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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

16<sup>th</sup>– 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019

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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

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

## SUMMARY

**General Situation.** The reporting period, 16<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2019 recorded a slight increase in the number of attacks and casualties caused by terrorist and violent extremist groups across Africa compared to the period 1<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2019.

**Terrorist Attacks.** A total of **86** terrorist attacks were recorded across Africa during the period compared to 76 attacks during the preceding period.

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

**Target of Terrorist Attacks.** While 48 out of the 86 terrorist attacks were launched against civilians, 33 were targeted at Security Forces. Four attacks targeted International Peace Mission (MINUSMA) and another one targeted Government Institutions/Officials. The attacks by al-Shabaab, ISWAP, ISGS and JNIM were mainly against Security Forces whilst, Boko Haram (SF) and ADF mostly targeted civilians. The majority of attacks conducted by Unidentified/Unaffiliated groups targeted more civilians.

**Weapons Used.** The terrorist groups used Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in 62 out of the 86 attacks. Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) were used in 15 of the attacks and both IEDs and SALW were used in one attack. Other eight attacks were cases of kidnapping.

**Terrorism Deaths/Casualties.** A total number of 249 deaths resulting from the 86 terrorist attacks were recorded during the period. The actual casualty figures for the period were 96 civilians, 62 Military/Security personnel and 91 terrorist.

**Casualties Inflicted by Terrorist Groups.** JNIM killed 35 persons (2 civilians, 33 security); ISWAP killed 28 persons (11 civilians, 17 Security); Boko Haram (Shekau Faction) killed 27 persons (all civilians); Al-Shabaab killed 11 persons (4 civilians, 7 security); ADF killed 3 persons ( 2 civilians, 1 security); and Unknown/Other groups killed 54 persons (50 civilians, 4 Security).

**Casualties Sustained by Terrorist Groups.** JNIM suffered the highest casualties during the period. Security forces killed 41 JNIM militants. Al-Shabaab and Boko Haram (SF) each lost 33 militants, while 39 militants from Unknown /Other groups were also killed.

**Kidnapping.** Eight cases of kidnapping were recorded and a total of 246 persons were taken hostage in Cameroon, Chad, DRC, Mali, Niger and Nigeria. One captive was killed, 12 were released and 233 others remained in hostage.

**Focus on Epicentres.** Out of the total of 86 terrorist attacks, Sahel region accounted for 31, Lake Chad Basin recorded 21, and Horn of Africa recorded 11. The Lake Chad Basin recorded 91 deaths from terrorist attacks, the Sahel region recorded 57 deaths and the Horn of Africa recorded 39 deaths during the period under review.

**High Profile Incidents.** On **19 August in Koutougou, Burkina Faso**, JNIM militants attacked a military base, killing 24 soldiers and injuring seven others. On **18 August in Barire, Somalia**, al-Shabaab militants attacked a military base. Soldiers repelled the attack, killing 20 al-Shabaab militants

**Counter-Terrorism Response.** Deliberate CT operations resulted in the neutralization of 55 militants of terrorist groups.

**Conclusions/Recommendations.** Local Jihadi groups with affiliation to either al-Qaida or Islamic State (IS) continued their attacks. The civilian population continue to bear the brunt of terrorist activities in the operational zones of terrorist and violent extremist groups. The continued 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. Inclusive measures that seek to protect local communities and ensure their resilience could be an enduring solution to rebuilding the confidence and trust between the citizenry and Government. The 19 August JNIM attack on a military base in Koutougou, Burkina Faso in which 24 soldiers were killed is regarded as one of the worst attacks since the insurgency begun in 2016. The situation in Burkina Faso for the period remained a challenging one. Terrorist groups are expanding their activities, exacerbating inter-communal tensions and exploiting the collective grievances of the local populations. The absence of state institutions to deliver basic services and the porosity of borders are considered causal factors of escalated terrorist activities for the period. Burkina Faso urgently requires the mobilization of all segments of the society through a campaign aimed at winning hearts and minds of the populace through good governance and the rule of law.

## 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, 16<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 recorded a slight increase in both the number of terrorist attacks and number of deaths compared to the preceding period of 1<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019. During the period, 86 attacks were recorded resulting in 249 deaths compared to 76 attacks and 228 deaths during the preceding period. West and Southern Africa regions recorded an increase in terrorist attacks while Central and East Africa regions recorded a slight decrease in terrorist attacks. North Africa region remained relatively stable with no recorded terrorist attack during the period.

**Sahel Belt of West Africa.** The terrorism landscape in the region continued to be dominated predominantly by the JNIM and the ISGS. There were 31 terrorist attacks that resulted in 57 deaths. **Burkina Faso** was the most affected. It registered 10 attacks that resulted in 38 deaths, a sharp increase compared to the previous recording period when there were nine attacks and 19 deaths. One of the high profile attacks was recorded in Koutougou in Soum province, on 19 August, where JNIM militants attacked a military base killing 24 soldiers and injuring seven others. In **Mali**, the Northern and Central regions of Mopti, Gao and Timbuktu became the centre of terrorist activities. Terrorist groups continued the planting of IEDs along mobility corridors of security forces and MINUSMA personnel. JNIM remained the most active group in the country for the period. In the Tillaberi region of **Niger**, the ISGS carried out two separate attacks in the Inatas and Tilwa towns all targeting security personnel. The attacks were successfully repulsed without any casualties.

**Lake Chad Basin.** During the period under review, the region registered an increase in terrorist attacks and number of deaths. It recorded 21 terrorist attacks that led to 91 deaths. **Nigeria** was the most affected country in the region during the period recording 14 attacks that resulted in 75 deaths. The most prominent attack was an ambush carried out by Boko Haram elements against MNJTF convoy on 18 August in Borno State. 33 militants were killed and four soldiers were injured. On 20 August, Boko Haram fighters ambushed a public

passenger bus and kidnapped 16 people in the Far North region of **Cameroon**. On 21 August, authorities in **Chad** closed the country's land borders with Libya, Sudan and CAR, in order to stop the flux of arms fueling inter-communal violence. On 24 August, unidentified armed elements attacked Gamba village, killing three people and kidnapping one person. Boko Haram has been active in the region and conducted similar raids, and could be behind the Gamba village incident. Boko Haram is also engaging in fishery to fund their activities. On 23 August, four vehicles conveying fishery products of the Group were seized on the Maiduguri-Ngala Road by operatives of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps.

**East and the Horn of Africa.** Al-Shabaab remain the most active militant group in the region. There was a marginal decline in number of terrorist attacks and the number of deaths during the period. The region recorded 14 attacks resulting in 41 deaths. The decline in attacks and casualties may be attributed to the ongoing counter terrorism operations in **Somalia** against the Group in the Lower Shabelle region. Somali forces backed by AMISOM and US AFRICOM launched new offensive against al-Shabaab over the past months. The Group lost control of Bariire, Sabiid and Caanole towns earlier this year. More recently, it also lost Awdheegle town which was vital for its revenue mobilization, recruitment and planning of operations. The seizure of the Burweyn town in Hiran region, a major al-Shabaab taxation hub on 27 August, was the latest blow to the group. During the period, al-Shabaab carried out 10 attacks against military establishments and personnel, including seven in Somalia and three in **Kenya**.

**Central Africa.** ADF/ISCAP remained the dominant groups operating in the North Kivu and Ituri provinces of the **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)** where attacks against the civilian population continue. The DRC was one of the most affected countries in the region, recording eight attacks that resulted in 37 deaths. On 23 August in Boga village, Ituri province, ADF militants attacked the village and kidnapped more than 200 people, looted several homes and shops, and rustled cattle and goats. The attack ignited a fight between security forces and militants resulting in the death of a soldier.

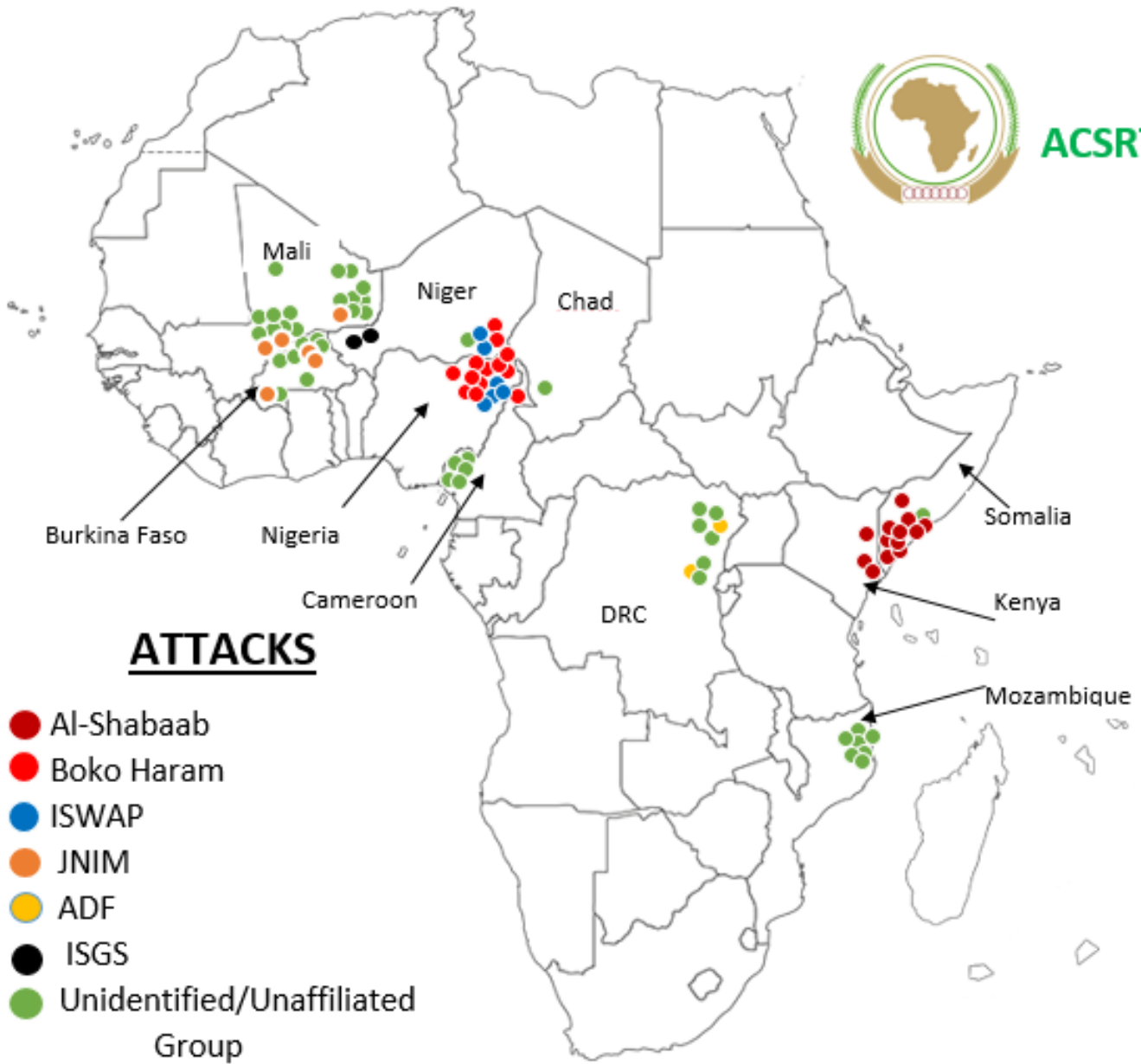
**Southern Africa.** Violence continued in the northern province of Cabo Delgado in **Mozambique** with Macomia and Mocimboa da Praia districts being the most affected areas in the region. The period under review registered seven terrorist attacks that resulted in 18 civilian deaths. Out of the number, eight were decapitated. Although no group claimed responsibility for the attacks, *Ansar al-Sunna* which is active in the region is suspected to be behind it.

**North Africa and the Maghreb.** The region remained relatively stable with no recorded terrorist attack during the period under review. However, counter terrorism operations continue to disrupt the activities of terrorists groups in the region. In **Egypt**, security forces arrested a 25-year-old member of Hasm militant group suspected for the 04 August car bomb explosion that took place near cancer hospital in Cairo killing 20 people. In **Libya**, the growing linkages between inter-communal violence and terrorist groups continue to manifest. A wave of inter-communal violence between the *Arab Alzway tribe* and the *sub-Saharan African Tabu tribe* erupted in early August. The violent clashes have so far claimed the lives of 90 people and caused the displacement of more than 16,700 persons. Armed groups operating in southern Libya have reportedly aligned themselves along tribal lines, fighting for the control of smuggling networks that connect North Africa to the Sahel-Sahara region. Some are suspected of collaborating with terrorist groups particularly the Islamic State in Libya which, since its defeat in coastal regions in 2016, has moved to the Southern Libya where it is conducting a guerilla campaign and attempting to turn the region into a base to plot attacks, train operatives, and gain resources. The group has gradually re-emerged as a formidable insurgent force and is reportedly trying to exacerbate communal tensions within the country.

# GENERAL TREND: TERRORISTS ATTACKS AND DEATHS

Map 1: Map of Terrorism Incidents from 16<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019

## AFRICA TERRORISM INCIDENTS MAP: FROM 16-31 AUGUST. 2019

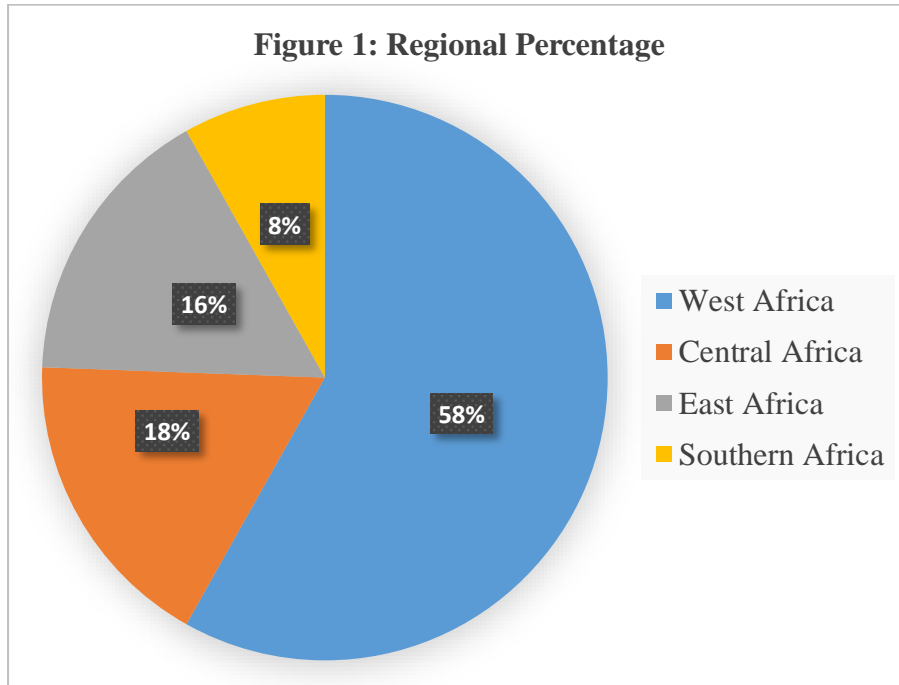


Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

### 1. Total Terrorist Attacks:

A total of 86 terrorism incidents including eight cases of kidnapping were recorded from 16<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019.

### 2. Terrorists Attacks by Region

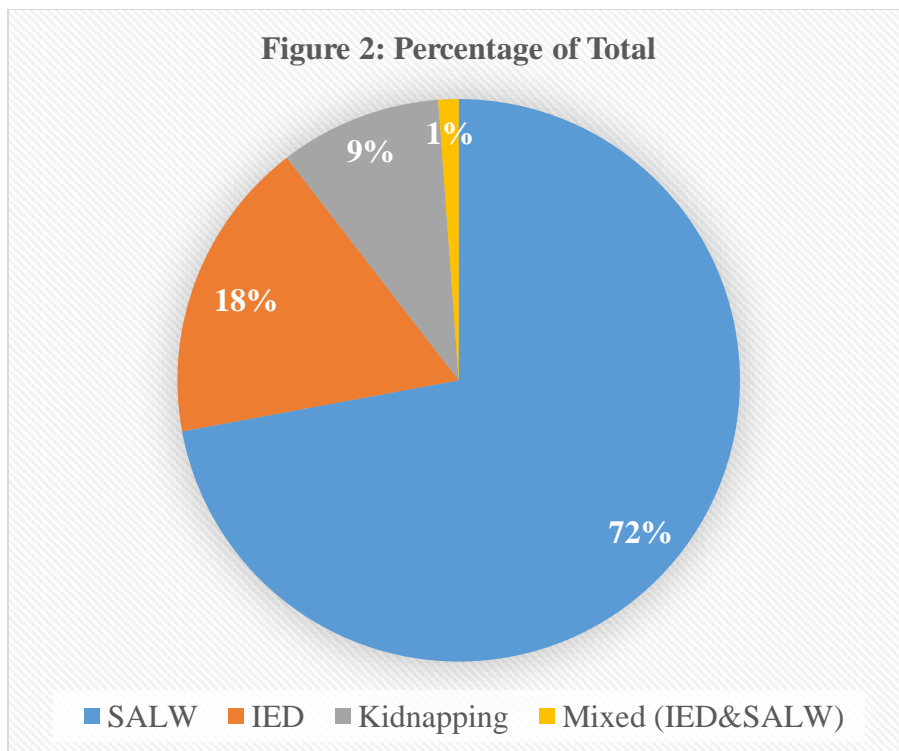


#### Number of Attacks per Region:

- West Africa: **50**
- Central Africa: **15**
- East Africa: **14**
- Southern Africa: **7**

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

### 3. Means of Attack



#### Means deployed per number of Attacks:

- SALW: **62**
- IEDs: **15**
- Kidnapping: **8**
- Mixed (IED & SALW): **1**

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019



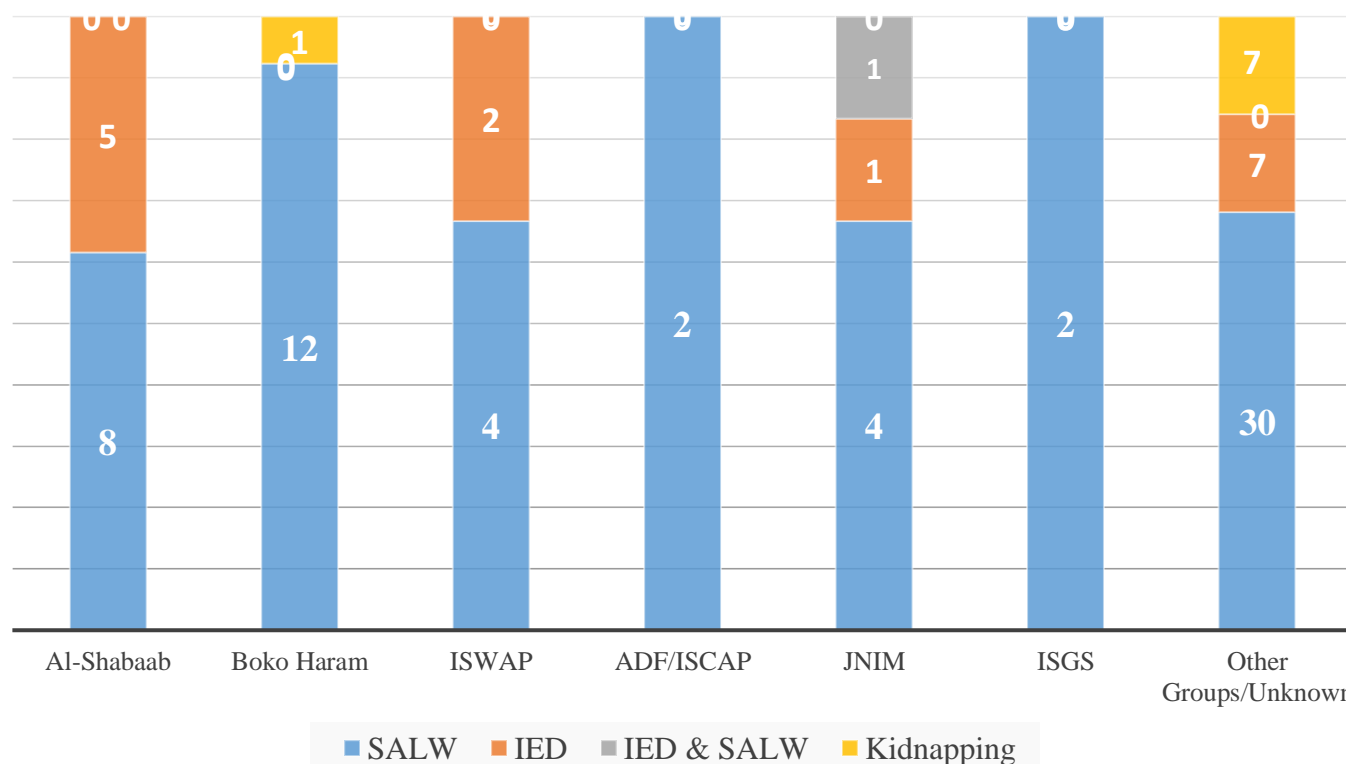
#### 4. Means employed by Terrorist Groups for attacks

Table 1: Means Employed by Terrorist Groups

Terrorist Group	SALW	IED	Mixed	Kidnapping	Comment
<b>Al-Shabaab</b>	8	5	-	-	Al-Shabaab used SALW in eight out of 13 attacks. Five attacks involved IEDs.
<b>Boko Haram</b>	12	-	-	1	SALW continue to be the preferred means by which Boko Haram carries out attacks. Six attacks by the group involved SALW and two attacks used IED. The group was responsible for one kidnapping
<b>ISWAP</b>	4	2	-	-	ISWAP carried out four attacks using SALW and two attacks using IED.
<b>ADF /ISCAP</b>	2	-	-	-	ADF/ISCAP carried out two attacks using SALW.
<b>ISGS</b>	2	-	-	-	ISGS carried out two attacks using SALW.
<b>JNIM</b>	4	1	1		JNIM carried out four attacks using SALW. One attack involved IEDs while another one involved both IED and SALW
<b>Unknown/ Other Groups</b>	30	7	-	7	Unknown/Other groups used SALW in the majority of their attacks. In 30 out of 44 attacks by these groups, SALW were used. They used IEDs for seven attacks. They were responsible for seven cases of kidnapping.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

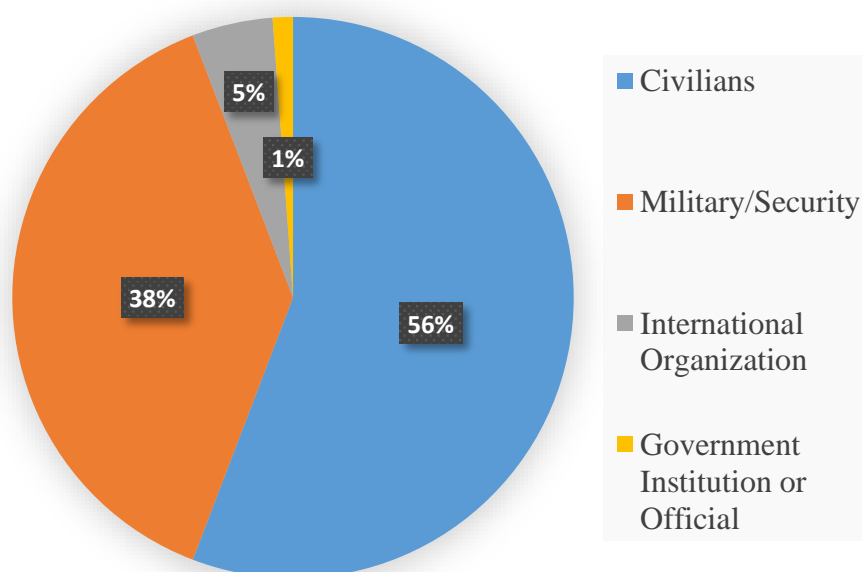
Figure 3: Means Employed by Terrorist Group



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

## 5. Primary Targets

Figure 4: Primary Targets



### Primary Targets

- Civilians: **48**
  - Security/Military Forces: **33**
  - International Organizations: **4**
  - Govt. Officials or Institutions: **1**
- 48 of the attacks representing **56%** targeted civilians.
  - 33 attacks representing **38 %** targeted Security/Military Forces.
  - Four attacks representing **5%** targeted International Orgs (MINUSMA).
  - One attack representing around **1%** targeted Government Officials/ institutions.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

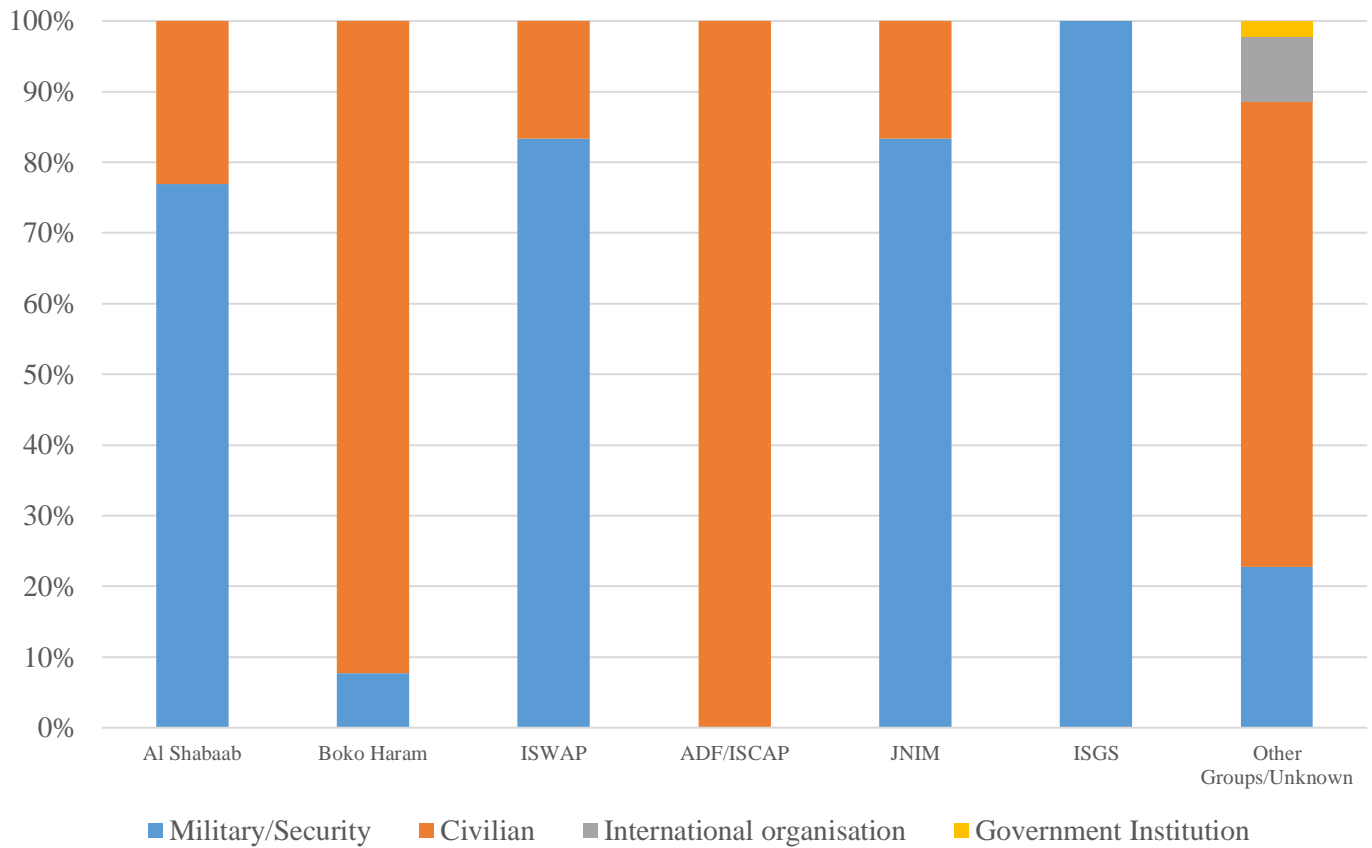
## 6. Terrorist Groups and Primary Targets

Table 2: Details of Terrorist Groups and their Primary Target

Terrorist Groups	Military/ Security	Civilians	Int. Org.	Gov't Inst.	Comment
<b>Al-Shabaab</b>	10	3	-	-	Al-Shabaab carried out 10 attacks against military/Security forces and three attacks against civilians.
<b>Boko Haram</b>	1	12	-	-	The majority of attacks carried out by Boko Haram targeted civilians (12). One attack by the group targeted Military/Security Forces.
<b>ISWAP</b>	5	1	-	-	ISWAP carried out five attacks against Military/Security Forces and one attack against Civilians.
<b>ADF/ISCAP</b>	-	2	-	-	ADF/ISCAP carried out two attacks against civilians.
<b>JNIM</b>	5	1	-	-	JNIM carried out five attacks against Security Forces and one attack against civilians.
<b>ISGS</b>	2	-	-	-	ISGS carried out two attacks against Military/Security Forces.
<b>Unknown/ Other Groups</b>	10	29	4	1	Attacks for which no group claimed responsibility mostly targeted civilians. 29 out of 44 attacks targeted civilians, 10 targeted Military/Security Forces, four targeted International organization (MINUSMA), and one targeted government institution.

Source: ACSRT Database, 201

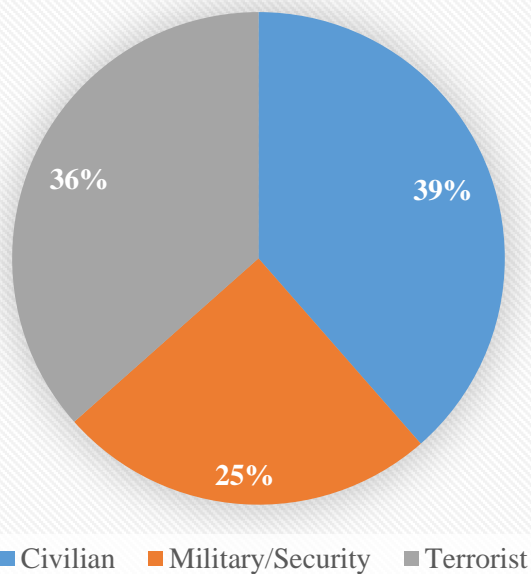
**Figure 5: Percentage of Target per Group**



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

### 7. Total Deaths

**Figure 6: Percentage of Total Deaths**



**Total Deaths: 249**

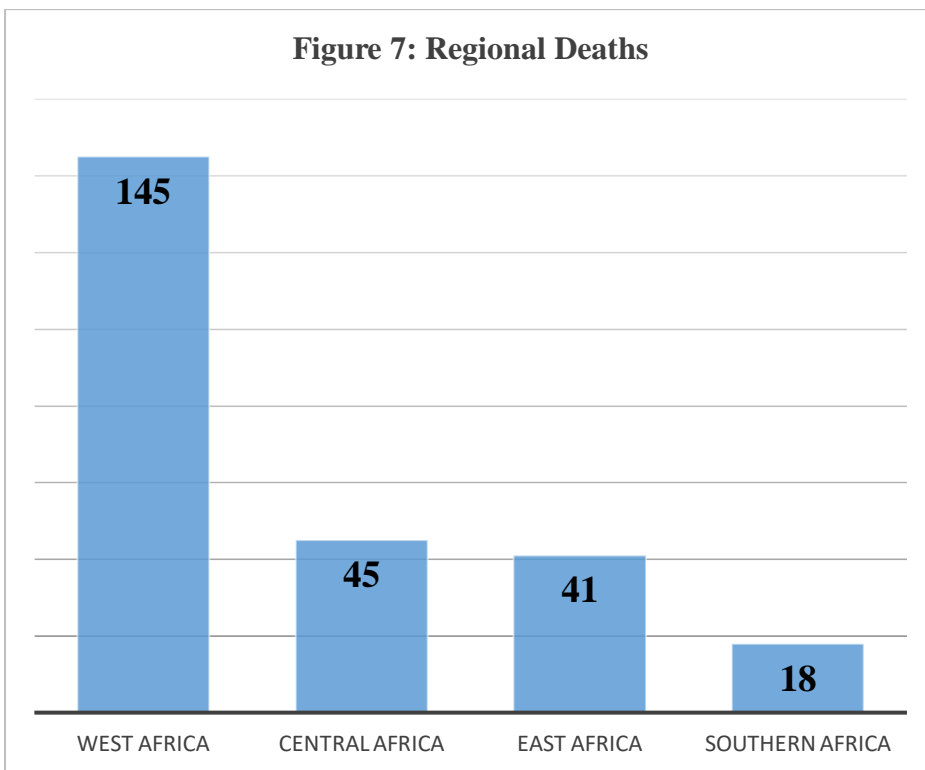
- Civilians: **96**
- Terrorists: **91**
- Security/Military: **62**

- A total of **249** deaths were recorded within the period under review.
- Out of the number, **39%** were civilians and **25%** Security/ Military forces killed by terrorist groups. **36%** were terrorists killed by security forces.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

## 8. Terrorism Deaths Per Region

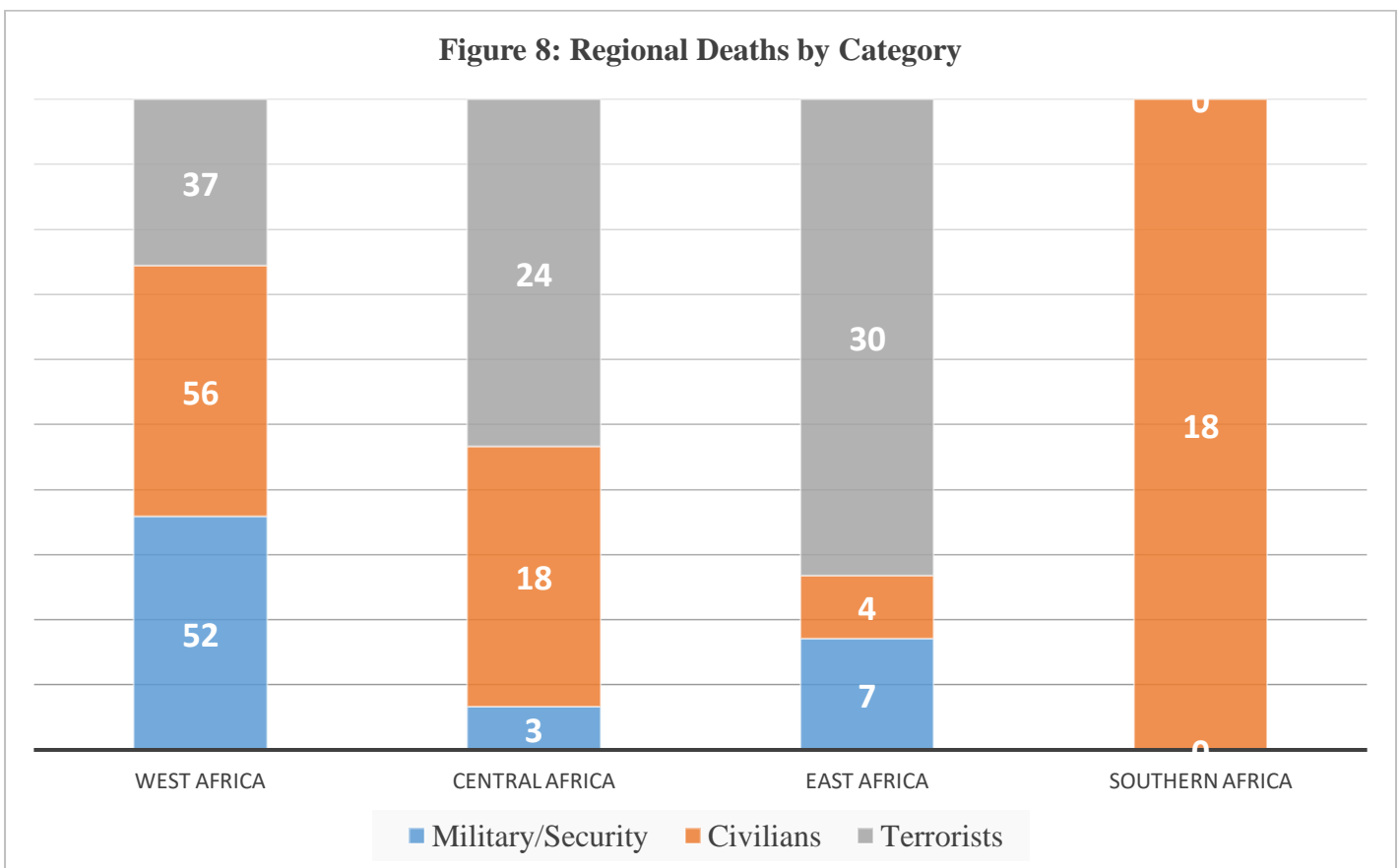
Figure 7: Regional Deaths



- West Africa region recorded the highest number of deaths. **58%** of deaths recorded within the period occurred in the region.
- Central Africa region followed with **18%** of all deaths recorded within the period.
- 16.5%** and **7.5%** of all terrorism deaths within the period occurred in East and Southern Africa regions respectively.

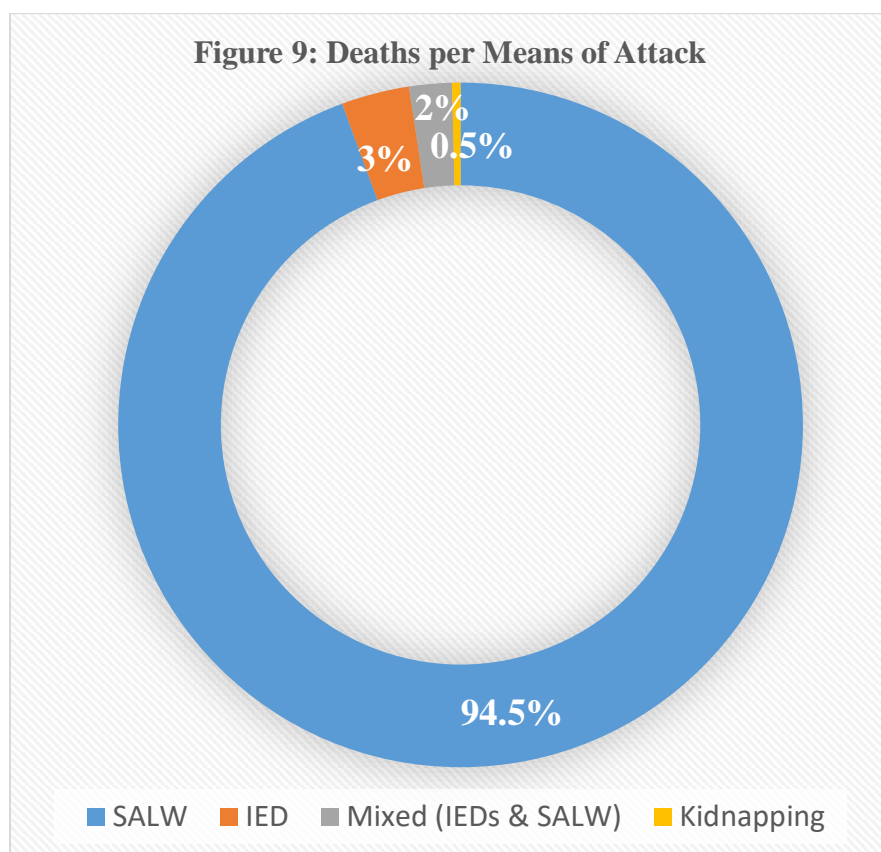
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Figure 8: Regional Deaths by Category



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

## 9. Deaths by Means of Attack



### Deaths by Means of Attack

- SALW: 235
  - IEDs: 8
  - Mixed (IED & SALW): 5
  - Kidnapping: 1
- SALW accounted for **94.5%** of the deaths occasioned by terrorist attacks. IEDs accounted for **3%** of deaths related to terrorist attacks and the use of Both IEDs and SALW accounted for **2%**. The kidnapping accounted for around **0.5%**

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

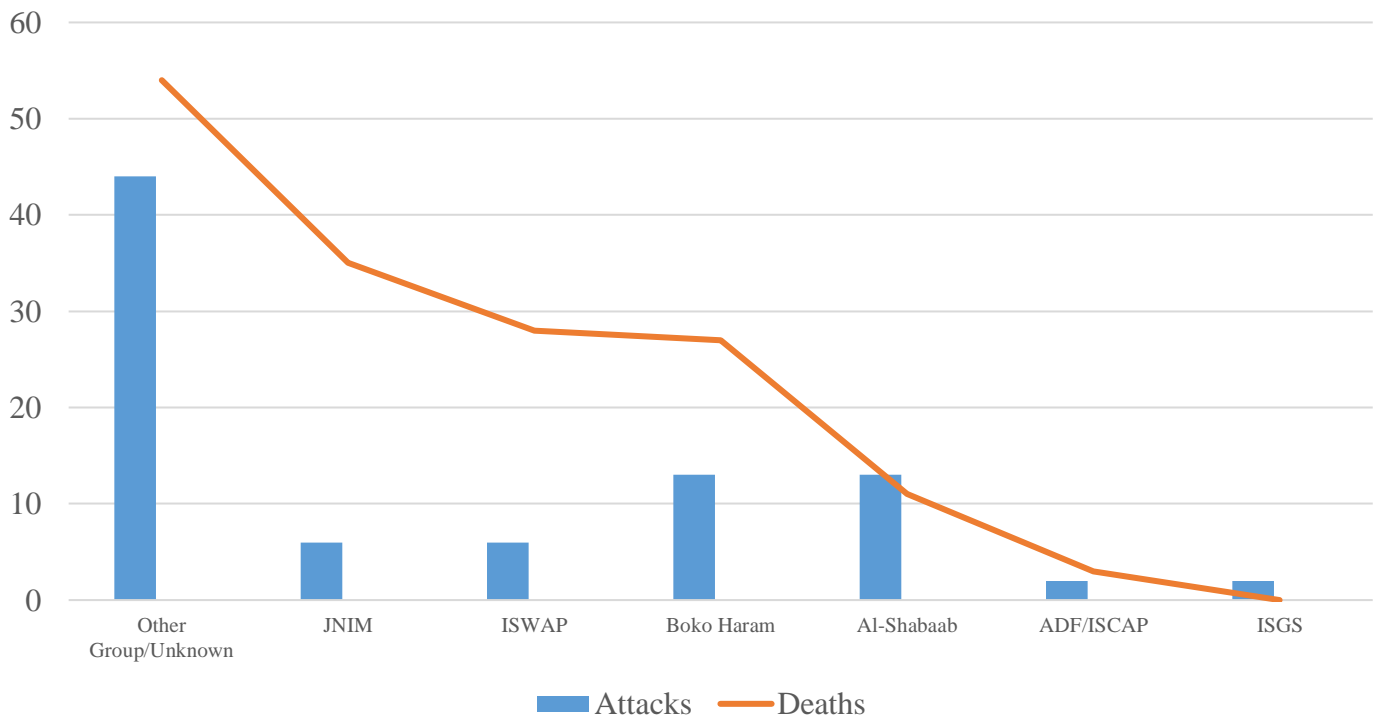
## 10. Number of Attacks by Terrorist Groups/Casualties inflicted

Table 3: Details of Attacks and Casualties from Terrorist Groups

Terrorist Group	Number of Attacks	Number of Deaths	Comments
<b>Al-Shabaab</b>	13	11	Al-Shabaab carried out 13 attacks, killing 11 persons (4 Civilians, 7 Military/Security forces).
<b>Boko Haram</b>	13	27	Boko Haram carried out 13 attacks, killing 27 persons (all civilians).
<b>ISWAP</b>	6	28	ISWAP carried out six attacks, killing 28 persons (11 civilians, 17 Military/ Security forces).
<b>ADF/ISCAP</b>	2	3	ADF/ISCAP carried out two attacks, killing three persons (2 civilians, 1 Military/Security force)
<b>JNIM</b>	6	35	JNIM inflicted the highest number of casualties. The group carried out six attack, killing 35 persons (2 civilians, 33 Military/Security force).
<b>ISGS</b>	2	0	ISGS carried out two attacks without any casualties.
<b>Other Groups/Unknown</b>	44	54	A total of 44 attacks were carried out by Unknown/Other groups. This resulted in 54 deaths comprising four Civilians and 50 Military/Security forces.

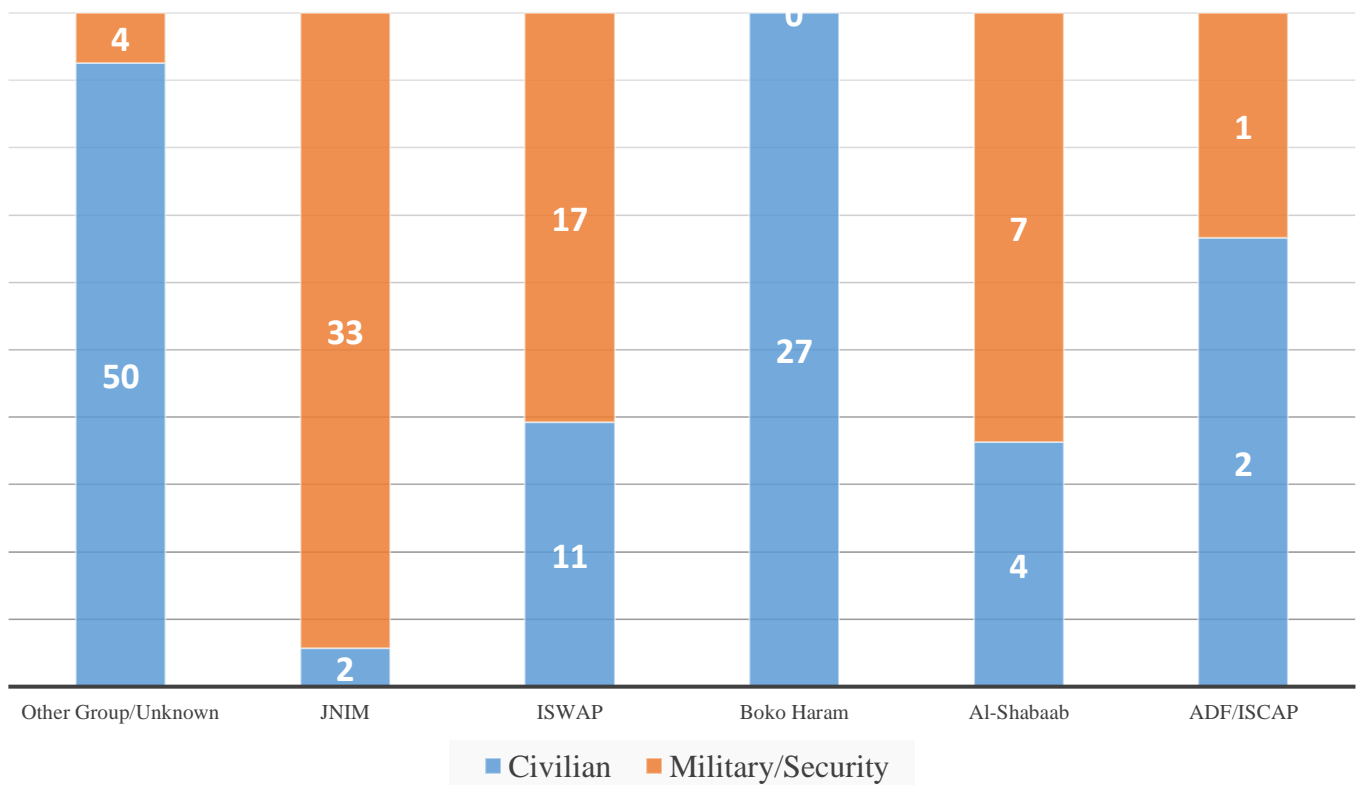
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

**Figure 10: Attacks and Casualties Caused by Terrorist Groups**



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

**Figure 11: Category of Victims Killed by Terrorist Groups**



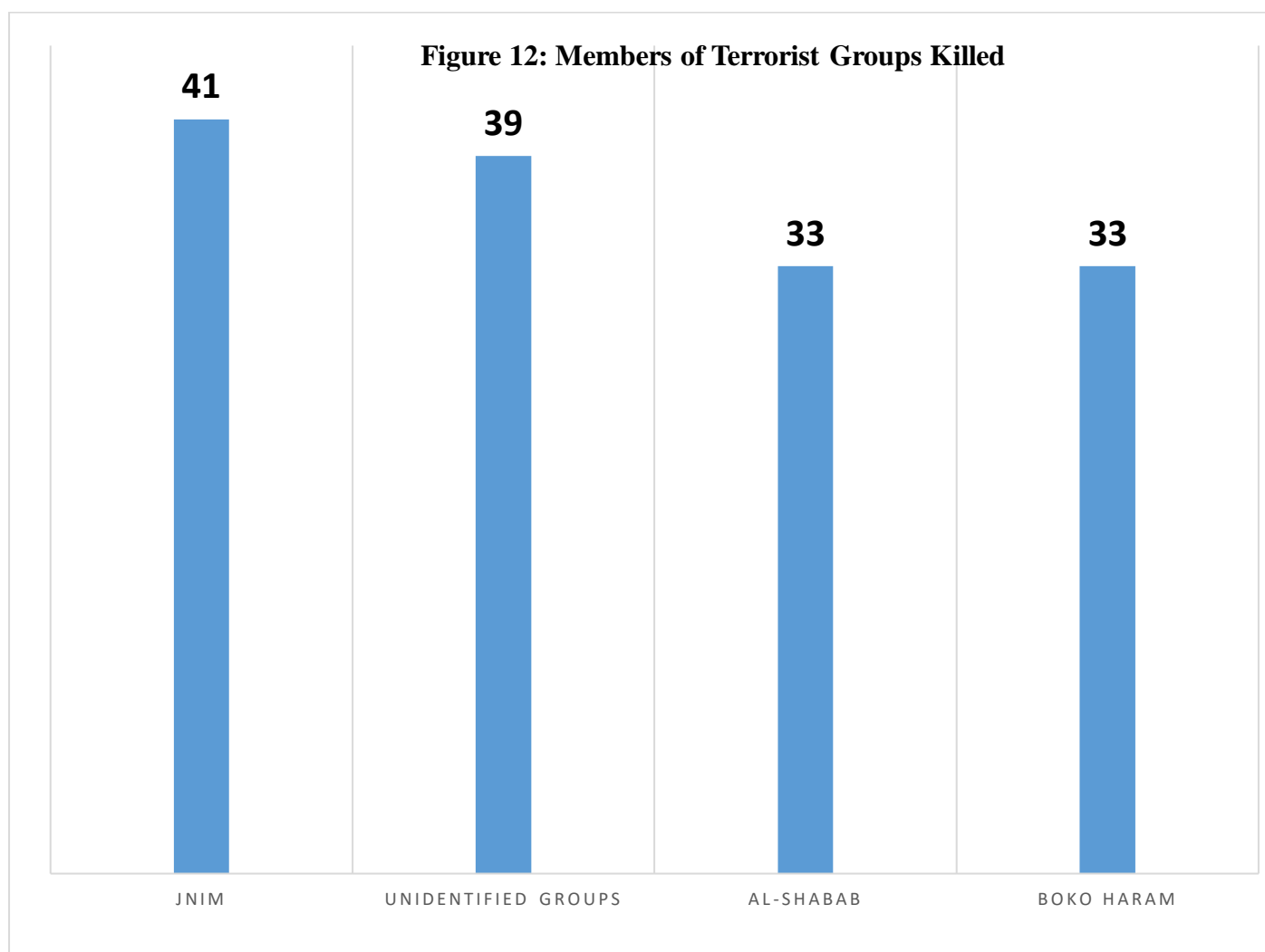
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

## 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
JNIM	41	Among the members of terrorist groups killed in counter-terrorism operations and reprisal attacks, JNIM suffered the highest number of casualties. 41 fighters of the group were killed.
Al-Shabaab	33	33 fighters of al-Shabaab were killed.
Boko Haram	33	33 fighters of Boko Haram militants were killed.
Other Groups/Unknown	39	39 other terrorists killed belong to Unknown/Other groups.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

## 12. Five Most Affected Countries

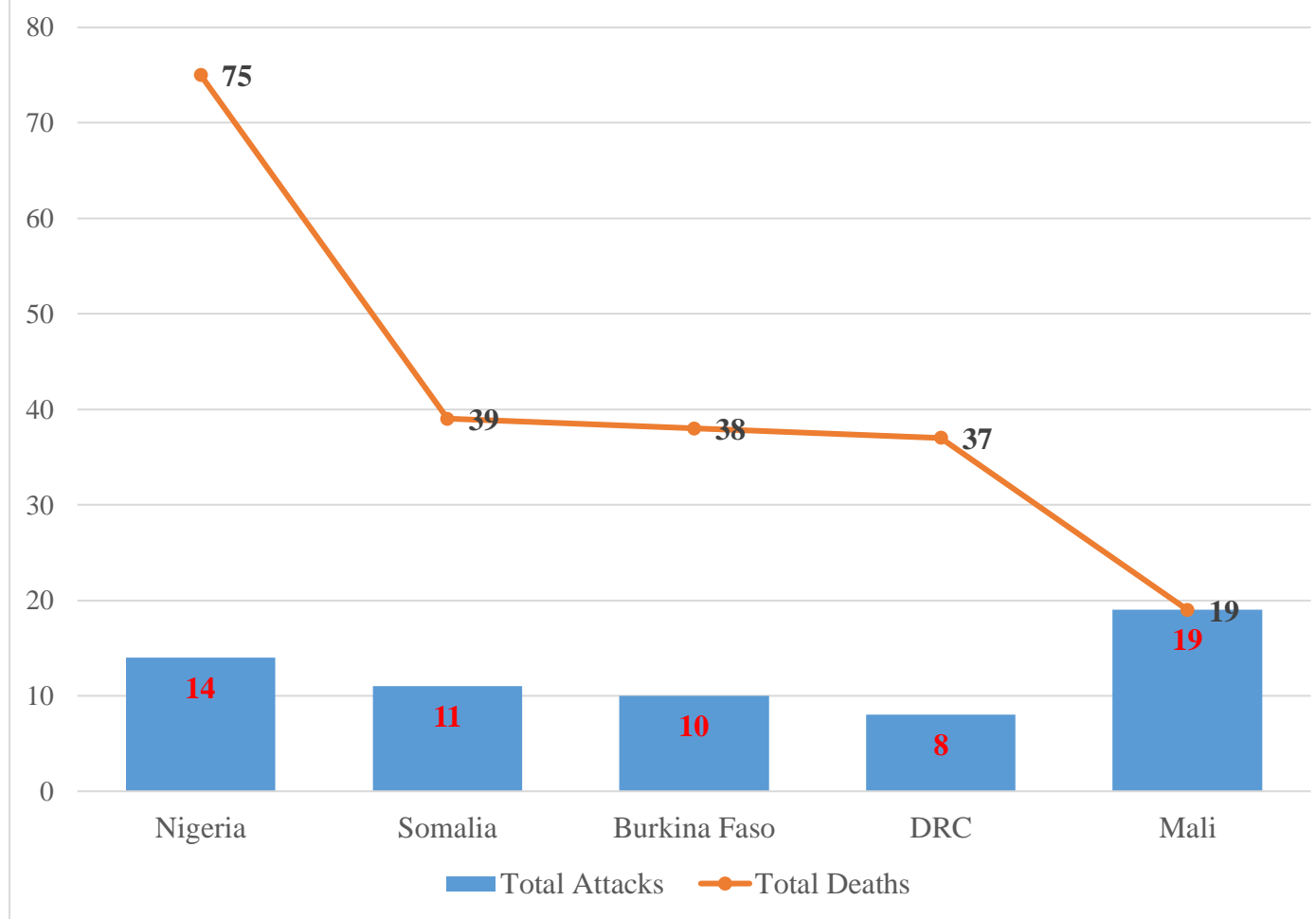
Table 5: Five Countries Most Affected

Country	Total Attacks	Total Deaths	Total injured
<b>Nigeria</b>	14	<b>75</b>	6
<b>Somalia</b>	11	<b>39</b>	44
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	10	<b>38</b>	8
<b>DRC</b>	8	<b>37</b>	12
<b>Mali</b>	19	<b>19</b>	21

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

- Nigeria recorded the highest number of deaths (75) from 14 attacks.
- Somalia recorded the second highest number of deaths (39) resulting from 11 attacks.
- Burkina Faso recorded 10 attacks resulting in a total death of 38.
- DRC recorded eight attacks, resulting in 37 deaths.
- Mali recorded the highest number of attacks (19) resulting in a total death of 19.

Figure 13: Most Affected Countries



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	Nigeria	Borno	18/08/19	Boko Haram	33	Boko Haram militants ambushed MNJTF convoy. Four soldiers were injured and 33 Boko Haram militants killed in reprisal attack by security forces.
2	Burkina Faso	Soum	19/08/19	JNIM	24	JNIM militants attacked a military base, killing 24 soldiers and injuring seven others. They set the base ablaze and took away arms and ammunitions.
3	DRC	Ituri	23/08/19	*NGCR	22	Unidentified militiamen ambushed FARDC. Two soldiers. Security forces eliminated 20 assailants in reprisal attack.
4	Somalia	Lower Shabelle	18/08/19	Al-Shabaab	20	Al-Shabaab militants attacked a military base. Security Forces repealed the attack, killing 20 al-Shabaab militants
5	Niger	Diffa	23/08/19	Boko Haram	12	Boko Haram elements raided the village and killed 12 Civilians.
6	Nigeria	Borno	27/08/19	ISWAP	11	ISWAP fighters attacked and killed workers of a telecom firm while laying fiber optic telecom cables.

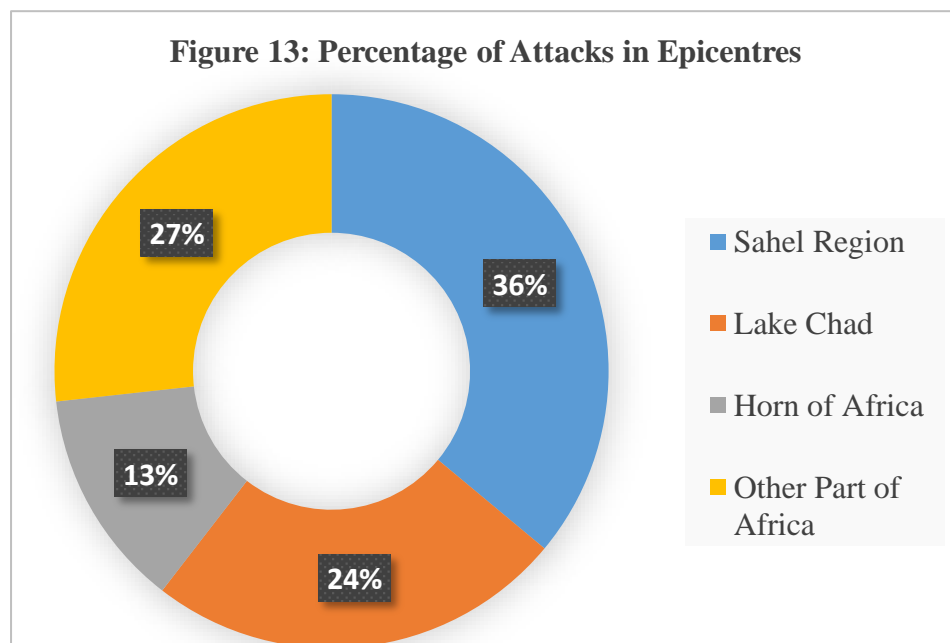
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019 \*NGCR= No Group Claimed Responsibility

## IN FOCUS

## EPICENTRES

### 14. Attacks in Epicentres

Figure 13: Percentage of Attacks in Epicentres



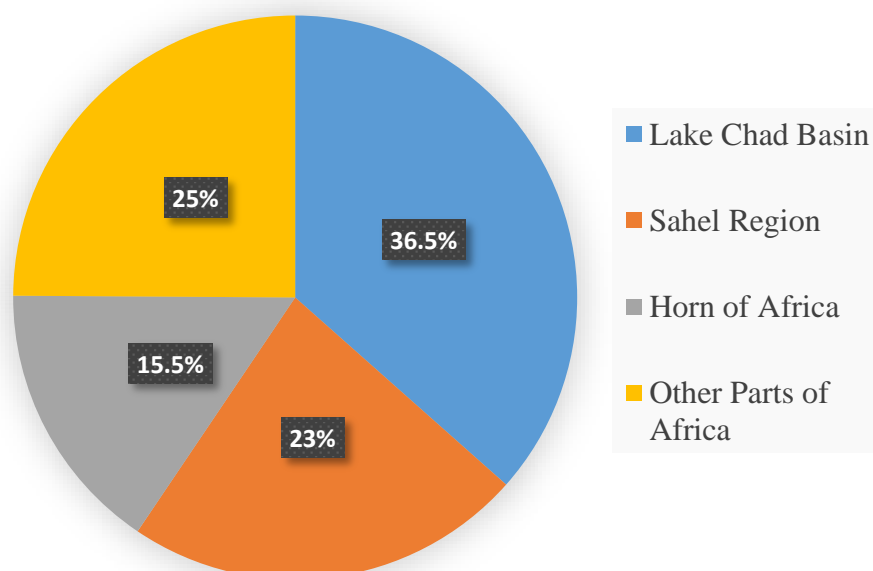
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

### Total Attacks in Africa: 86

- Sahel region: 31
  - Lake Chad Basin: 21
  - Horn of Africa: 11
  - Other Parts of Africa: 23
- Within the period under review, the Sahel (Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger-Tillaberi Region) recorded **36%**; Lake Chad Basin (North Eastern Nigeria, South-West Chad, Far North Region of Cameroon, Niger-Diffa region) recorded **24%**; and Horn of Africa (Somalia and Eastern Kenya) recorded **13%** of all the attacks in Africa.

## 15. Total Deaths Recorded in Epicentres

Figure 18: Percentage of Deaths in Epicentres



### Total Deaths in Africa: 249

- Lake Chad Basin: **91**
  - Sahel Region: **57**
  - Horn of Africa: **39**
  - Other Parts of Africa: **62**
- **36.5%** of the deaths recorded within the period under review occurred in the Lake Chad Basin.
  - **23%** of the deaths occurred in the Sahel region.
  - **15.5%** of deaths for the period occurred in the Horn of Africa.
  - **25%** of the deaths occurred in other parts of Africa.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

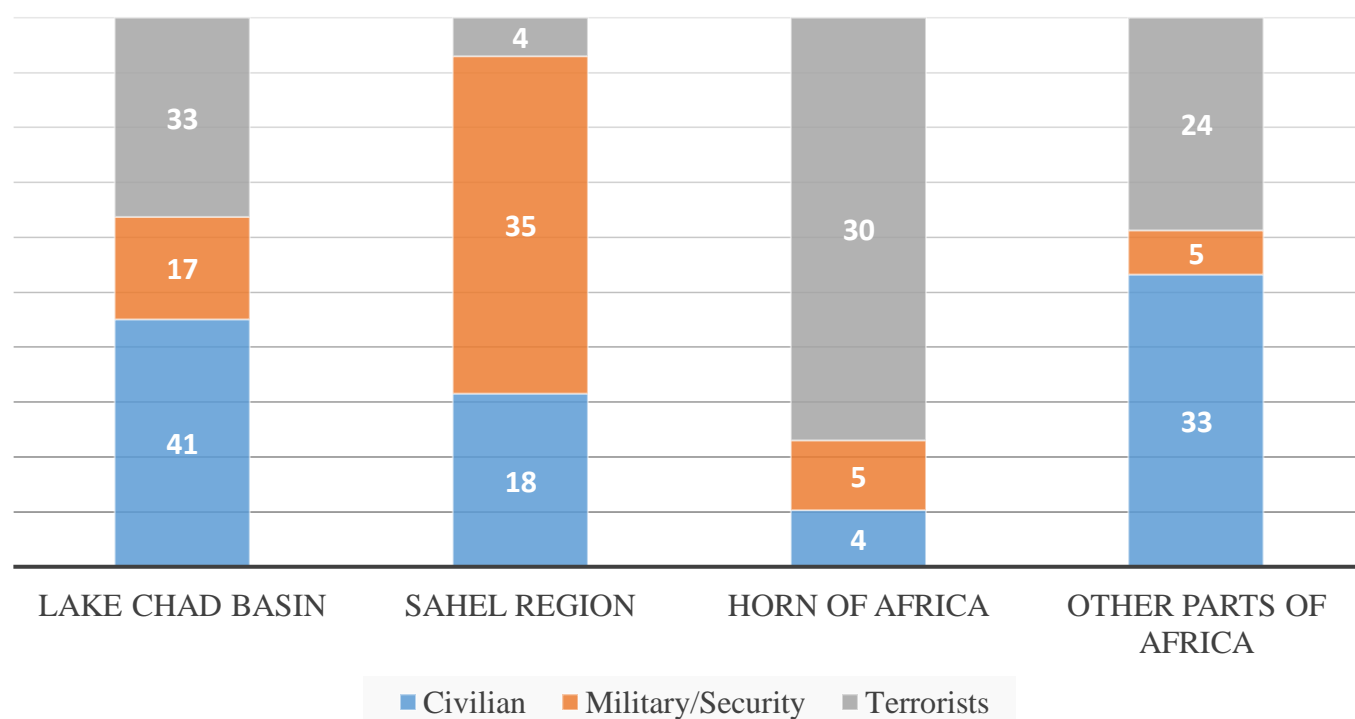
## 16. Deaths by Category in Epicentres

Table 7: Category of Deaths in Epicentres

Epicentre	Civilian	Military	Terrorists	Comments
Lake Chad Basin	41	17	33	The Lake Chad Basin recorded the highest number of deaths against civilians and the second against Security/military forces among the epicentres.
Sahel Region	18	35	4	The Sahel region recorded highest number of deaths against Security/military forces and the second highest against civilians.
Horn of Africa	4	5	30	The lowest number of civilian and Security/military forces deaths among the various epicentres were recorded in the Horn of Africa.
Other Parts	33	5	24	All other parts of Africa except the epicentres recorded 33 and five civilians and security forces respectively.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

**Figure 19: Deaths of various Actors in Epicentres**



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

## KIDNAPPINGS

T The phenomenon of suspected terrorists and armed men kidnapping people featured prominently in the second half of August 2019.

During the period, eight cases of kidnapping were recorded and a total of 246 persons were taken hostage in Cameroon, Chad, DRC, Mali, Niger and Nigeria. One out of the 246 persons kidnapped was killed, 12 others were released or escaped and 233 others remained in hostage.

**Cameroon:** 20 persons were kidnapped, including 16 people in the **Far North** of Cameroon and two catholic priests, a catholic Bishop and a Cameroonian marine officer kidnapped in the Anglophone troubled regions of **Northwest** and **Southwest**. The catholic Bishop and the two priests were released while the kidnappers of the marine officer are demanding a ransom of 5 000 000 fCFA and two rifles.

**Chad:** One person was kidnapped in Gamba village in the South-west province of Mayo-Kebi. The kidnappers are demanding a ransom of 3 000 000 FCFA.

**DRC:** ADF militants kidnapped more than 200 persons during an attack on dozens of villages in Boga territory, Ituri Province.

**Mali:** Five people were kidnapped in Kidal and Gao. One of them was been killed.

**Niger:** Five persons were kidnapped in Diffa region. A trader identified as *El Hadji Bidi Gawan* kidnapped on 26 July in N'Guigmi, was released after the payment of 30 000 000 Naira (55 000 000 fCFA)

**Nigeria.** 15 persons were kidnapped in Borno. Nine of them escaped and six others are still held captive.

## CONCLUSION

The period under review recorded a slight increase in both the number of terrorist attacks and attacks related deaths, in comparison with the period from 1<sup>st</sup> to 15 August 2019. Whilst attacks increased by 13%, deaths from terrorist and violent extremist attacks increased by around 9%. Consistently, the civilian population continue to bear the brunt of terrorist activities in the operational zones of terrorist and violent extremist groups. The continued 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. The inability to protect civilians from attacks has created mistrust between the governments and the citizenry in local communities. Inclusive measures that seek to protect local communities and ensure their resilience could be an enduring solution to rebuilding the confidence and trust between the citizenry on one hand and the security forces and government on the other hand.

In the Sahel region, an umbrella of al-Qaida-affiliated groups (JNIM) and an Islamic State affiliate (ISGS) expanded their operations in the tri-border regions of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. The groups carried out sophisticated attacks against security forces and civilians. Aside the countries in the Sahel that are currently in the eye of the storm, stabilization of the region would further prevent the spread of terrorist activities to other bordering countries. In an effort to stabilize the Sahel region, security measures must take into consideration the happenings of Southern Libya. The deterioration of the security situation in southern Libya is of great concern. The probable triumph of the IS in Fezzan could have catastrophic consequences on the Sahelo-Saharan, Maghreb, East and Central Africa regions. It is imperative therefore to resolve the ongoing conflict between the Government of National Accord (GNA) backed by the international community and the Libyan National Army (LNA) commanded by the General Khalifa Haftar. This could facilitate the emergence of a strong government capable of initiating a dialogue and restoring unity between the various tribes, particularly Alzway-Arab, Tuareg and Tabu in the South and potentially cause the defeat of the Islamic State and Al-Qaida affiliates operating in the country. Such a government should also be able to effectively control the southern borders in order to stop the flux of arms, and terrorists' movements a fueling terrorism in Sahel.

The 19 August JNIM attack on a military base in Koutougou, Burkina Faso in which 24 soldiers were killed is regarded as one of the worst attacks since the insurgency begun in 2016. The situation in Burkina Faso for the period remained a challenging one and therefore the focus of this edition of the Bulletin. In addition to the Koutounou incident, the country recorded nine other attacks, mainly targeting army and security forces. The most affected regions of jihadi activities within the period were the Central-North, East, North and Sahel regions. JNIM and ISGS are the main groups that carried out attacks in these regions. Terrorist groups are expanding their activities all over the territory, exacerbating inter-communal tensions and exploiting the collective grievances of the local populations. The absence of state institutions to deliver basic services and the porosity of borders are considered causal factors of escalated terrorist activities for the period in the country. The activities of terrorist groups have caused societal problems with human security implications. As at August 2019, records at the OCHA reveal that more than 271,000 people have been uprooted from their homes with additional 1.5 million in need of humanitarian assistance. 60 health care centers and 2,024 schools have been forced to close, depriving the communities of health care delivery and more than 330,000 children of education. Burkina Faso urgently requires the mobilization of all segments of the society through a campaign aimed at winning hearts and minds of the populace through good governance and the rule of law. The provision logistical support and retooling of the Defense and Security Forces are therefore urgently required for operational successes. There is the need to ensure strong regional security cooperation and effective functioning of regional security mechanisms, especially the G5 Sahel.

## FORECAST FOR NEXT EDITION

The next edition of the Africa Terrorism Bulletin will cover terrorism incidents from 1<sup>st</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> Sept. 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 AND CT OPERATIONS 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	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				Security/Military	Civilians	Government officials or institutions	International Organizations
1	Cameroon	2	-	-	4	-	-	5	-	-	6	-	20	3	-	2	4	-	-
2	Chad	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
3	DRC	8	-	-	-	-	3	10	24	2	7	3	200	-	1	2	6	-	-
4	Kenya	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
5	Somalia	5	6	-	-	-	5	4	32	6	4	34	-	-	22	10	1	-	-
6	Egypt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
7	Mozambique	7	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-
8	Burkina Faso	9	1	-	-	-	27	9	42	8	-	-	-	-	-	6	4	-	-
9	Mali	9	6	1	3	-	8	9	2	17	4	-	5	-	-	4	10	1	4
10	Niger	4	2	-	1	-	0	13	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	4	3	-	-
11	Nigeria	14	-	-	-	-	17	25	45	4	2	-	15	9	-	4	10	-	-
<b>Sub-Total</b>		<b>62</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>General Total</b>		<b>86</b>				<b>-</b>	<b>304</b>			<b>99</b>			<b>246</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>86</b>			

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

**16 August, Iba village, Northwest.** Unknown gunmen abducted two catholic priests. They were released unhurt on 18 August.

**20 August, Logone-Biri, Far North.** Boko Haram militants ambushed a transport bus and kidnapped 16 persons.

**21 August, Bamenda, Northwest.** Unidentified armed men attacked towns and villages, killing two people and injuring six others. The attacks were in protest against a military tribunal handing out a life sentences to their leader and nine supporters .

**24 August, Bamenda, Northwest.** Unidentified armed men kidnapped a Catholic Bishop *George Nkuo* of Kumbo Diocese. He was released later unhurt and Armed separatists claimed that they wanted him to pray and bless them.

**24 August, Ndop, Ngoketurnja, Northwest.** Unidentified attackers ambushed local Gendarmerie brigade. Three civilians including two women and a baby were killed in the gunfight.

**31 August, Campo, South-West.** Unidentified attackers kidnapped a Cameroonian marine officer identified as *Yannick Djoma Vounia*. The kidnappers are demanding a ransom of 5 000 000 fCFA and two rifles.

#### CHAD

**24 August, Gamba, Mayo-Kebi, (Lake Chad region).** Unidentified armed men attacked the village, killing three people and kidnapping another. The kidnappers are demanding a ransom of 3 000 000 FCFA.

#### DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

**18 August, Mbau, Beni, North Kivu.** ADF militants stormed the locality. Two civilians and one soldier were killed and four other civilians were injured.

**19 August, Irrumu Ituri.** Unidentified armed individuals ambushed and killed three persons. Security forces intervened and wounded one assailant.

**23 August, Boga, Ituri.** ADF militants stormed dozens of villages. More than 200 persons were kidnapped. Several homes and shops were looted, and 160 cows and 300 goats taken away. One soldier and two rebels were injured and another one arrested.

**23 August, Ladedjo, Djugu, Ituri.** Unidentified militiamen ambushed FARDC. Two soldiers and 20 assailants were killed.

**26 August, Damblo village, Djugu, Ituri.** Unidentified assailants armed with machetes and knives attacked farmers, killing three of them and injuring another one.

**26 August, Katuiguru and Kiseguro, North Kivu.** Unidentified armed men attacked civilian population, killing two persons and injuring two others.

**27 August, Wasa, Djugu, Ituri.** Unidentified armed men ambushed FARDC convoy during patrol. Four assailants were killed and one soldier injured.

**29 August, Kisharo, North Kivu.** Presumed FDLR rebels stormed the locality. Several shops were looted and three houses were burned.

## EAST AFRICA

### KENYA

**16 August, Fino Village, Mandera.** Al-Shabaab militants attacked the homes of two Kenya Police Reservists and killed them, before proceeding to attack two nearby police camps.

**20 August, Kheira Ali village, Mandera.** Al-Shabaab militants attacked the village and blew up a telecommunications mast with IEDs. The National Police Reservists (NPR) intervened and exchanged gunfire with the militants. One civilian was injured and a police reservist reportedly missing.

**24 August, Masalale, Wajir.** Al-Shabaab militants ambushed the vehicle of the Wajir lawmaker (MP), *Mr. Ibrahim Ahmed*. The MP was injured and his car destroyed.

### SOMALIA

**17 August, Eel Sanini, Lower Shabelle.** Al-Shabaab militants attempted an attack on SNA military base. The forces intercepted them, killing two militants and injuring four others.



**17 August, Daynunay town, Baidoa.** Al-Shabaab militants attacked SNA military base. Two soldiers were killed and two others injured. Four al-Shabaab militants were also eliminated.

**18 August, Barire town, Lower Shabelle.** Al-Shabaab militants attacked a military base. Somali Special Forces repelled the attack, killing 20 al-Shabaab militants and injuring more than 30 others.

**21 August, Qoryoley, Lower Shabelle.** Al-Shabaab militants attacked SNA military base killing one civilian and injuring one soldier. SNA forces also killed four militants.

**22 August, Balidogle town, Lower Shabelle.** Al-Shabaab fired mortar shells into an airbase where American trainers are training SNA troops. No casualties recorded.

**25 August, Hadan, Mogadishu.** A roadside bomb targeting SNA forces exploded, killing one person and injuring several others. Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility.

**25 August, Mogadishu.** Al-Shabaab planted a bomb under the vehicle carrying former secretary of the Banadir regional administration, *Amiin Sheikh Elmi*, who was killed by the explosion. Other four people were injured.

**25 August, Taleh area, Mogadishu.** Suspected al-Shabaab militants exploded a roadside bomb targeting a vehicle carrying Somali soldiers. A driver was killed and one soldier was injured.

**26 August, Hodan district, Mogadishu.** A vehicle of a Somali military hospital Director, *Khadija Iman Aynte*, hit a landmine. She was injured along with her driver.

**26 August, Bulo Burde town, Middle Shabelle.** Al-Shabaab fighters attempted an attack against SNA military base but the forces repulsed them. Casualties from both sides not confirmed.

**27 August, Wanlaweyn town, Lower Shabelle.** An explosion ripped through a motorbike carrying Somali soldiers near the town, leaving two soldiers and a civilian bike driver dead.

## SOUTHERN AFRICA

### MOZAMBIQUE

**23 August, Nangade, Cabo Delgado.** Unidentified armed men attacked and killed five persons.

**26 August, Ulo village, Mocimboa da Praia, Cabo Delgado.** Unidentified insurgents beheaded a villager.

**27 August, Quelimane village, Mocimboa da Praia, Cabo Delgado.** Unidentified armed men attacked a car of a local businessman and beheaded him along with another civilian.

**27 August, Nacotuco village, Pangane, Cabo Delgado.** Unidentified insurgents attacked and beheaded four fishermen returning from the sea.

**27 August, Simbolongo village, Pangane, Cabo Delgado.** Unidentified elements beheaded a civilian.

**28 August, Machava, Cabo Delgado.** Unidentified armed men attacked and killed two persons.

**28 August, Nangade, Cabo Delgado.** Unidentified assailants attacked and killed three persons.

## WEST AFRICA

### BURKINA FASO

**19 August, Nako, Poni.** Unidentified armed men attacked the territorial Gendarmerie Brigade. No casualties recorded.

**19 August, Koutougou, Soum.** JNIM militants attacked a military base. 24 soldiers were killed and seven others injured. The assailants set ablaze the base and took away arms and ammunitions.

**23 August, Sideradougou, Comoe.** Suspected JNIM militants attacked a gendarmerie brigade. One gendarme officer was killed.

**23 August, Pô-Guiaro axis, Nahouri.** Unidentified armed men ambushed soldiers and gendarme officers. No casualties reported.

**25 August, Bangaharia, Soum.** Presumed JNIM militants destroyed a bridge on Nassoumbou-Djibo axis with explosive devices.

**26 August, In-Aouas village, Oudalan.** Unidentified armed men assassinated a villager.

**27 August, Kourao village, Bam.** Presumed jihadist insurgents on motorbikes raided the village. Four persons including a village chief were killed.

**28 August, Tinakof-Darkoye, Oudalan.** Unidentified armed men ambushed Defense and Security forces (FDS). Two soldiers were injured and two terrorists killed.

**28 August, Thou village, Yatenga.** Unidentified armed men attacked the village and killed four civilians.

**30 August, Tongomael, Soum.** Unidentified armed men attacked a military base. One soldier was injured and five others were missing.

## MALI

**16 August, ansongo, Gao.** A contracted civilian truck within a MINUSMA escorted logistic convoy hit an IED. One civilian MINUSMA sub-contractor was killed and two others injured.

**16 August, Boulkessi village, Mondoro, Douentza, Mopti.** Unidentified armed elements fired two mortar shells at a FAMa/G5 Sahel camp. No casualties reported.

**17 August, Menaka town, Gao.** Unidentified armed individuals ambushed FAMa and international forces in a joint patrol. One assailant was killed.

**17 August, Diondoulou, Bandiagara, Mopti.** Unidentified armed elements exchanged fire with a FAMa team. No casualties reported.

**18 August, Ibi Dogomon village, Bandiagara, Mopti.** Suspected armed radical elements on motorcycles stormed the village, shooting in the air. No casualties recorded.

**18 August, kourou-kanda village, Bankass, Mopti.** Unidentified armed men attacked the village. FAMa intervened and repelled the attack. No casualties recorded.

**19 August, Bourem town, Gao.** One staff of an NGO was injured following the explosion of a grenade near his car.

**19 August, Gao.** Unidentified armed men attacked the residence of *Mr. Algateck Ag Ouwaha*, a member of the Security Technical Commission of the “*Plateforme des Mouvement du 14 Juin 2014 d’Alger*”. One guard was injured.

**20 August, Douna village, Mondoro, Douentza, Mopti.** Suspected radical armed elements on motorcycles attacked the Dogon village, killing four persons.

**20 August, Kidal.** A MINUSMA vehicle hit an IED during a regular *search and detect operation*. Seven peacekeepers were wounded.

**20 August, Talataye, Ansongo, Mopti.** An individual was killed while setting up an IED at a location on the Ansongo-Ménaka axis.

**20 August, Sindimane-Talahandak axis, Kidal.** Unidentified armed individuals abducted MNLA member *Alla Ag Amoud* for allegedly collaborating with the international forces.

**21 August, Boni, Douentza, Mopti.** JNIM militants ambushed a National Guard convoy. Four National Guards and two civilians were killed, and two other soldiers were injured.

**21 August, Timbuktu.** Two huge explosions targeted the airport. No casualties recorded.

**22 August, Menaka, Gao.** heavily armed jihadists on motorcycles kidnapped three men including a marabou.

**23 August, Ansongo, Gao.** Presumed jihadists kidnapped and killed a shepherd.

**25 August, Menaka, Gao.** Armed assailants fired two rockets targeting the MINUSMA Camp. No casualties were recorded. JNIM claimed the attack.

**25 August, Bodio, bandiagara, Mopti.** Unidentified armed men stormed the locality killing civilians, burning several houses and taking away several cattle.

**27 August, Douentza, Mopti.** A FAMa vehicle hit an IED and was immediately fired upon by armed elements suspected to be from JNIM. Four soldiers were killed and eight others injured. One assailant was also killed.

## **NIGER**

**18 August, Inatas, Tillabelli.** ISGS militants targeted Nigerien army barracks with Grad rockets. No Casualties recorded.

**18 August, Tilwa, Tillabelli.** ISGS militants targeted Nigerien army barracks with Grad rockets. No Casualties recorded.

**23 August, Lamana village, Gueskerou, Diffa.** Presumed Boko Haram elements raided the village and killed 12 civilians.

**24 August, Diffa.** ISWAP fighters targeted soldiers with an IED. Number of casualties unknown.

**25 August, Diffa.** ISWAP fighters targeted soldiers in an IED. Number of casualties unknown.

**25 August, Toumour, Bosso, Diffa.** Boko Haram militants stormed the village, killing one civilian and kidnapping three others.

**26 August, N'Guigmi, Diffa.** Unidentified armed men kidnapped two persons and took away money and valuable items of a trader.

## **NIGERIA**

**18 August, Buni Gari, Gujba, Yobe.** Suspected Boko Haram militants stormed the community, injuring two residents and burning four houses, a vehicle and a foodstuff.

**18 August, Gamboru-Dikwa road, Borno.** Boko Haram militants ambushed a MNJTF convoy. Four soldiers were injured and 33 Boko Haram militants killed in reprisal attack.

**18 August, Mogula village, Borno.** ISWAP fighters ambushed Nigerian soldiers on patrol, killing four soldiers and seizing two machine guns.

**20 August, Dikwa, Borno.** ISWAP fighters ambushed Nigerian soldiers, killing five of them.

**21 August, Magumeri town, Borno.** Boko Haram insurgents attacked the town, shooting sporadically and torched the council headquarters, several residential houses and public structures including offices and schools. Unknown numbers of people were killed.

**21 August, Gubio town, Borno.** Boko Haram insurgents attacked the town and recaptured the council headquarters. They abducted a member of Civilian JTF, looted food items and torched several residential houses and public structures including offices and schools. No casualties recorded.

**22 August, Borri, Wanori, Kaleri-Abdule, Borno.** Boko Haram insurgents stormed the locality and set ablaze 73 houses and 28 shops.

**24 August, Gajiram village, Nganzai, Borno.** Boko Haram militants raided a village. Four persons were killed and 12 others kidnapped. Nine residents managed to escape later.

**27 August, Wajirko village, Borno.** Presumed ISWAP fighters opened fire on workers of a telecom firm who were laying fiber optic telecom cables. 11 persons were killed and several others injured.

**29 August, Balumri village, Borno.** Boko Haram militants raided the village and killed two residents.

**30 August, Gasarwa, Monguno, Borno.** Presumed ISWAP fighters ambushed Nigerian military convoy. Eight soldiers were killed and five declared missing.

**30 August, Balumri village, Borno.** Boko Haram militants raided the village, killing four men and kidnapping two others.

**31 August, Gidan Waya, Maiduguri, Borno.** Boko Haram militants kidnapped and beheaded four farmers.

**31 August, Yimirmigza village, Chibok, Borno.** Boko Haram militants raided the village, shooting sporadically. No Casualties recorded.

### **APPENDIX 3: COUNTER-TERRORISM RESPONSE**

**17 August, Dioundoulou, Bandiagara, Mopti, Mali.** A FAMa patrol found and neutralized an IED hidden in the ground on the road.

**20 August, Kunyo Barrow, Lower Shabelle, Somalia.** US Africa Command forces killed one al-Shabaab militant in an airstrike.

**20 August, Soum, Burkina Faso.** Security forces killed at least 40 presumed JNIM militants in clearance operations following the attack on Koutougou military base.

**21 August, Kismayo, Lower Shabelle, Somalia.** Somali Armed Forces freed 20 persons held captive by al-Shabaab.

**23 August, Bula Korege village, Borno, Nigeria.** An airstrike conducted by the Nigerian Air Force killed several suspected Boko Haram terrorists and destroyed their hideouts.

**22 August, Maiduguri, Borno, Nigeria.** Nigerian troops thwarted a diversionary ploy by terrorists to frustrate smooth movement of troops, logistics and other road users along Maiduguri-Konduga-Bama main supply route. The terrorists had dug a big hole in the middle of the road with the intention of planting an IED.

**24 August, Maiduguri Borno, Nigeria.** Operatives of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps seized four vehicles conveying insurgents' fishery products on Maiduguri-Ngala road.

**24 August, Borno.** Nigerian Air Force troops killed dozens of terrorists and destroyed their hideouts.

**24 August, Bourem, Gao, Mali.** A MINUSMA Force convoy discovered an IED on the Gao-Tessalit axis.

**26 August, Golis mountains, Puntland, Somalia.** Puntland state forces carried out security operation against al-Shabaab in Golis mountains areas.

**27 August, Burweyn town, Hiran region, Somalia.** Somali forces backed by the Djibouti contingent of AMISOM re-captured Burweyn town, a major al-Shabaab taxation hub in the region.

**27 August, Jilib, Sakow, Buale and Salagle towns, Lower Jubba.** Suspected US drones bombed al-Shabaab bases in several towns in southern Somalia in conjunction with infantry operations against the group.

**28 August, Yaqshid, Mogadishu, Somalia.** Somali National Security and Intelligence Agency (NISA) arrested a suspected al-Shabaab member allegedly behind the attack that led to the murder of the former secretary of Banadir regional administration.

**29 August, Lower Shabelle, Somalia.** Somali armed forces in the region carried out an operation that killed one of al-Shabaab commander.

**29 August, Senofar village, Fayoum, Egypt.** Security forces arrested a 25-year-old identified as *Hammand Mohamed Shafei*, member of Hasm militant group suspected of carrying out the attack on Egypt's main cancer hospital.

**30 August, Ng'ombeni village, Matuga Sub-County, Kwale, Kenya.** The police shot a wanted suspected terrorist, *Mohamed Rashid Mwatsumiro* alias *Msanii*, during a raid.

**31 August, N'Guigmi, Diffa.** Security forces found three IEDs on the road linking Niger and Chad.