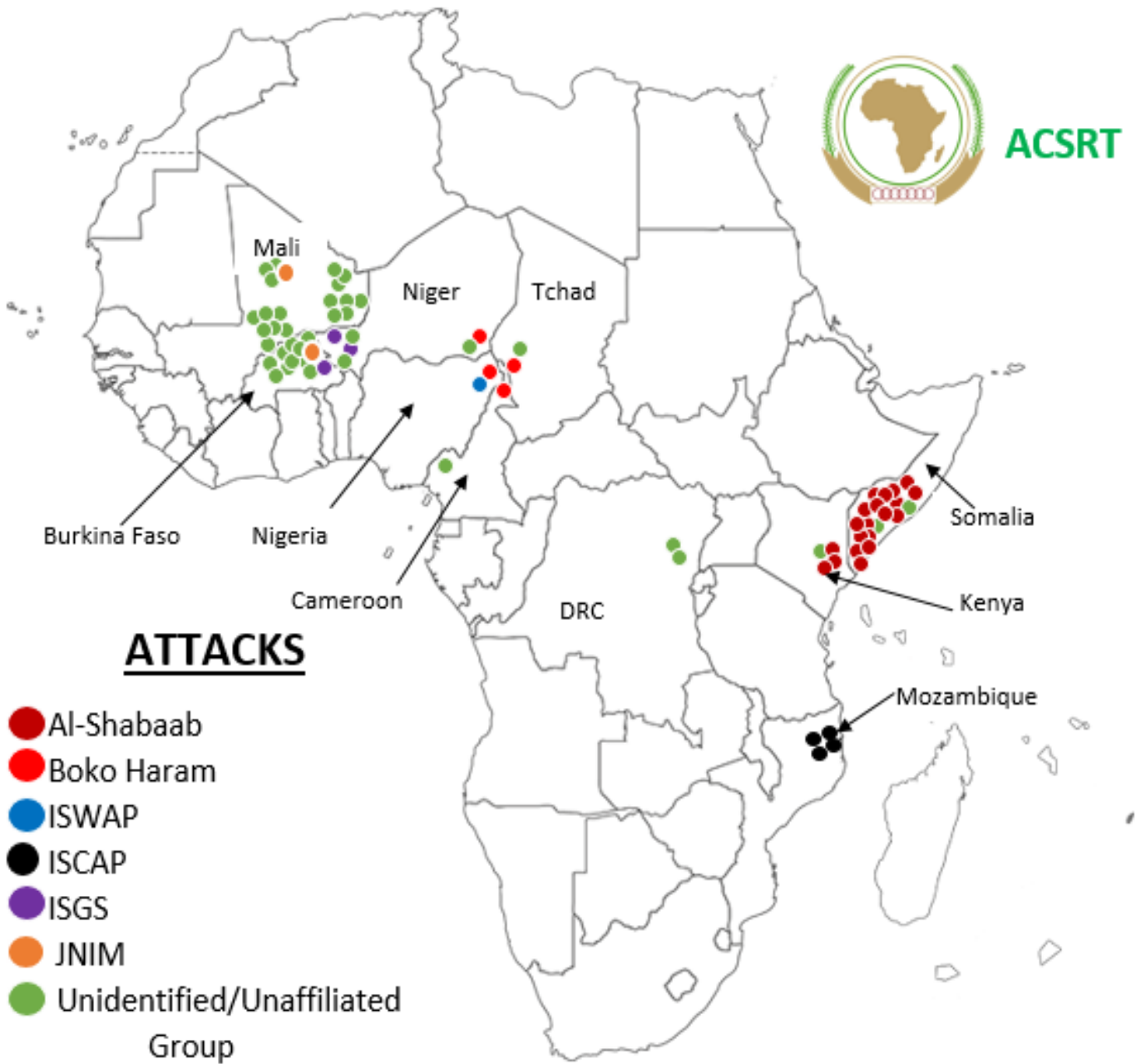
movement. Despite having lost a number of operatives to counterterrorism operations, the group sustained attacks in Somalia and neighboring Kenya. Northeastern **Kenya** experienced attacks attributed to al-Shabaab, primarily in the form of improvised explosive devices targeting Kenyan security forces. In **Somalia**, a total of 19 attacks were carried out resulting in the deaths of 116 persons. IEDs were the main weapon used in most of the attacks. In the Middle and Lower Juba. A total of 23 civilians were executed by al-Shabaab on accusation of spying for US and Kenyan security forces. The Group carried out two high profile attacks involving the use of IEDs in which more than 50 persons were killed. On 12 July in Kismayo, al-Shabaab conducted suicide bombing on As-Asey Hotel killing 33 persons and injuring 56 others. Again, on 15 July, a military truck carrying Ethiopian soldiers serving under AMISOM hit a road side explosive device killing a total of 20 soldiers. These incidents demonstrate that the terrorist group continues to have considerable cohesion and will to launch devastating attacks and cause debilitating atrocities to civilians, security forces and critical infrastructure/property.

Southern Africa. In **Mozambique**, the Cabo Delgado province experienced violence perpetrated by the local jihadi group, **al-Sunnah wal-Jamaah (ASWJ)**. The militants attacked Lidjungo village located in Cabo Delgado on 03 July, killing seven persons including a police officer. The operational alliances and the possible connection between **ASWJ** and the **Islamic State Central African Province (ISCAP)** continues to manifest in the latter's claim of attacks believed to have been perpetrated by the former. On 11 and 12 July, ISCAP claimed responsibility for three attacks in the villages of Malinde, Makulo and Namaneco all located in the Cabo Delgado Province in which four persons comprising two soldiers and two civilians were killed.

GENERAL TREND: TERRORISTS ATTACKS AND DEATHS

Map 1: Map of Terrorism Incidents from 1st to 15th July 2019

AFRICA TERRORISM INCIDENTS MAP: FROM 01-15 JULY. 2019

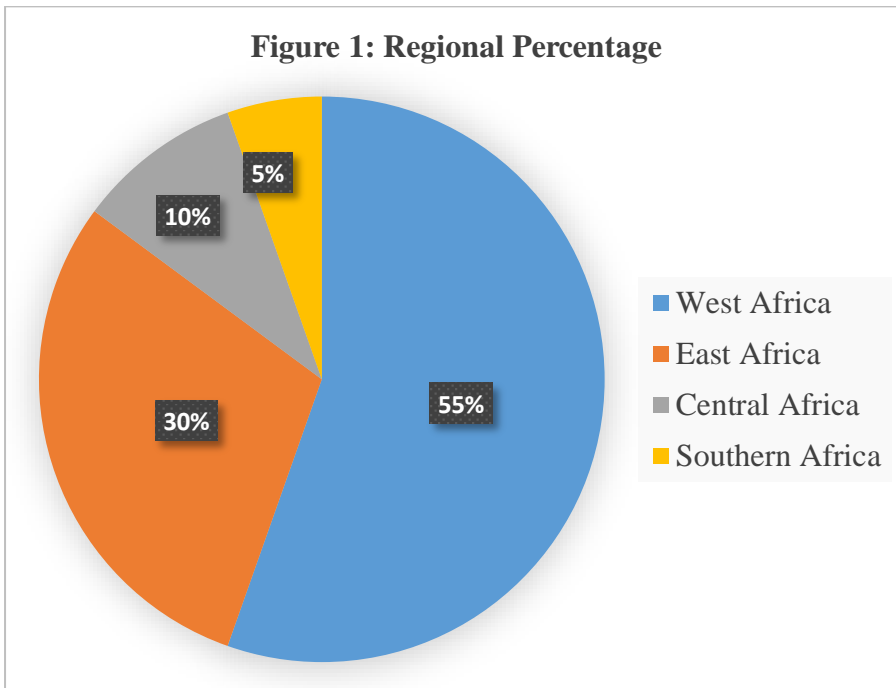


Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

1. Total Terrorist Attacks:

A total of 74 terrorism incidents including four cases of kidnapping were recorded from 1st to 15th July 2019.

2. Terrorists Attacks by Region

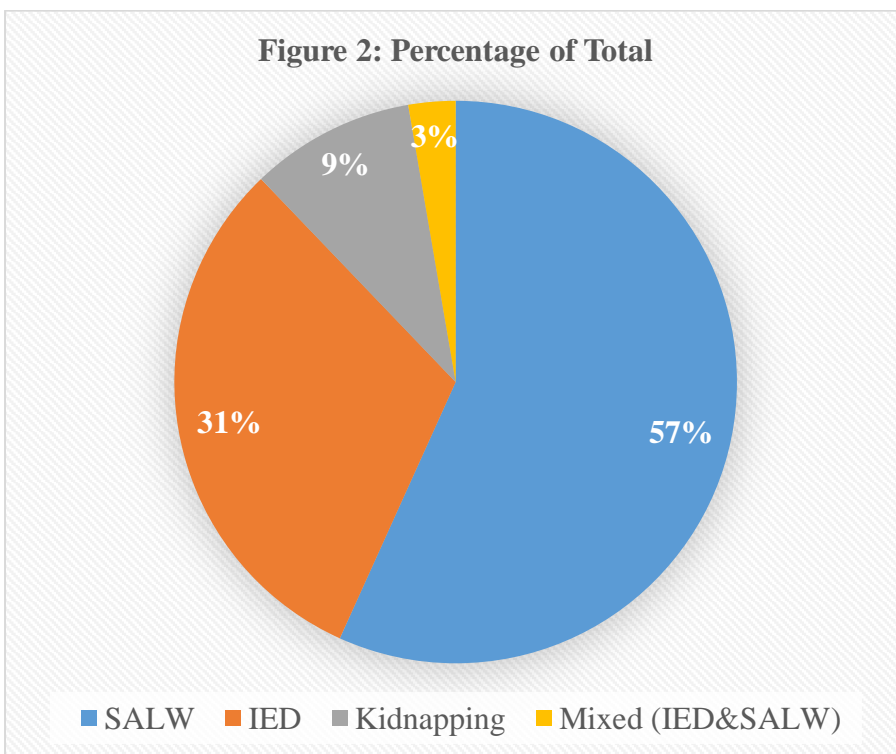


Number of Attacks per Region:

- West Africa: **41**
- East Africa: **22**
- Central Africa: **7**
- Southern Africa: **4**

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

3. Means of Attack



Means deployed per number of Attacks:

- SALW: **42**
- IEDs: **23**
- Kidnapping: **7**
- Mixed (IED & SALW): **2**

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

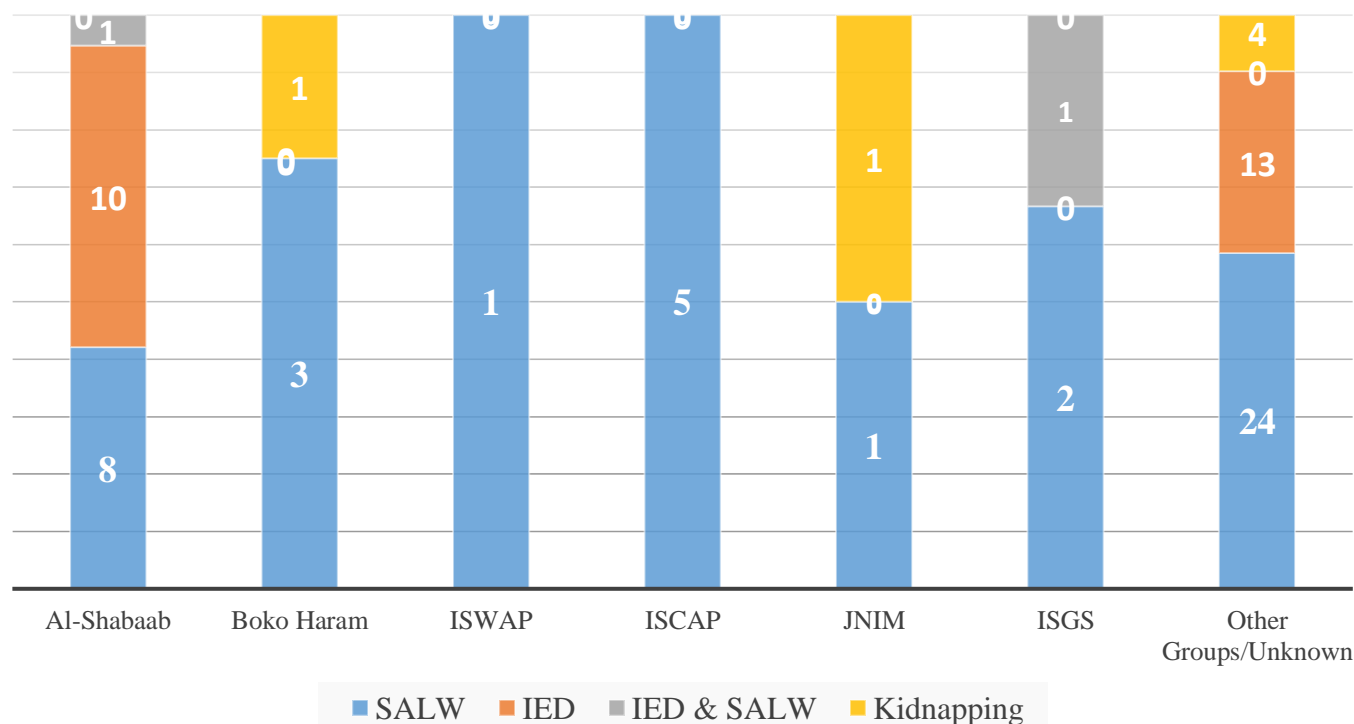
4. Means employed by Terrorist Groups for attacks

Table 1: Means Employed by Terrorist Groups

Terrorist Group	SALW	IED	Mixed	Kidnapping	Comment
Al-Shabaab	8	10	1	-	Al-Shabaab used IEDs in 10 out of 18 attacks. Eight attacks also involved SALW and one attack used both SALW and IEDs.
Boko Haram	3	-	-	1	SALW continue to be the preferred means by which Boko Haram carries out attacks. In three out of four attacks, the group used SALW. It was responsible for one case of kidnapping.
ISWAP	1	-	-	-	ISWAP carried out one attack using SALW.
ISCAP	5	-	-	-	ISCAP carried out five attack using SALW.
JNIM	1	-	-	1	JNIM carried out one attack using SALW. The group was responsible for one case of kidnapping.
ISGS	2	-	1	-	ISGS carried out two attacks using SALW and one attack using both SALW and IEDs.
Unknown/Other Groups	23	13	-	4	Unknown/Other groups used SALW in the majority of their attacks. In 23 out of 39 attacks by these groups, SALW were used. They used IEDs for 13 attacks. They were responsible for four cases of kidnapping.

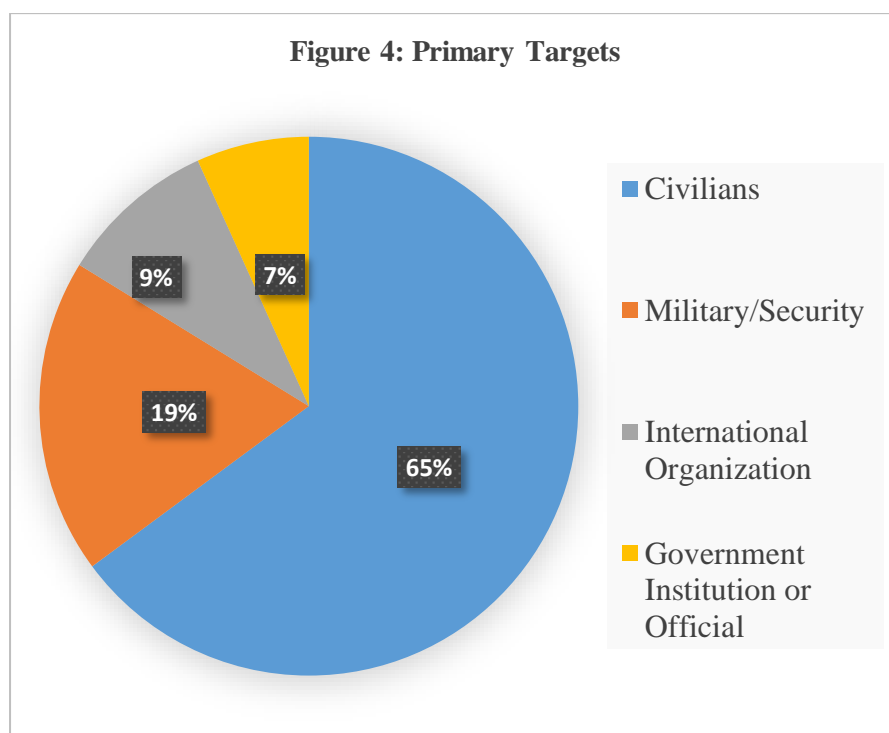
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Figure 3: Means Employed by Terrorist Group



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

5. Primary Targets



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Primary Targets

- Civilians: **48**
 - Security/Military Forces: **14**
 - International Organizations : **7**
 - Govt. Officials or Institutions: **5**
- 44 of the attacks representing **65%** targeted civilians.
 - 12 attacks representing **19 %** targeted Security/Military Forces.
 - Seven attacks representing **9%** targeted International Orgs (MINUSMA and AMISOM).
 - Five attacks representing around **7%** targeted Government Officials/ institutions.

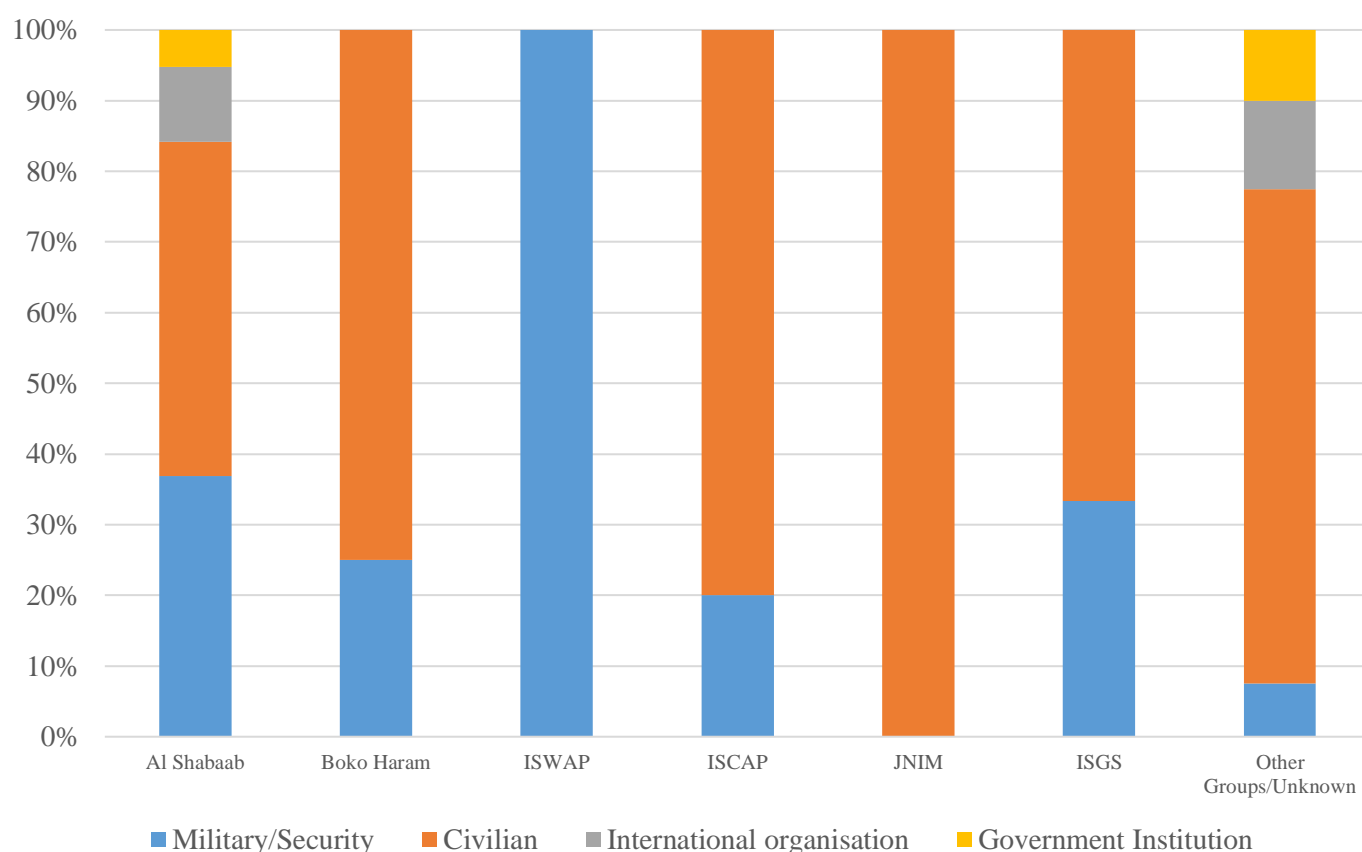
6. Terrorist Groups and Primary Targets

Table 2: Details of Terrorist Groups and their Primary Target

Terrorist Groups	Military/ Security	Civilians	Int. Org.	Gov't Inst.	Comment
Al-Shabaab	7	9	2	1	Attacks by Al-Shabaab were more targeted at civilians (9) and military/Security forces (7).
Boko Haram	1	3	-	-	In four attacks carried out by Boko Haram, three targeted civilians and one targeted Security.
ISWAP	1	-	-	-	ISWAP carried out one attack against Military/Security Forces.
ISCAP	1	4	-	-	ISCAP carried out four attacks against civilians and one against Military/Security Forces.
JNIM	-	2	-	-	JNIM carried out two attacks against civilians.
ISGS	1	2	-	-	ISGS carried out two attacks against civilians and one attack against Military/ Security Forces.
Unknown/ Other Groups	3	28	5	4	Attacks for which no group claimed responsibility mostly targeted civilians. 28 out of 40 attacks targeted civilians, five targeted International organization (MINUSMA), four targeted government institution, and three targeted Military/Security Forces.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

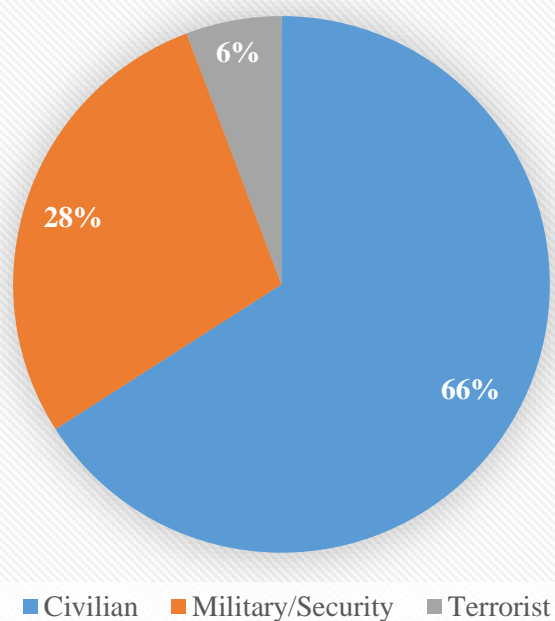
Figure 5: Percentage of Target per Group



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

7. Total Deaths

Figure 6: Percentage of Total Deaths



Total Deaths: 224

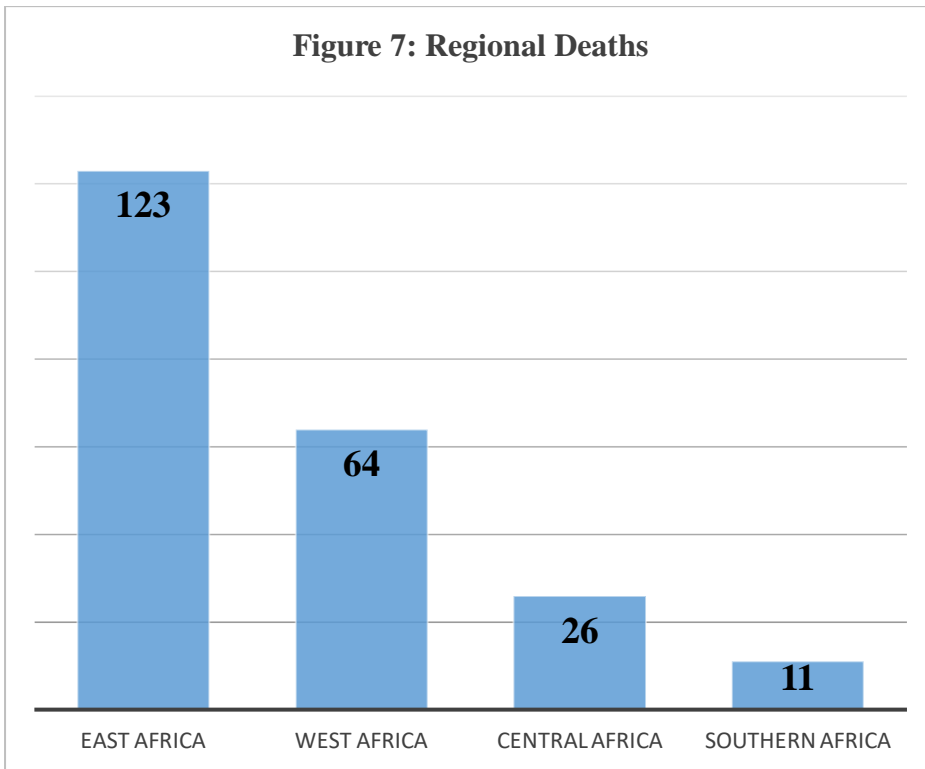
- Civilians: **147**
- Security/Military: **64**
- Terrorists: **13**

- A total of **224** deaths were recorded within the period under review.
- Out of the number, **66%** were civilians and **28%** Security/ Military forces killed by terrorist groups. **6%** were terrorists killed by security forces.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

8. Terrorism Deaths Per Region

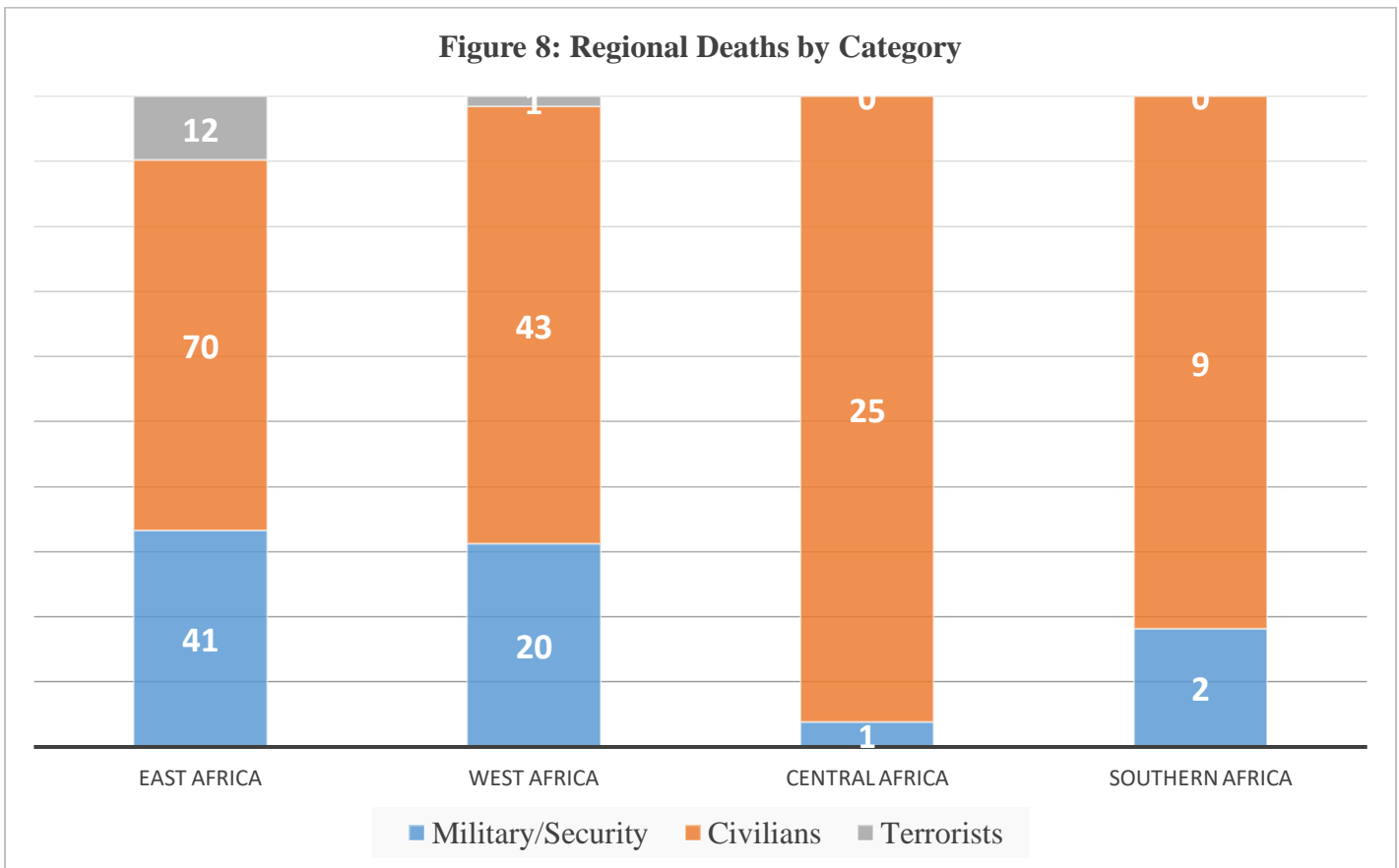
Figure 7: Regional Deaths



- East Africa region recorded the highest number of terrorism-related deaths. **54%** of deaths recorded within the period occurred in the region.
- West Africa region followed with **29%** of all deaths recorded within the period.
- **12%** and **5%** of all terrorism deaths within the period occurred in Central and Southern Africa regions respectively.

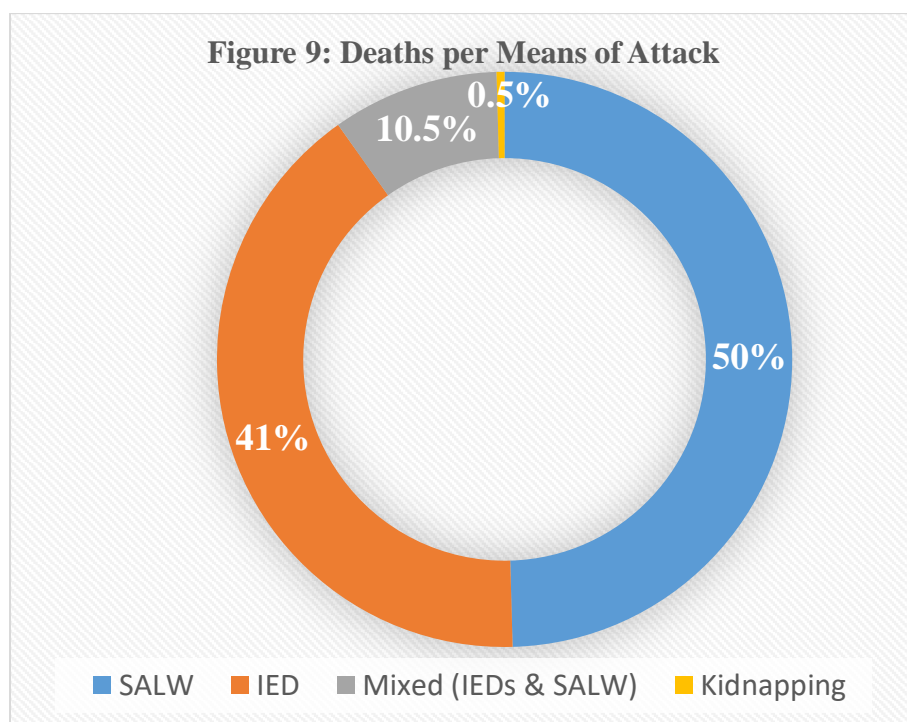
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Figure 8: Regional Deaths by Category



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

9. Deaths by Means of Attack



Deaths by Means of Attack

- SALW: **111**
 - IEDs: **91**
 - Mixed (IEDs & SALW): **21**
 - Kidnapping: **1**
- SALW accounted for **50%** of the deaths occasioned by terrorist attacks, whereas IEDs accounted for **41%** of deaths related to terrorist attacks. Attacks involving the use of both IEDs and SALW accounted for **10.5%** and cases of kidnapping accounted for **0.5%** of deaths.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

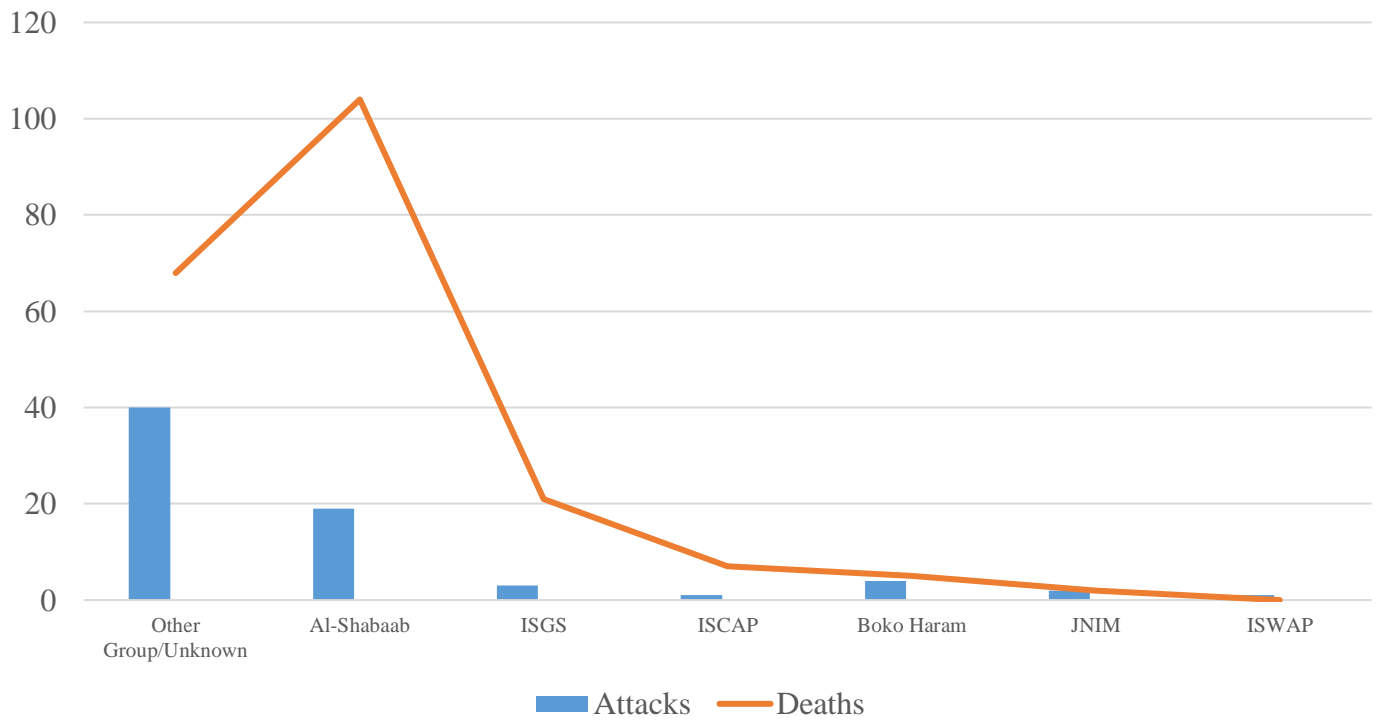
10. Number of Attacks by Terrorist Groups/Casualties inflicted

Table 3: Details of Attacks and Casualties from Terrorist Groups

Terrorist Group	Number of Attacks	Number of Deaths	Comments
Al-Shabaab	19	104	Al-Shabaab carried out the highest number of attacks and inflicted the highest number of casualties. The group carried out 19 attacks, killing a total of 104 persons (83 Civilians, 21 Military/Security forces).
Boko Haram	4	5	Boko Haram carried out 4 attacks, killing a total of 5 persons (4 civilians, 1 military).
ISWAP	1	-	ISWAP carried out one attack without death casualties.
ISCAP	5	11	ISCAP carried out five attack, killing a total of seven persons (2 military, 9 civilians).
JNIM	2	2	JNIM carried out two attacks, killing a total of two persons (all civilians).
ISGS	3	21	ISGS carried out three attacks, killing a total of 21 persons (3 civilians, 18 Military/ Security forces)
Other Groups/Unknown	40	68	A total of 40 attacks were carried out by Unknown/Other groups. This resulted in 68 deaths comprising 66 Civilians and 2 Military/Security forces.

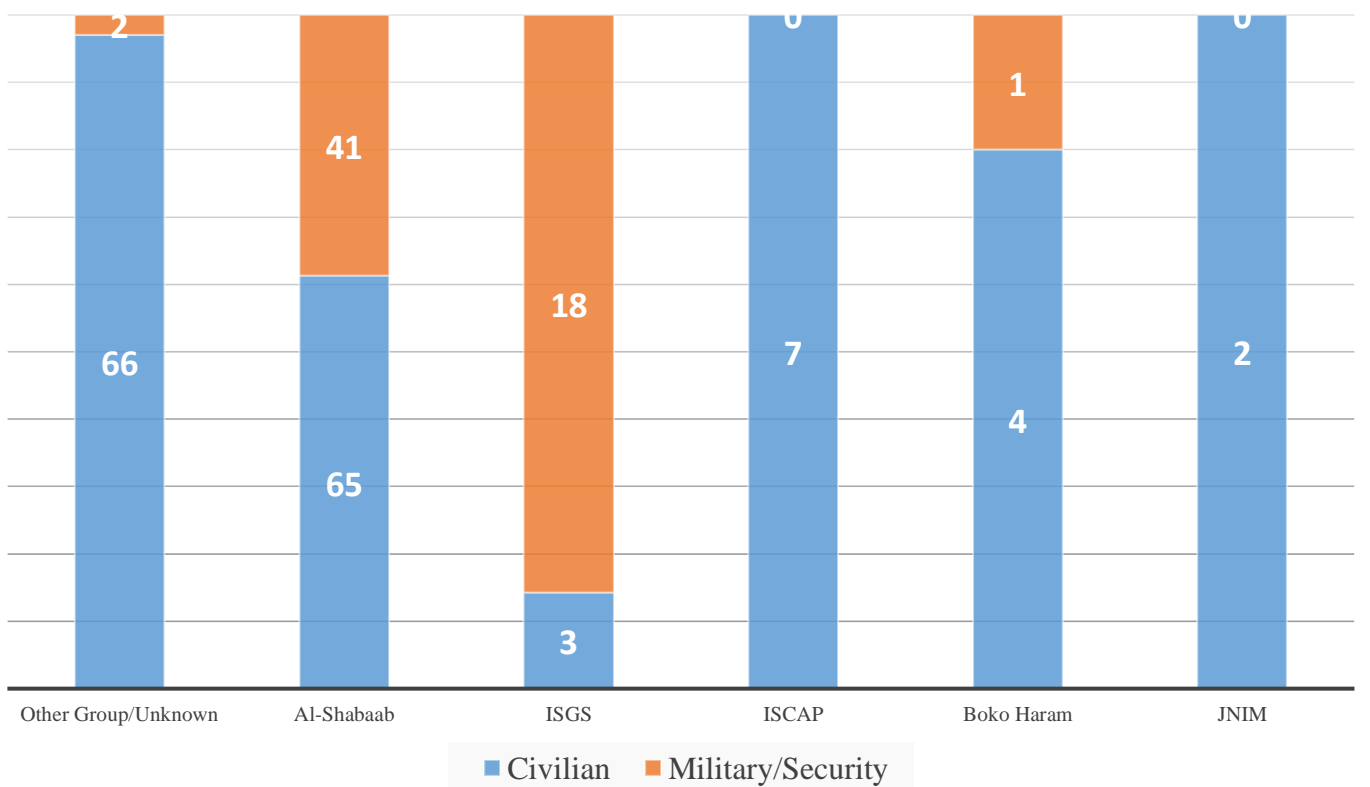
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Figure 10: Attacks and Casaulties Caused by Terrorist Groups



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Figure 11: Category of Victims Killed by Terrorist Groups



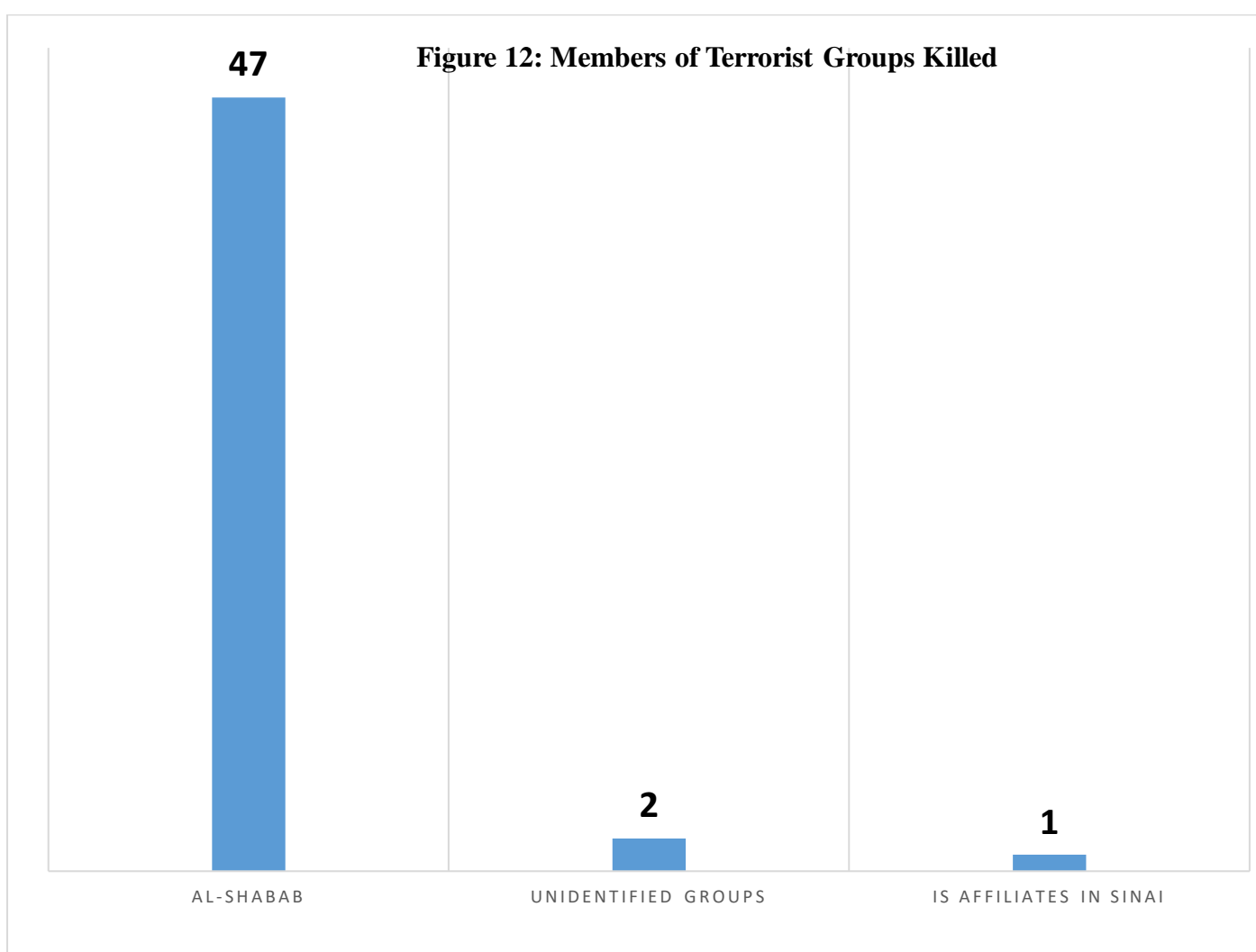
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

11. Members of Terrorist Groups Killed (In Attacks and Deliberate CT Operations)

Table 4: Details of Casualties Sustained by Terrorist Groups

Terrorist Group	Number Killed	Comment
Al-Shabaab	47	Among the members of terrorist groups killed in counter-terrorism operations and reprisal attack, Al-Shabaab suffered the highest number of casualties. 47 fighters of Al-Shabaab were killed.
IS Affiliates in Sinai	1	One fighter of IS affiliate was also eliminated in Southern Libya.
Other Groups/Unknown	2	Two other terrorists killed belong to Unknown/Other groups.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

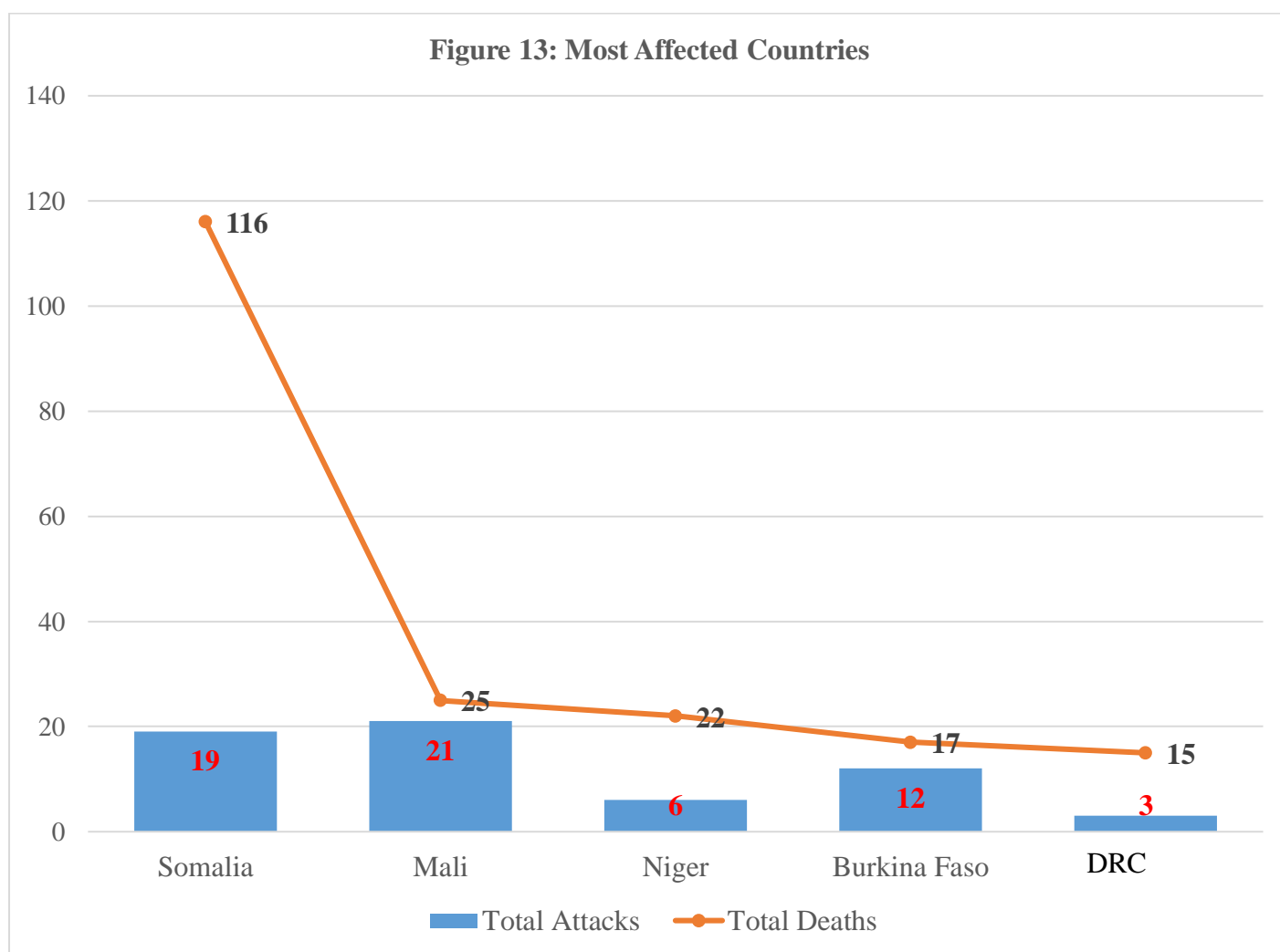
12. Five Most Affected Countries

Table 5: Five Countries Most Affected

Country	Total Attacks	Total Deaths	Total injured
Somalia	19	116	84
Mali	21	25	19
Niger	5	21	0
Burkina Faso	12	17	15
DRC	3	15	0

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

- Somalia recorded the highest number of deaths (116) from 19 attacks.
- Mali recorded the highest number of attacks (21) and the second high number of deaths (25).
- Niger recorded six attacks resulting in a total death of 22.
- Burkina Faso recorded 12 attacks resulting in 17 deaths.
- DRC recorded three attacks, resulting in 15 deaths.



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

13. Most Fatal Terrorist Incidents

Table 6: List of Most Fatal Terrorist Attacks

No	Country	City	Date	Group	Deaths	Description
1	Somalia	Kismayo /Juba	12/07/19	Al Shabaab	37	Four al-Shabaab militants attacked the As-Asey Hotel with suicide bombs and gun ambush, killing 33 people and injuring 56 others.
2	Somalia	Hiraan	15/07/19	Al-Shabaab	20	A military truck carrying Ethiopian soldiers serving under AMISOM hit a road side explosive device.
3	Niger	Tillabery	01/07/19	ISGS	18	ISGS militants launched a car bomb attack on a Nigerien army base, followed by gunfire.
4	Somalia	Bay	01/07/19	Al Shabaab	11	A roadside bomb explosion followed by an ambush attack targeted AMISOM troops.
5	DRC	Ituri	01/07/19	*NGCR	10	Unidentified armed assailants shot dead Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs).
6	Somalia	Middle Jubba	04/07/19	Al Shabaab	10	Al-Shabaab executed 10 persons accused of spying for US, Somali and Kenyan Intelligence services.
7	Mali	Gao	05/07/19	*NGCR	8	Armed men onboard vehicles and motorcycles opened fire on civilians.

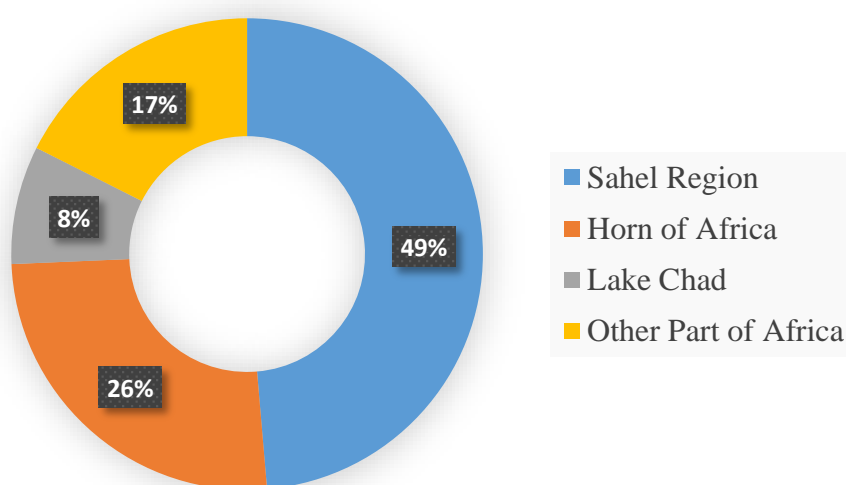
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019 *NGCR= No Group Claimed Responsibility

IN FOCUS

EPICENTRES

14. Attacks in Epicentres

Figure 13: Percentage of Attacks in Epicentres



Total Attacks in Africa: 74

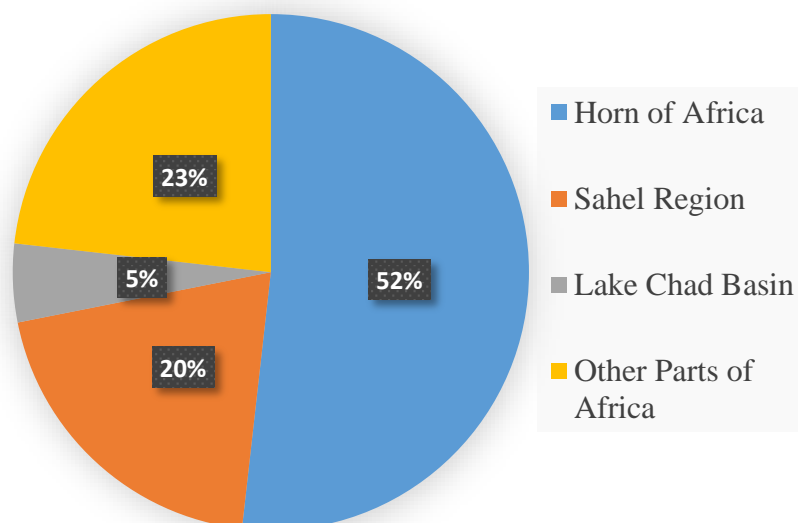
- Sahel region: **36**
- Horn of Africa: **19**
- Lake Chad Basin: **6**
- Other Parts of Africa: **13**

- Within the period under review, the Sahel (Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger-Tillaberi Region) recorded **49%**, Horn of Africa (Somalia) recorded **26%**, and Lake Chad Basin (North Eastern Nigeria, South-West Chad, Far North Region of Cameroon, Niger-Diffa region) recorded **8%** of all the attacks in Africa.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

15. Total Deaths Recorded in Epicentres

Figure 18: Percentage of Deaths in Epicentres



Total Deaths in Africa: 224

- Horn of Africa: **116**
 - Sahel Region: **45**
 - Lake Chad Basin: **11**
 - Other Parts of Africa: **52**
- **52%** of the deaths recorded within the period under review occurred in the Horn of Africa.
 - **20%** of the deaths occurred in the Sahel region.
 - **5%** of deaths for the period occurred in the Lake Chad Basin.
 - **23%** of the deaths occurred in other parts of Africa

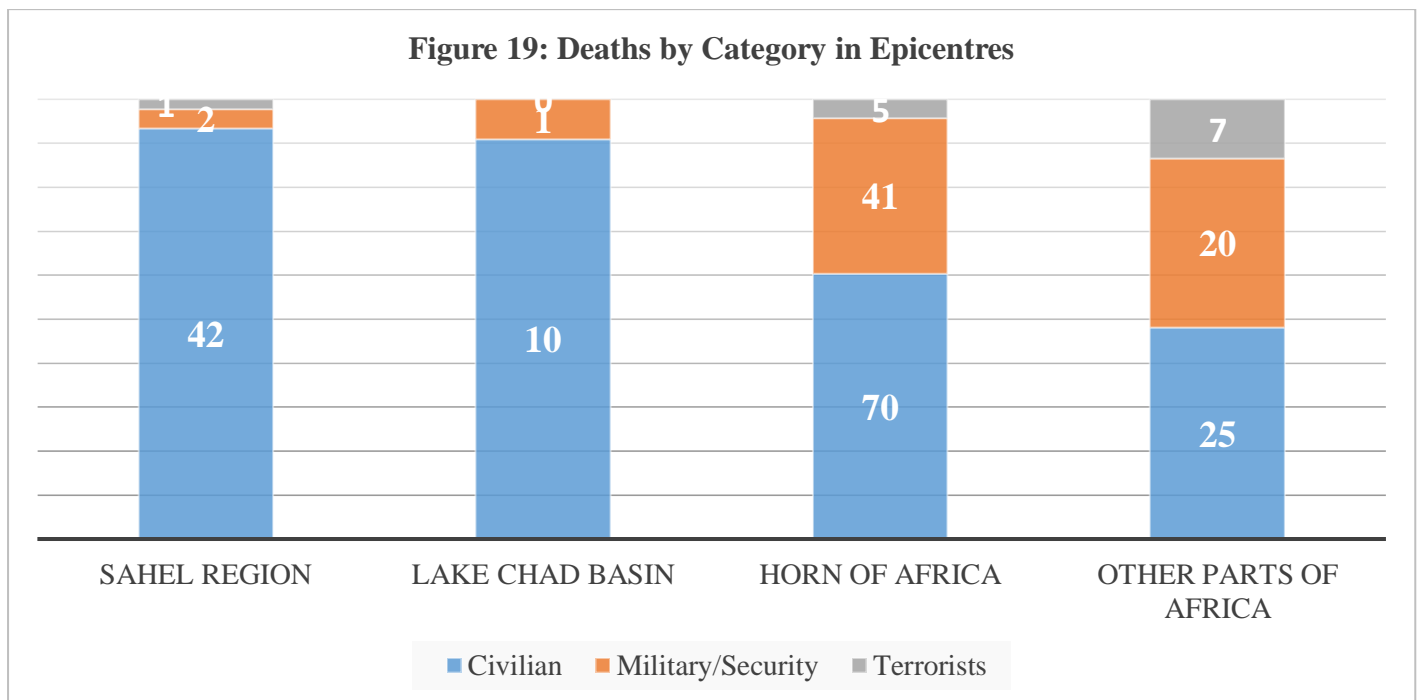
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

16. Deaths by Category in Epicentres

Table 7: Category of Deaths in Epicentres

Epicentre	Civilian	Military/Security	Terrorists	Comments
Horn of Africa	70	41	5	The highest numbers of deaths against civilians and Security/military forces among the various epicentres were recorded in the Horn of Africa.
Sahel Region	42	2	1	The second highest number of deaths against civilians among the various epicentres were recorded in the Sahel region.
Lake Chad Basin	10	1	0	The Lake Chad basin recorded the lowest number of civilian and Security/military forces deaths among the epicentres.
Other Parts	25	20	7	All other parts of Africa except epicentres recorded civilian deaths of 25 and 20 security forces were also killed.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

KIDNAPPINGS

The phenomenon of suspected terrorists and armed men kidnapping people featured prominently in the first half of July 2019.

During the period, 6 cases of kidnapping were recorded and a total of 49 persons were taken hostage in Cameroon, Somalia, Mali and Niger. One out of the 49 persons kidnapped was killed and 48 others remain in hostage. Three other persons kidnapped by ADF/ISCAP on 05 June, 2019 were released unhurt.

Cameroon. On 12 July, in Belo, Bamenda, Northwest, Unidentified armed men ambushed three transport buses and abducted 30 passengers.

Mali. Three cases of kidnappings were recorded. In total, five people were taken hostage and in which one was killed. On 05 July, in Tassiga village, Ansongo, Gao, six armed men stormed into the village and abducted three Ganda Izo elements. On 06 July, in Inadiatafane town, Gourma Rharous, Timbuktu, presumed terrorists kidnapped and shot dead a marabout (Muslim cleric) belonging to the Kel Essouk faction. On 15 July, in Tomi village, Niafunke, Timbuktu, elements affiliated with senior member of the JNIM group, *Mr. Amadou Koufa*, broke into the village and abducted the head of an agricultural project.

Niger. On 03 July, in Kolo Manga village, N'Guigmi, Diffa, Boko Haram militants attacked a village and abducted 12 people, including 11 young girls and one unmarried woman.

Somalia. On 03 July, in Bulo Addey, Bardere town, Bay Region, Al-Shabaab militants attacked the village, killing a worker for a local NGO and abducting two other civilians.

CONCLUSION

Local terrorist groups with an affiliation to either al-Qaeda or Islamic State (IS) continue to dominate the terrorism landscape across Africa. While the local terrorist groups do advocate some specific local grievances, their operations and attacks assume the nature and character of attacks by al Qaeda or Islamic State depending on their affiliation. The wave of renewal of the oath of allegiance (Bay'at) by various IS affiliated groups on the continent to the IS "Caliph" Abu Bakr al Baghdadi continued. This is anticipated to increase the momentum of IS affiliated groups on the Continent. During the period under review, the overall number of terrorist attacks remained almost at the same level in comparison with the period from 16 to 31 June 2019. There was, however a drastic reduction in the number of deaths resulting from terrorist acts on the continent as compared to the previous reporting period. Deaths from terrorist and violent extremist attacks declined by 53%. Whilst the decline could be attributed to enhanced efforts by the Intelligence and Security agencies to degrade the capability of known terrorist groups, it remained to be seen if the momentum of that effort could be sustained. The Counter-Terrorism Intelligence effort of the MNJFT in facilitating recent operational successes against Boko Haram and ISWAP in the Lake Chad Basin area needs particular commendation.

Consistently, the civilian population continue to bear the brunt of terrorist activities in the operational zones of terrorist and violent extremist groups. For the period under review, the civilian population accounted for 147 out of the 224 deaths recorded. This represents 66% of all deaths across the continent. The execution of 23 civilians by al-Shabaab in the Lower and Middle Juba regions of Somalia on accusation of spying for security services; the resurgence of violent activities by armed groups in the Ituri Province of DRC; the sustained activities of violent extremism by ISCAP and ASWJ in the Cabo Delgado Province of Mozambique; and the persistent planting of IEDs along mobility corridors in Central and Northern Mali appeared to have accounted for the high number of civilian casualties for the period. Despite the reduction in the number of deaths, the insistent civilian casualties are fast eroding the confidence of citizens in the ability of governments to protect them and ensure their safety from attacks by armed groups. These have also created mistrust between the government and the citizenry in local communities where attacks have become rampant and unremitting. A well thought through response generation mechanism that mobilizes all available assistance and support, and incorporates a 'Whole of Government' and 'Whole of Society' approaches are worthy pathways in addressing the root causes in many quarters.

Somalia remained a challenging situation within the period. The country accounted for almost 52% of all deaths that occurred on the continent and is therefore the focus of this edition of the Bulletin. In spite of the neutralization of substantial numbers of al-Shabaab militants by AMISOM, US Africa Command (AFRICOM) and the Somalia National Army (SNA), the group continues to exhibit a will, cohesion and capability to carry out attacks. For the period, 47 militants of al-Shabaab were eliminated during CT operations. A reinforcement of the technical capability of the intelligence effort and providing adequate equipment for the Security forces are issues that should engage the urgent attention of the policy makers and their partners. The central role of intelligence in the fight against insurgencies, violent-extremism and terrorism cannot be overemphasized. Al-Shabaab continues to exhibit its dexterity in the use of IEDs in many of the daring and complex attacks carried out within the period. Further control measures in the distribution of explosive material and detonators could help reduce the access terrorist groups have to these materials. The proliferation of artisanal gold mining in almost all countries of the Horn/East Africa region is considered to be a possible source of these materials to terrorist groups. Supply of explosive materials and accessories to mining sites should therefore be controlled to minimize terrorist groups' access.

FORECAST FOR NEXT EDITION

The next edition of the Africa Terrorism Bulletin will cover terrorism incidents from 16th – 31st July 2019.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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PROFILE OF ACSRT/CAERT

The African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT) was established as a structure of the African Union in 2004. The decision to establish the Centre was taken in 2002 as part of the AU Plan of Action to Prevent and Combat of Terrorism. Its primary role is to assist AU member States build their Counter-Terrorism capacities. Its mandate includes the conduct of research, analysis and studies on the terrorism situation and terrorist groups in Africa, maintaining a terrorism database, centralizing information on terrorism and sharing this with AU Member States. The Centre conducts assessment missions to various AU Member States in order to ascertain their Counter-Terrorism capability and compliance with International Legal instruments and then provide advice on what needs to be done. In its capacity building effort, the Centre conducts seminars, workshops and training sessions in various aspects of Counter-terrorism for Member States and facilitates the drafting of their Counter-Terrorism legislation, strategies and Plans of Action in accordance with human rights requirements.



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APPENDIX 1: SYNTHESIS TABLE OF TERRORISM INCIDENTS IN AFRICA

No	Country/ Regions: Central Africa East Africa North Africa Southern Africa West Africa	Type and total of attacks				Terrorists Groups Clashes	Total Dead			Total Wounded			Hostages Released	Arrested Terrorists	Primary Targets				
		Small Arms and light weapons (SALW)	Explosives (IED)	Mixed (IED and SALW)	Kidnapping		Security/Military	Civilians	Terrorists	Security/Military	Civilians	Terrorists			Hostages	Security/Military	Civilians	Government officials or institutions	International Organizations
1	Cameroon	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	30	-	-	-	2	-	-
2	Chad	2	-	-	-	-	1	9	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
3	DRC	3	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
4	Kenya	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-
5	Somalia	8	10	1	-	-	41	70	42	21	63	-	2	-	4	4	10	2	2
6	Mozambique	4	-	-	-	-	2	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
7	Burkina Faso	10	2	-	-	-	2	14	1	10	5	-	-	-	-	3	7	2	-
8	Mali	10	7	-	4	-	-	25	-	10	9	-	5	-	1	-	16	-	5
9	Niger	3	1	1	1	-	18	4	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	1	4	-	-
10	Nigeria	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Sub-Total		42	23	2	6	-	64	147	50	43	82	0	49	3	5	10	46	5	7
General Total		74				-	261			125			49	3	5	68			

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

NB: The color codes show countries in regions where incidents were recorded

CAR: Central African Republic

DRC: Democratic Republic of Congo

Nd: Not determined

APPENDIX 2: TERRORIST ATTACKS RECORDED BY REGIONS

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

10 July, Goldavi, Mayo-Moskota, Far North. Boko Haram militants attacked the village. One person was killed and two others injured.

12 July, Belo, Bamenda, Northwest. Armed separatists ambushed three transport buses and abducted about 30 passengers.

CHAD

07 July, Meliya, Lake Chad. Boko Haram militants attacked the village. Three civilians and one gendarme were killed.

13 July, Farchana, d'Abéché. Armed man opened fire in a bar. Six people were killed and three others were injured.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

01 July, Djugu, Ituri. Unidentified assailants shot dead 10 IDPs who went to their fields looking for food.

02 July, Rulé, Bahema-Nord, Ituri. Unidentified attackers killed five people with machetes.

EAST AFRICA

KENYA

08 July, El-Ram, Eastern Kenya. Al-Shabaab militants attacked Kenyan police officers using an IED and assault rifles. Four Terrorists were killed in reprisal attack by security forces.

14 July, Kiunga, Lamu. Al-Shabaab targeted Kenya border security patrol unit with an IED. Two officers were injured while three suspected terrorists were killed in reprisal attacks by security forces.

15 July, Mandera. A vehicle belonging to Kenya Power Company hit a roadside explosive device (RIED) along Rhamu-Elwak road. No casualties recorded.

SOMALIA

01 July, Galkayo, Mudug. An IED fitted in a vehicle of the chief of the police, *Major Awil Nur Roble*, exploded and left him dead. Al-Shabab claimed responsibility.

01 July, Bardale and Awdinle, Bay. A roadside bomb explosion followed by an ambush attack targeted AMISOM troops. 11 soldiers were killed and al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack.

03 July, Halgan town, Hiraan. AMISOM military transport truck hit a roadside explosive device (RIED). Three soldiers were killed and 17 others injured. Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack.

03 July, Bulu Addey, Bardere town, Bay. Al-Shabaab militants attacked the village, killing a worker for a local NGO and abducting two other civilians. Two suspects were arrested.

03 July, Hagar, Lower Jubba. Al-Shabaab terrorist group executed five Somali men on claims of spying for security forces.

04 July, Bu'alle, Middle Juba. Al-Shabaab executed 10 persons accused of spying for US, Somali and Kenyan intelligence services.

06 July, Kuntur Warey, Lower Shabelle. Al-Shabaab executed three soldiers captured alive during fighting against Somali military forces.

06 July, Bu'alle, Middle Juba. Al-Shabaab executed one person accused of spying.

07 July, Jamame, Lower Juba. Al-Shabaab militants executed four accused of spying for US, Somali and Kenyan intelligence services.

07 July, Mogadishu. Vehicle loaded with explosives has gone off at a security checkpoint. Three people including a policeman were killed and five others injured.

08 July, Jamame town, Lower Juba. Al-Shabaab militants stoned a man to death for allegedly raping a 16-year-old girl.

08 July, Mogadishu. Al-Shabaab militants opened fire targeting security officers at a checkpoint. Two policemen and three civilians were killed.

08 July, Saybiyano, South Mogadishu. Al-Shabaab militants conducted an attack using a suicide vehicle borne improvised explosive device (SVBIED) reinforced with assault rifle fire. Three people including police officers were killed.

08 July, Hodan, Mogadishu. Somali police intercepted a car loaded with explosive in an area close to Erdogan hospital. The vehicle exploded later and no casualties were recorded.

09 July, Dhobley town, Lower Juba. A civilian bus hit a roadside bomb. Seven people were killed and two others injured.

12 July, Kismayo, Jubaland. Four al-Shabaab militants attacked the As-Asey Hotel with suicide bombs and guns. 33 people were killed and 56 others were injured. The four militants also died in the attack.

14 July, Dhusamareb, Galmudug, Galguduud region. An IED exploded in a tea-shop. One Somali soldier was killed and five other people, including four soldiers were injured.

14 July, Dhusamareb, Gal-Mudug. A twin bombing attack with an explosive suicide belt and an IED targeted a delegation of Somali Prime Minister and the Qatari security delegation. Seven persons were severely injured while dozens others were slightly injured. The suicide bomber died. Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack.

15 July, Halgan, Hiraan. A military transport truck transporting Ethiopian soldiers serving under AMISOM hit a roadside explosive device (RIED). 20 Soldiers were killed or wounded.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

MOZAMBIQUE

03 July, Lidjungo, Nangade, Cabo Delgado. Armed militants of the Islamic States terrorist group branch in Mozambique, Ahlu Sunnah Wa-Hamo attacked a village. Seven persons including a police officer were killed.

11 July, Malinde, Mocímboa da Praia, Cabo Delgado. ISCAP militants attacked a farming village killing one person and injuring one woman. Houses were also set ablaze.

11 July, Makulo, Mocímboa da Praia, Cabo Delgado. ISCAP militants stormed the village and killed a women. Several houses were torched. The militants robbed households' food and medical supplies besides burning down crop.

12 July, Namaneco, Macomia, Cabo Delgado. ISCAP militants ambushed a Defence and Security Forces (FADS) vehicle on regular patrol district. Two soldiers were killed and their weapons captured by the terror group.

BURKINA FASO

04 July, Tougouri, Samentenga. Unidentified armed men attacked a police station. The security forces repulsed the attack, killing one assailants.

05 July, Koumbili, Guiaro, Nahouri. Unidentified armed assailants attacked the forest control post. Four people were injured.

05 July, Tabanwogo, Bourzanga, Samentenga. Unidentified armed assailants attacked the village and killed the village's development councilor. Around 200 head of cattle were also taken.

06 July, Korko, Wamsouya, Samentenga. Unidentified armed men attacked four villages killing three people, and setting ablaze one school and one shop.

07 July, Gadibou, Komandjari. Unidentified gunmen murdered a municipal counselor and his brother.

08 July, Matiakoali, Gourma. Unidentified gunmen murdered two people.

08 July, Goenega, Barsalogo, Samentenga. Unidentified armed men set fire on a school.

08 July, Dagou, Gourma. JNIM militants beheaded two civilians.

09 July, Dogheye, Ziro. ISGS militants attacked a Touareg camp (Imouchagh), killing two persons.

14 July, Yoro village, Sollé, Lorum. Unidentified armed men attacked the village, killing two civilians.

15 July, Natiaboani, N'Gourma. Unidentified armed men attacked an army position. Two soldiers were killed and 10 others wounded. Seven assailants were also eliminated.

15 July, Barani, Kossi. A motorcycle hit an IED on Kinséré-Koulérou axis. One civilian was injured.

MALI

01 July, Ogossara hamlet, Diankabou, Koro, Mopti. An animal-drawn cart hit an IED/mine. No casualties were recorded.

02 July, Soye, Madougou, Koro, Mopti. Unidentified armed elements attacked the village. Two Dogon herders were killed and several cattle stolen.

02 July, Gama, Madougou, Koro, Mopti. Unidentified armed men attacked farmers. One person was killed.

05 July, Ber, Timbuktu. Assailants attacked MINUSMA camp with a wire-controlled missile that fell approximately 300 meters from the camp's main gate. No casualties or material damage were reported.

05 July, Tin-Techori, Talataye, Ansongo, Gao. Armed men, onboard vehicles and motorcycles, attacked and allegedly killed eight civilians.

05 July, Tassiga, Bourra, Ansongo, Gao. Six armed men aboard three motorcycles stormed into the village and abducted two Ganda Izo elements.

05 July, Dialloubé village, Dialloubé Mopti. Unidentified armed terrorists killed a Fulnai man in his house, targeted for allegedly being an informant of FAMa.

06 July, Alwalidji, Diré, Timbuktu. About 15 unidentified armed individuals attacked the camp of the Coordination of Movements and Patriotic Front of Resistance (CMFPR). Two elements of the movement were killed and another one injured. The assailants also stole several weapons.

06 July, Razelma, Goundam, Timbuktu. A vehicle rented by a local humanitarian NGO, hit an explosive device between. Four passengers were injured while the vehicle was completely damaged.

06 July, Inadiatafane, Gourma, Timbuktu. Suspected terrorists kidnapped and shot dead a marabout (Muslim cleric) belonging to the Kel Essouk faction.

08 July, Kidal, Kidal. A mine-protected vehicle of the MINUSMA Formed Police Unit hit an IED during a routine patrol. No casualties were reported.

08 July, Aliyou, Kidal. A MINUSMA Force vehicle on a routine patrol, hit an IED. No casualties have been reported.

09 July, Dogheye, N'tilit, Gao. Suspected armed terrorists aboard motorcycles, attacked two combatants of the GATIA. One GATIA element was killed, while another one was missing.

09 July, Bimbere, Youwarou, Mopti. Unidentified armed elements stormed into Dogo village and abducted a herder. The assailants also destroyed a telecommunication antenna before leaving.

11 July, Kidal. An IED exploded near a MINUSMA camp. Two children were wounded.

11 July, Kidal. A MINUSMA Force mine protected vehicle (MPV), hit an IED during a search and detect operation. 10 peacekeepers were wounded.

11 July, Chagam, Ménaka. Unidentified armed individuals on board pickups and motorcycles attacked a commercial truck. Five civilian men were killed and the truck was taken by the assailants.

13 July, Tassiga, Bourra, Ansongo, Gao. Unidentified armed men opened fire on a vehicle travelling to Niger, injuring two of the five passengers.

14 July, Yoro, Koro, Mopti. Armed elements on motorcycles stormed into a village and killed two people.

15 July, Gondogourou, Diankabou, Mopti. Presumed radical armed elements on motorcycles attacked a Dogon village. Two Dogon villagers were killed.

15 July, Tomi, Soboundou, Timbuktu. Elements affiliated with senior member of the JNIM group, *Mr. Amadou Koufa*, broke into the village and abducted the head of an agricultural project.

NIGER

01 July, Inatas, Tillabery. ISGS militants who arrived on motorbikes launched a car bomb attack on a Nigerien army base, followed by gunfire. 18 soldiers were killed, four others were missing and 10 military vehicles also seized by the militants.

03 July, Kolo Manga, N’Guigmi, Diffa. Boko Haram militants attacked a village and abducted 12 people, including 11 young girls and one unmarried woman.

06 July, Atès –Ayorou axis, Titahoune, Tillabery. A civilian truck was struck by an IED. No casualties recorded.

10 July, Koure, Loga, Dosso. Unidentified armed men attacked the village’s market. Two persons were killed and two motorcycles belonging to the gendarmerie were taken away.

15 July, Inates, Tillabery. ISGS elements killed a tribal chief, *Mr. Almoubacher Ag Alamjadi*.

NIGERIA

02 July, Gajigana, Maiduguri, Borno. Boko Haram attacked the military base. Security forces repulsed the attack. No casualties were recorded.

03 July, Gajigana, Borno. ISWAP terrorists attacked the 212 Tank Battalion Battalion. Operatives of the Nigerian Army repelled the attack, and neutralized a number Boko Haram terrorists.

APPENDIX 3: COUNTER-TERRORISM RESPONSE

01 July, Jamame, Lower Juba, Somalia. 20 al-Shabaab terrorists were killed in two separate operations conducted by Somali forces.

01 July, Kassa, Mopti, Mali. Dozos discovered and neutralized an IED.

03 July, Ibn Khaldoun, Tunis, Tunisia. Aymen Smiri, mastermind of the twin suicide bombings on 27 June in Tunis was killed when he blew himself up with an explosive belt during a police manhunt outside the capital.

04 July, Sirte, Libya. Security forces arrested a suspected ISIS member. The individual was allegedly planning to undertake a terror attack.

09 July, Shahat, North-east Libya. Libyan security forces arrested a suspected ISIS member, *Ayoub Salah Abdul Aziz al-Alsoinai*.

10 July, Baar-sanguuni, Lower Jubba, Somalia. A senior al-Shabaab leader identified as *Huseen Hasan Cambeer* surrendered to Somali National Armed Forces (SNA) and handed over his rifle.

10 July, Jilib town, Somalia. The Commander of the Al Shabaab's Hisba police station, *Hassan Dhere*, and his deputy were killed along with dozens of other al-Shabaab militants following overnight airstrikes targeting al-Shabaab's explosives training facility camp.

10 July, Diengueni Fulbe, Bandiagara, Mopti. FAMa arrested a 51-year-old man suspected of belonging to a terrorist group.

11 July, southern Libya. A top IS terrorist identified as *Mohamed Bin Ahmed al-Falata* alias *Abu Assem al-Sudani*, responsible for media outreach was killed in Libyan army operations.

11 July, Ouattagouna, Ansongo, Gao, Mali. An IED was discovered and destroyed

11 July, Douentza, Mopti, Mali. A FAMa team found two IEDs in an abandoned locality.

12 July, Guezzam, Tamanrasset, Algeria. Army discovered, during a counterterrorism operation, cache of weapons and ammunition, including 14 rockets for rocket-propelled grenade and two pistols.

12 July, Mogadishu, Somalia. Security forces arrested two al-Shabaab members believed to be planning an assassination.

14 July, Kidal, Mali. MINUSMA patrol found a remote IED, approximately 1km SE of Kidal camp during a search and detect mission. The IED was safely destroyed.

14 July, Beni, North kivu, DRC. Three civilians kidnapped on 05 June 2019 by ADF rebels were released unhurt in unclear circumstances.

15 July, Wanlaweyn, Lower Shabelle, Somalia. 15 al-Shabaab militants were killed in an offensive military operation.