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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

As part of its mandate to help build Counter Terrorism capacity of African Union Member States, and keep African Counter Terrorism Practitioners abreast with current trends of terrorism, the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT) has developed tools that allow it to collect, analyze and disseminate terrorism-related incidents in Africa. The information gathering, processing and data analysis allows ACSRT to provide Member States and Prevention and Countering Violent Extremism (P/CVE) Practitioners with relevant information on trends and development of terrorism in Africa. The ACSRT disseminates its analysis of data collected on terrorism incidents through various productions. The Africa Terrorism Bulletin, a fortnightly compilation and data analysis is one of such productions that form the basis for the Centre's quarterly African Terrorism Trend Analysis.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACSRT	African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism
ADF	Allied Democratic Forces
AMISOM	African Union Mission in Somalia
AMM	Africa Media Monitor
APCLS:	L'Alliance des patriotes pour un Congo libre et souverain / The Alliance of Patriots for a Free and Sovereign Congo (APCLS)
AQIM	Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb
AST	Ansar al Sharia in Tunisia
AU	African Union
CAR	Central African Republic
CT	Counter-Terrorism
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EUC-JRC	European Union Commission's Joint Research Centre
FAMA	Forces Armées Maliennes (Armed Forces of Mali)
GAF	Ghana Armed Forces
GATIA	Groupe Autodéfense Touareg Imghad et Alliés (Imghad Touareg Auto-Defence Group and Allies)
GSIM	Group for the Support of Islam and Moslems
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IS	Islamic State
ISWAP	Islamic State in West Africa Province
JNIM	Jamaat Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen (Group for Support of Islam and Muslims)
KAIPTC	Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Center
LCB	Lake Chad Basin
LRA	Lord's Resistance Army
MLF	Macina Liberation Front
MNJTF	Multinational Joint Task Forces
MINUSCA	Mission Multidimensionnelle Intégrée des Nations Unies pour la Stabilisation en République Centrafricaine (United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic)
MINUSMA	Mission Multidimensionnelle Intégrée des Nations Unies pour la Stabilisation au Mali (United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali)
MSA	Mouvement pour le salut de l'Azawad (Movement for the Salvation of the Azawad)
NDC	Nduma Defence of Congo
OAU	Organization of African Unity
P/CVE	Prevention and Countering Violent Extremism
REC	Regional Economic Community
RM	Regional Mechanism
SALW	Small Arms and Light Weapons
UPC	Union for Peace in Central Africa
US	United States (of America)

SUMMARY

QUICK HIGHLIGHTS

- The period under review (16th -28th February 2019) recorded a total of 93 terrorist attacks and a total of 508 terrorism-related deaths.
- Out of the 508 terrorism-related deaths, 337 resulted directly from terrorist attacks, whereas 171 were deaths recorded during counter terrorism operation by security forces.
- 50% (253) of those who died were terrorists whereas 44% (225) were civilians. Security/Military Forces represent 6% (30) of the deaths.
- In 68 out of the 93 attacks, the terrorists used Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). 11 attacks involved the use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), 11 kidnappings and 3 mixed approach (IEDs and SALW).
- Al-Shabaab for the first time used more SALW in their attacks than IEDs; Boko Haram also used SALW more in their attacks. Jama'a Nusrat ul-Islam wal Muslimin (JNIM) used both IEDs and SALW in its attack and Islamist groups in Sinai Peninsula used SALW.
- 64 of the attacks targeted civilians, 20 targeted security forces, 4-targeted Government Institutions/Officials, and 5 targeted International Organizations (MINUSMA, AMISOM, MINUSCA and Medecins Sans Frontières in DRC).
- Boko Haram (Shekau faction) targeted civilians most in their attacks, whereas attacks by JNIM and Islamist groups in the Northern Sinai of Egypt targeted Military/Security forces.
- Al-Shabaab killed 40 (all civilians), Boko Haram killed 48 (45 civilians, 3 military), ISIS killed 15 (all Military).
- Al-Shabaab lost 87 members whereas terrorist Groups in the Sinai Region lost 31 members during CT operations. JNIM, Boko Haram and AQIM lost 13, 6, and 1 of their members to CT operations respectively. 116 others killed by counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency belong to unidentified/unaffiliated groups.

- Five countries most affected by terrorism during the period are Mali, Nigeria, Somalia, Burkina Faso, and Mozambique (**In decreasing order**).
- Countries of the Sahel region in West Africa recorded 65 out of 93 incidents of terrorist attacks, and a total death of 271 out of the 508 representing 53% of the terrorism related deaths for the period. Out of the 271 casualties, 166 civilians, 94 terrorists, and 11 security/ military personnel died in the Sahel.
- More civilians (74%) died in the Sahel than the rest of Africa. 40% of terrorists were killed in the Sahel as against 60% in the rest of Africa. 37% of Military/Security forces deaths occurred in the Sahel.

RECENT HIGH PROFILE INCIDENTS

- **On 28 February 2019 in Mogadishu, Somalia.** Al Shabaab fighters attacked Hotel Maka Al-Mukarama. 29 people were killed and 83 wounded.
- **On 27 February 2019 in Mopti, Mali.** Suspected terrorists planted an explosive device on a dead body which exploded and killed 17 persons and injuring 15 others, when the family of the deceased took possession of the corpse.
- **On 27 February 2019 in Kaduna, Nigeria.** Unidentified gunmen attacked four villages. 29 people including a policeman were killed. Two other policemen were injured
- **On 16 February 2019 in El-Arish, Northern Sinai, Egypt.** Assailants attacked a military checkpoint killing 15 soldiers. ISIS-claimed responsibility for the attack.

Security forces continue to provide responses to the terrorism threats in Africa. Counter-Terrorism operations resulted in the neutralization of 171 members of terrorist groups. In Somalia, CT operations eliminated a significant number of al-shabaab militants. These include an airstrike on 24 February 2019 in Hiran region in central Somalia, which killed 35 fighters, the killing of 20 members of the group on 25 February 2019 in Hiran and the neutralization of 26 militants on 28 February 2019 in Somalia's central Hiran region. In Burkina Faso, on 20 February 2019 in Kompianbiga, security forces carried out a combined CT operation resulting in the neutralization of 29-suspected terrorists. In the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt, the security forces on 19 and 20 February 2019 killed 24 militants who are members of ISIS, including 8 militants who carried out the 16 February attack in the Country.

TERRORISM IN AFRICA: ISSUE OF DEFINITION

- Notwithstanding the lack of a universal definition of terrorism, Article 1 paragraph 3, (a) and (b) and Article 3 of the African Union in its 1999 [CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND COMBATING OF TERRORISM](#), defines what constitutes a ***Terrorist Act***.
- The African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT) and therefore this Africa Terrorism Bulletin defers to this definition.

INTRODUCTION

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.

The ACSRT maintains a robust database that stores information on terrorism, more specifically, on terrorist groups and individuals, terrorist activities and related scourges, and avail this information to the African Union Commission and the African Union Member States.

The 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.

By dint of the AMM, the Situation Room Team scans and accesses over 1400 websites 7/24 and retrieves real time information on terrorist incidents in the four official AU languages (English, French, Arabic and Portuguese). The Centre also stores terrorism-related information received from Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Mechanisms (RMs) based on existing cooperation, in addition to information received through the AU Continental Early Warning Situation-Room as well as reports from AU Field Missions.

To ensure validity and reliability of the data stored in the database, the Centre verifies all terrorism incidents retrieved by means of the AMM, RECs and RMs from the ACSRT Focal Points of the Member States. The Focal Points are the official representatives appointed by each of the 55 Member States to collaborate and share information on terrorism and related activities with the ACSRT.

As a mandated body of the African Union, the information provided by the Member States on terrorism regarding the number of attacks, deaths and injuries recorded and as verified by the Focal Points are considered the right number and official data for the ACSRT Database irrespective of any conflicting number from other sources.

THREAT UPDATE

There have been consistent increase in the incidence of terrorist attacks across Africa since the beginning of 2019. The situation has continued to deteriorate in a number of regions resulting in the death, maiming and displacement of huge numbers of both security forces and civilians. Increasingly, the escalation in terrorism and violent extremism activities in Africa has created severe security threats, resulting in the destruction of properties and instability in the countries and regions where these groups operate. These threats are combining with existing threats to make Africa's security landscape more complex, diverse and fluid than ever.

The West Africa and the Sahel Region continue to experience sophisticated and escalation in terrorists and violent extremist activities. In Burkina Faso, terrorist activities have worsened the security situation with protracted attacks against civilians and security forces. The threats of insecurity are gradually spreading across many regions of Burkina Faso with reported incidents along borders with Cote d'Ivoire, Benin, Ghana and Togo. Terrorist groups such as Al-Qaeda in Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Jama'a Nusrat ul-Islam wal Muslimin (JNIM), Macina Liberation Front (MLF) and other local groups with similar orientation carried out attacks in Central and Northern Mali despite the presence of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA). A significant threat to the peace and stability in the Sahel Region is the re-emergence of Amadou Kouffa.

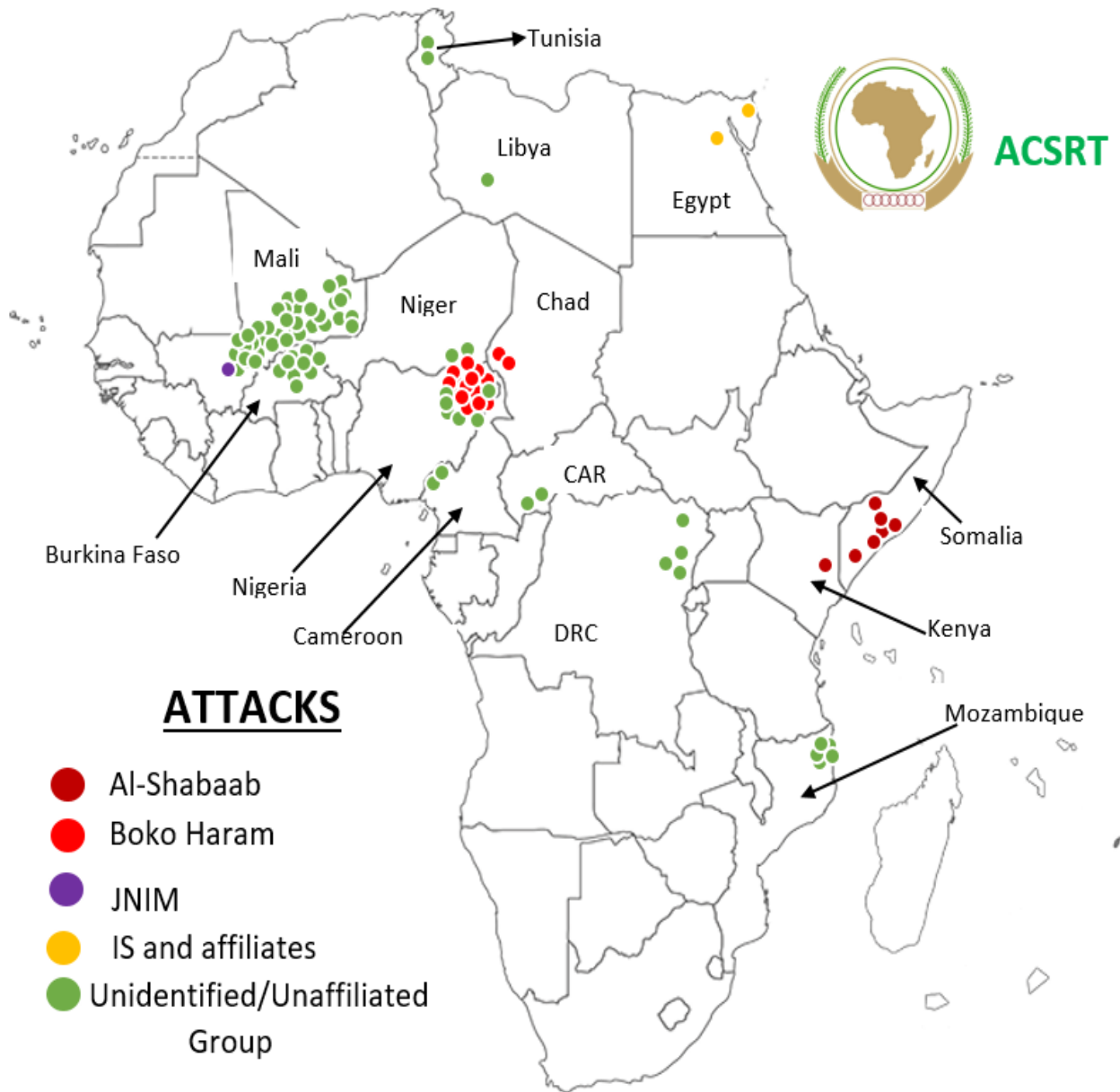
Amadou Kouffa, leader of MLF, a jihadi group in Central Mali, who until his re-emergence as shown in a video broadcasted by Andalous and Az-Zallaqua media foundations, was reportedly killed together with 34 others jihadists in a joint operation by the French Operation Barkhane and the Malian Armed Forces (FAMA) on 23rd November 2018, in Mopti. Amadou Kouffa in the broadcasted video opined that, the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) program initiated by the Government of Mali in Central and Northern Mali will not see the light of day because the crisis in the regions were much more complex than what the authorities imagined as they are rooted in history and deep mistrust. It is anticipated that the re-emergence of Amadou Kouffa will have huge negative repercussions for the security situation in Mali, as it will boost the morale of the terrorist fighters within the MLF and JNIM and motivate them to escalate their activities. The new development undermines government authority in Mali particularly in the Central and North parts where it is already struggling to maintain control.

In the Lake Chad Basin, the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) and Boko Haram (Shekau faction), carried out a number of attacks against communities in Chad as well as in the Borno and Yobe States of Nigeria. Niger also experienced attacks from Boko Haram and other local extremist groups particularly in the Diffa Region and along the border with Nigeria. The Armed Elements from the Union for Peace (UPC) in Central African Republic attacked MINUSCA peacekeepers on patrol in spite of the peace agreement reached with armed groups in the country. The North Kivu of Democratic Republic of Congo also suffered attacks from local armed groups in February 2019.

In East Africa region particularly the Horn of Africa, threats from Al-shabaab and Al-Qaeda affiliated groups persists. Although, counter-terrorism operations have resulted in the neutralization of some members of Al-Shabaab, the group continues to carry out devastating attacks against security forces and civilians. In the North Africa, Egypt recorded attacks from suspected Islamist terrorists. On 16 February 2019 in El-Arish, Northern Sinai ISIS-claimed responsibility for attack on a military checkpoint killing 15 Egyptian soldiers. Mozambique remain the only country that experienced attacks from terrorist groups in the Southern African Region. The Cabo Delgado region of the country recorded five (5) incidents of terrorists' attacks killing a total of five (5) people.

Map 1: Map of Terrorism Incidents from 16th to 28th February 2019

AFRICA TERRORISM INCIDENTS MAP: FROM 16-28 FEB. 2019



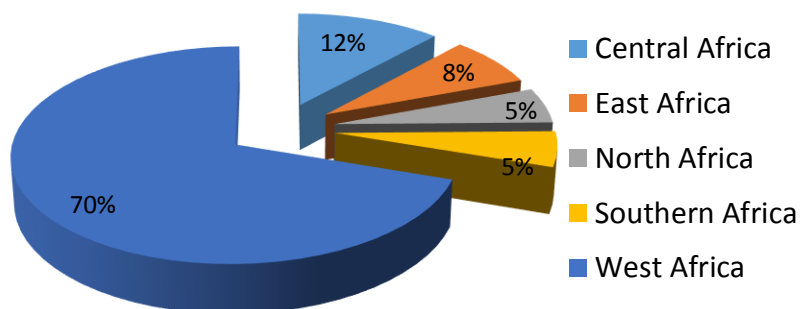
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

1. Total Terrorist Attacks: 93

A total of 93 terrorism incidents including 11 cases of kidnappings were recorded from 16th to 28th February 2019.

2. Terrorists Attacks by Region

Figure 1: Terrorists attacks by Region



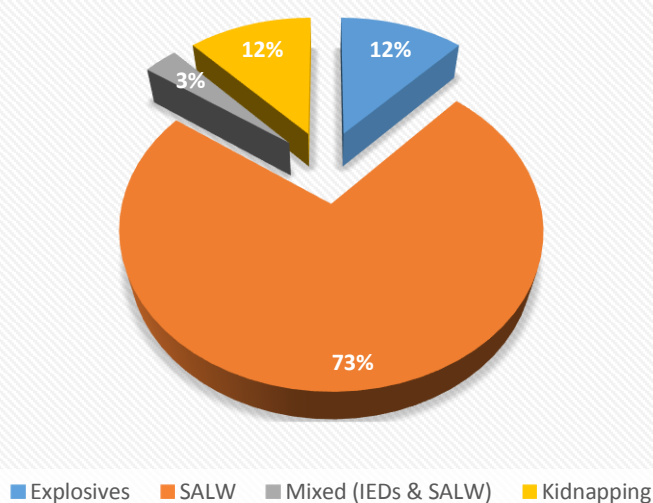
Region:

- Central Africa: **11**
 - East Africa: **7**
 - North Africa: **5**
 - Southern Africa: **5**
 - West Africa: **65**
- West Africa recorded the highest number of terrorist attacks. A total of 65 attacks representing 70% was recorded within the period.
 - East Africa recorded 7 attacks and Central Africa recorded 11 attacks representing 8% and 12% of total attacks respectively. Each of the Southern and Northern Africa recorded 5 attacks representing 5% each.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

3. Means of Attack

Figure 2: Means of Attacks



Means of Attacks:

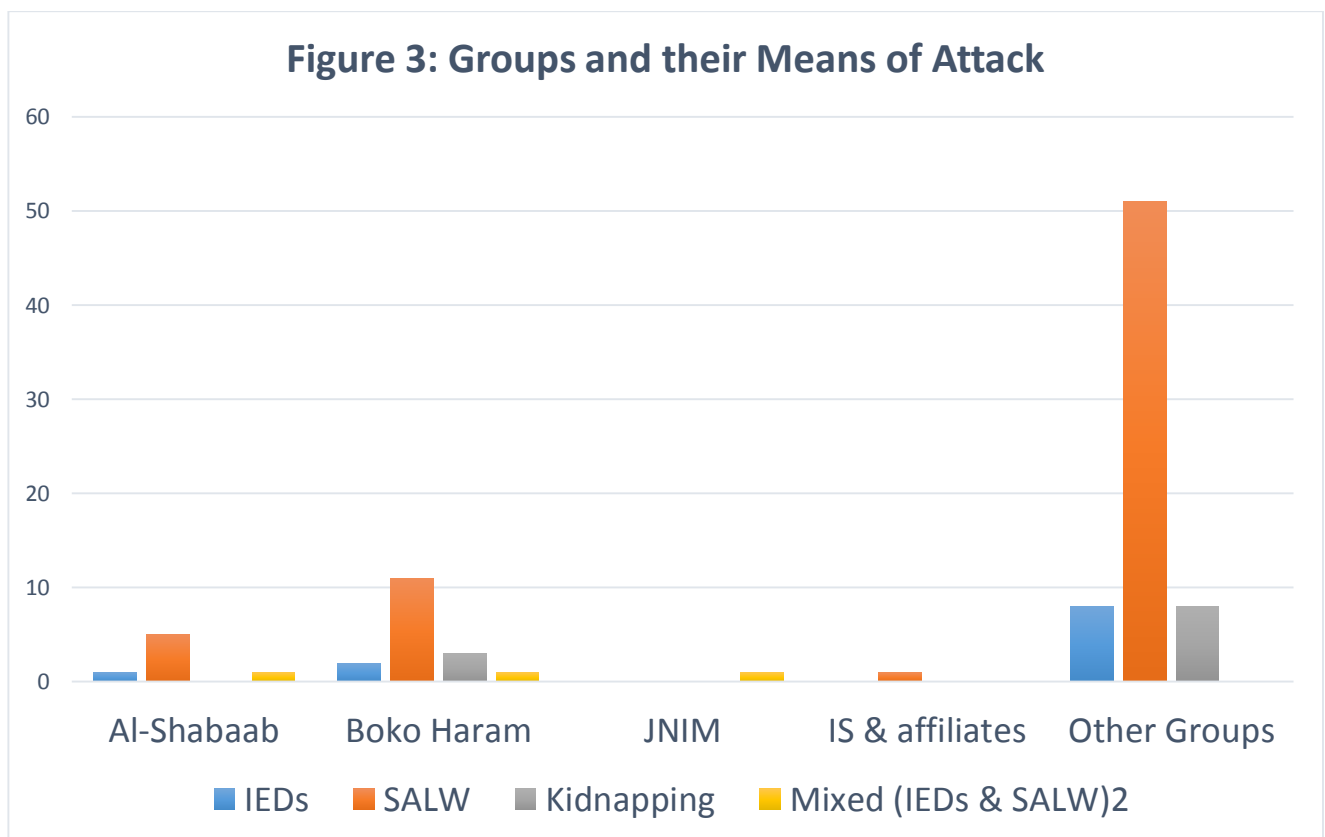
- SALW: **68**
 - IEDs: **11**
 - Kidnapping: **11**
 - Mixed (IEDs & SALW): **3**
- SALW recorded the highest means by which terrorist groups attacked their targets. 68 attacks by SALW, representing 73% of total attacks.
 - In 11 out of 93 attacks, terrorists used IEDs.
 - In 3 attacks, terrorists used a mixture of means (IEDs and SALW).

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

4. Terrorist Groups and their Means of Attack

- **Boko Haram: 16**
 - SALW: 11
 - Kidnapping: 3
 - IEDs : 2
 - Mixed (IEDs & SALW):1
 - **Al-Shabaab : 7**
 - SALW: 5
 - IEDs : 1
 - Mixed (IEDs & SALW): 1
 - **JNIM : 1**
 - Mixed (IEDs &SALW): 1
 - **IS & Affiliates : 1**
 - SALW: 1
 - **Unidentified/Unaffiliated Groups : 67**
 - SALW: 51
 - IEDs : 8
 - Kidnapping: 8
- Al-Shabaab for the first time used more SALW in their attacks than IEDs. In 5, out of the 7 attacks by the group, SALW were used.
 - In 11 out of 17 attacks carried out by Boko Haram, SALW were used as a means of attack.
 - JNIM employed both IEDs and SALW in their attack.
 - In the attack perpetrated by the Islamists in the Sinai Peninsula, the groups used SALW.
 - Majority of attacks carried out by unidentified/unaffiliated groups used SALW. Out of 67 attacks carried out by such groups, SALW were used in 51 attacks whereas IEDs and Kidnappings were used in 8 attacks each.

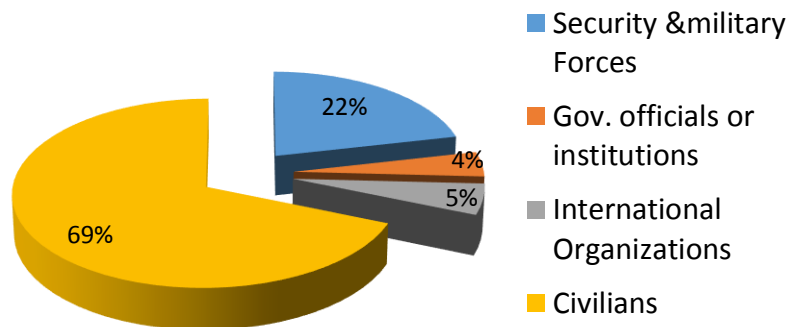
Figure 3: Groups and their Means of Attack



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

5. Primary Targets

Figure 4: Primary Targets



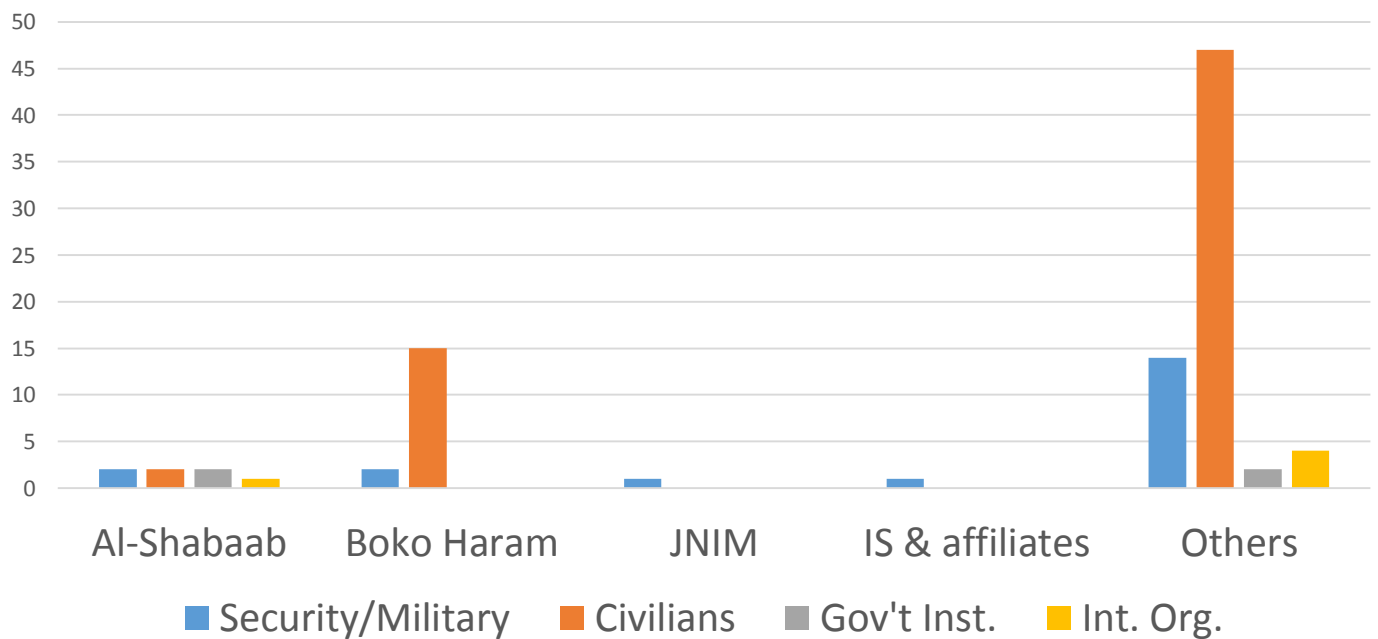
Primary Targets

- Civilians: **64**
 - Security/Military Forces: **20**
 - Gov. Officials/Institutions: **4**
 - International Organizations: **5**
- 64 of the attacks representing 69 % targeted civilians. Similarly, 20 of the attacks representing 22% targeted Security/Military Forces.
 - 4% of the attacks targeted government officials/ institutions whereas 5% targeted International Organizations (MINUSMA in Mali, AMISOM troops in Somalia, MINUSCA in CAR, and Médecins Sans Frontières in DRC).

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

6. Terrorist Groups and their Primary Targets

Figure 5: Groups and the Primary Targets



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Boko Haram: 17

- **Civilians: 15**
- **Military/Security : 2**

15 of Boko Haram's attacks targeted civilians whereas 2 of their attacks targeted Security/Military.

Al-Shabaab: 7

- **Civilians: 2**
- **Military/Security: 2**
- **Gov. Officials & institutions: 2**
- **International Organization: 1**

Out of the 7 attacks carried out by Al-Shabaab, Security/Military, civilians and Government Officials/institutions were targeted 2 times each by the group. One the attacks targeted International organization (troops from AMISOM).

JNIM : 1

- **Military/Security : 1**

JNIM carried out 1 attack against Military/Security forces.

IS & affiliates : 1

- **Military/Security : 1**

IS affiliated group in the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt carried out 1 attack against Military/Security forces.

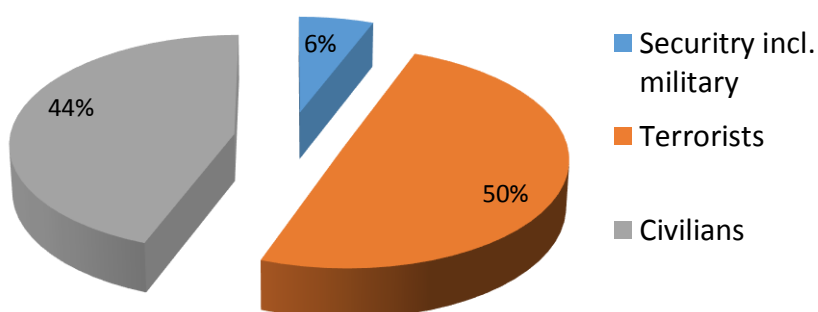
Unidentified/Unaffiliated Groups : 67

- **Civilians: 47**
- **Military/Security : 14**
- **International Org. (Military): 4**
- **Gov. Officials & institutions: 2**

In attacks where no group claimed responsibility, civilians were mostly targeted. 47 out of 67 attacks by unidentified/unaffiliated groups targeted civilians whereas 14 targeted Security/Military forces.

7. Total Terrorism-Related Deaths

Figure 6: Total Terrorism Related Deaths



Total Terrorism-related Deaths: 508

- Terrorists: **253**
- Civilians: **225**
- Security/Military: **30**

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Total Deaths Related to Terrorist Attacks: 337

- Security/Military: **30**
- Terrorists: **82**
- Civilians: **225**

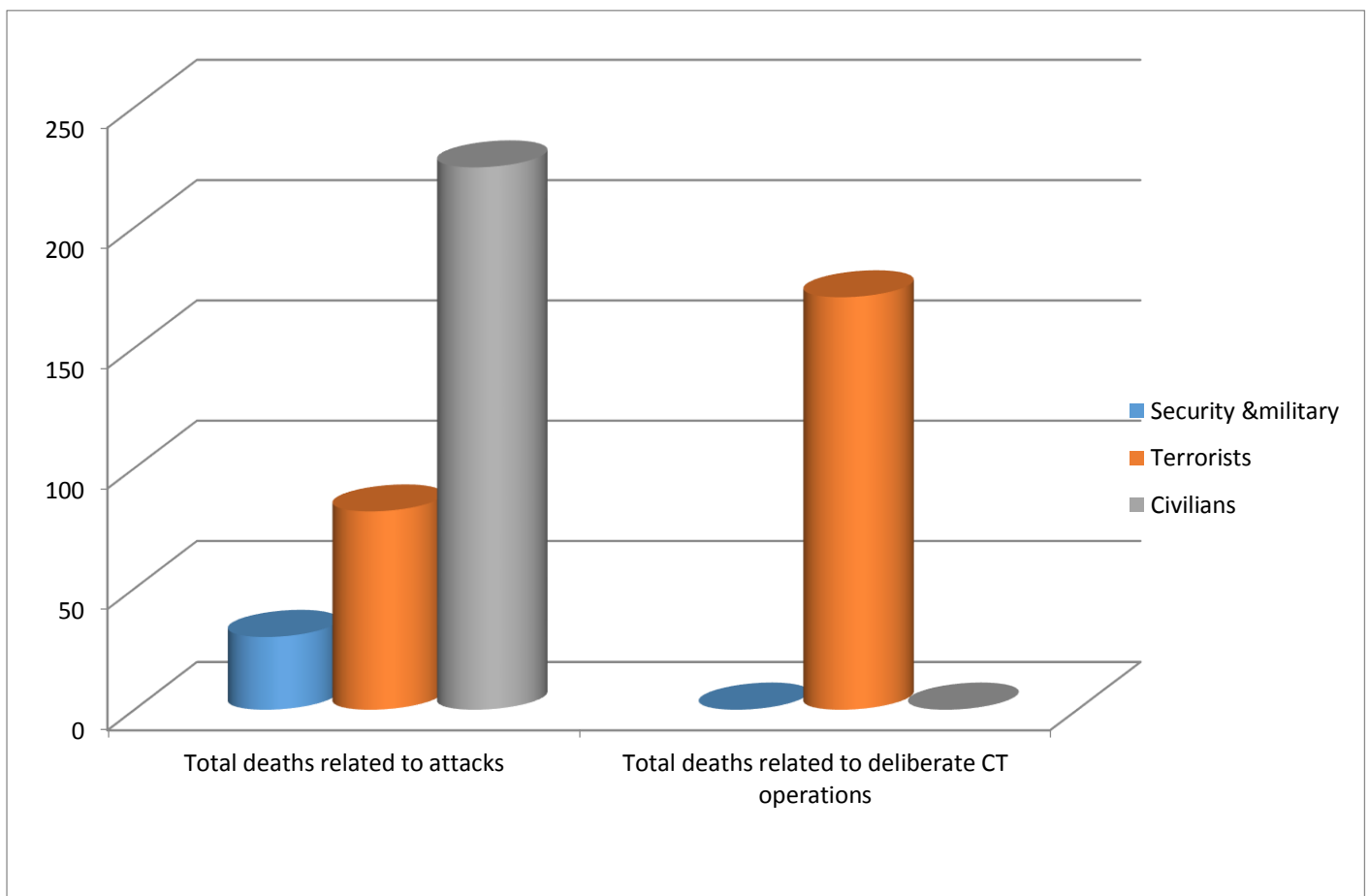
- 337 out of the 508 terrorism-related deaths resulted from terrorist attacks.
- Civilians suffered the most casualties of 225 out of 337 deaths

Total Deaths Related to CT Operations: 171

- Terrorists: **171**

- CT Operations resulted in neutralization of 171 members of terrorist groups

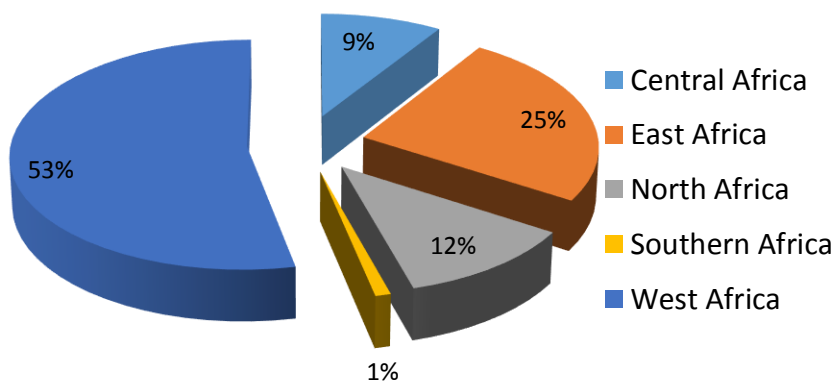
Figure 7: Deaths Related to Terrorist Attacks and Deliberate Counter-Terrorism Operations



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

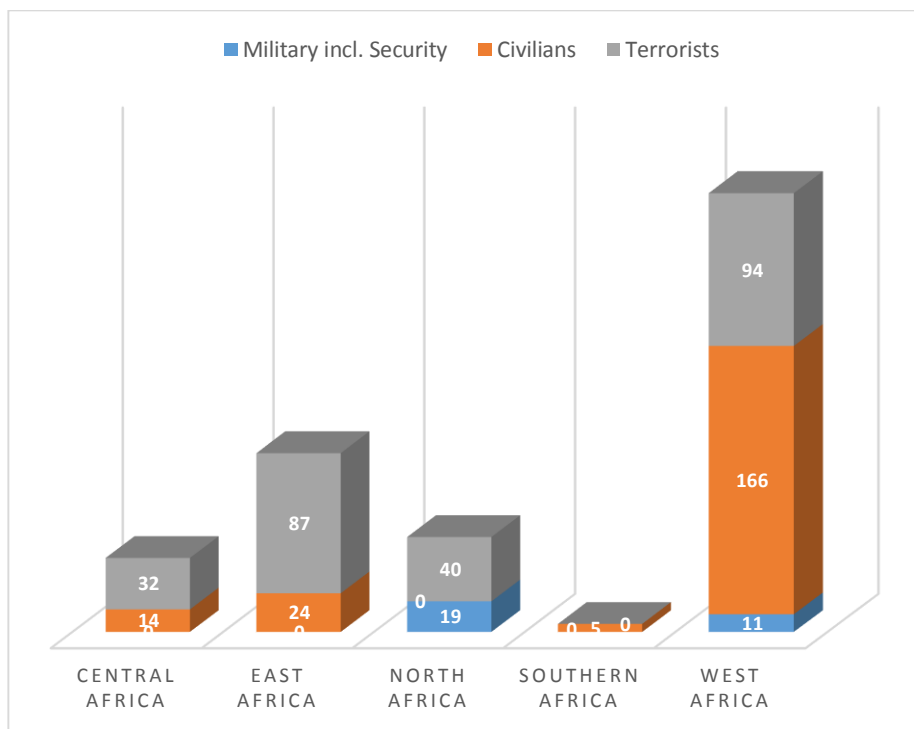
8. Terrorism-related Deaths by Region

Figure 8: Deaths by Regions



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Figure 9: Regional Deaths by Category



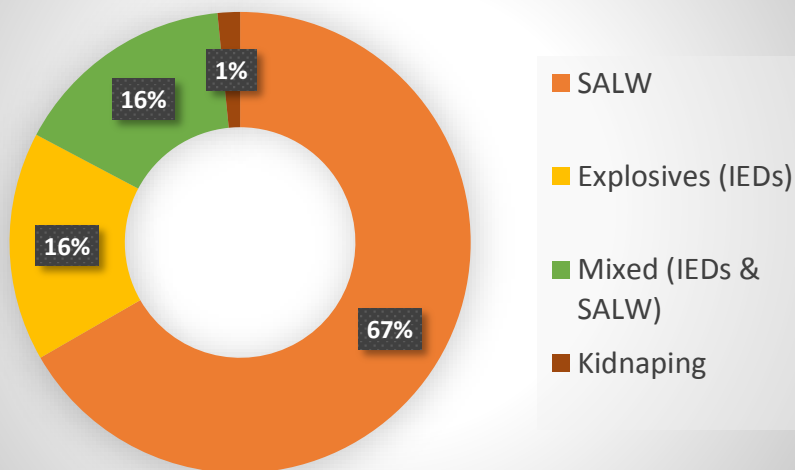
Source: ACSRT Database, 2009

Deaths by Regions:

- Central Africa: **46**
 - Terrorists: 32
 - Civilians: 14
 - East Africa: **127**
 - Terrorists: 87
 - Civilians: 24
 - North Africa: **59**
 - Terrorists: 40
 - Military/sec.: 19
 - Southern Africa: **5 (all Civilians)**
 - West Africa: **271**
 - Civilians: 166
 - Terrorists: 94
 - Military/sec.: 11
- West Africa recorded the highest number of terrorism-related deaths. 53% of deaths recorded within the period happened in the region.
 - 25%, 12% and 9% of all terrorism-related deaths within the period occurred in East, North and Central Africa respectively.
 - Southern Africa recorded 5 terrorism incidents resulting in 5 deaths.

9. Deaths by Means of Attack

Figure 10: Deaths by Means of Attack



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Deaths by Means of Attack

- SALW: 170
 - IEDs: 41
 - Mixed (IEDs & SALW):40
 - Kidnapping : 4
- SALW accounted for 67% of terrorists attack related deaths, whereas IEDs accounted for 16% of deaths related to terrorists attack.
 - Mixed approach (SALW and IED) resulted in 16% of deaths caused by terrorists groups.
 - 4 people died from cases of kidnappings.

10. Attacks/Victims by Terrorist Groups

Attacks by Terrorist Groups

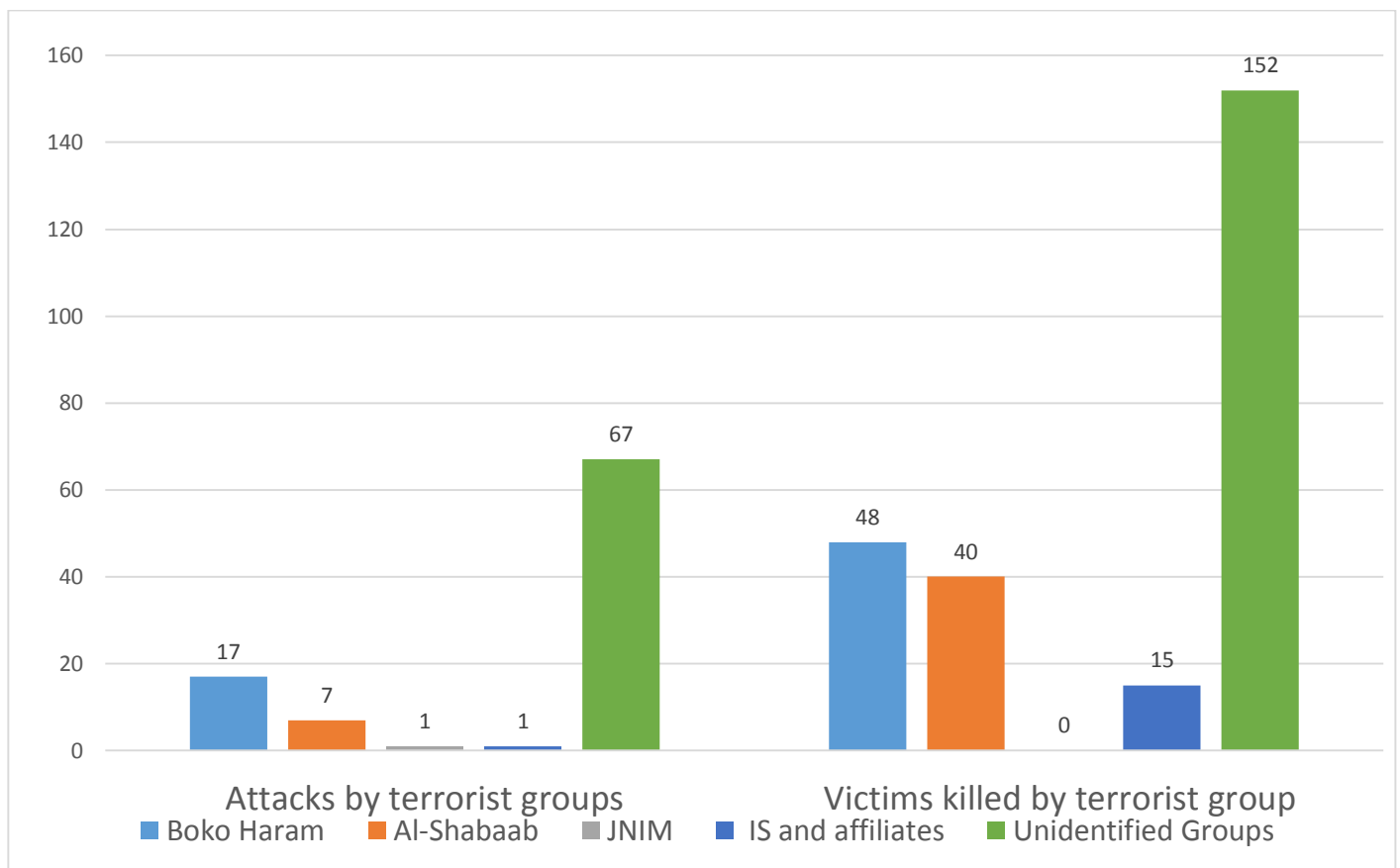
- Boko Haram: 17
- Al-shabaab : 7
- JNIM: 1
- IS & Affiliates: 1
- Unidentified/Unaffiliated Groups: 67

Victims Killed by Terrorist Groups: 255

- Al-Shabaab: 40 (all civilians)
- Boko Haram: 48 (45 Civilians; 3 Military/Sec.)
- IS & Affiliates: 15 (all Military/Sec.)
- Others: 152 (140 Civilians; 12 Military/Sec.)

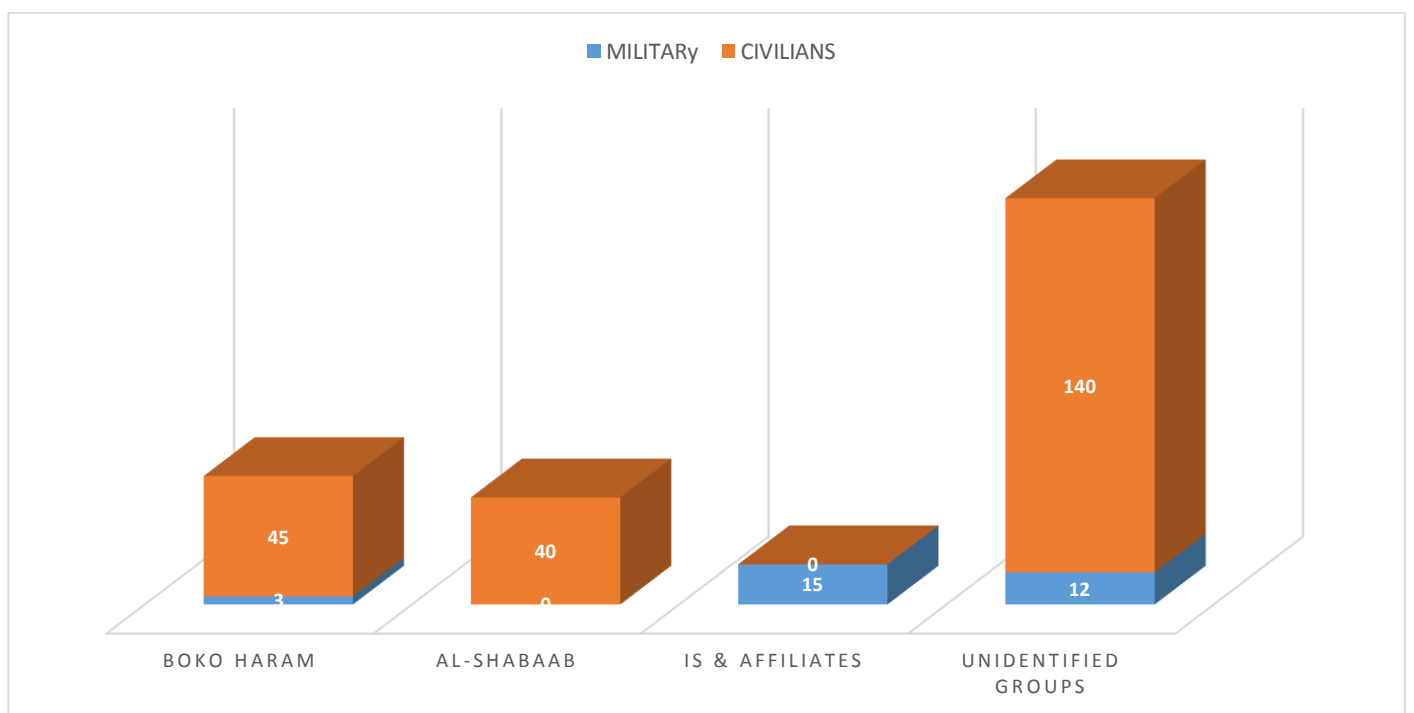
- Boko Haram carried out 17 attacks representing the highest number of assaults resulting in 48 deaths.
- Al-Shabaab carried out 7 attacks killing a total of 40 persons.
- ISWAP carried out 2 attacks killing of 13 persons.
- Islamist groups in Sinai Peninsula carried out 1 attack killing 15 soldiers whereas JNIM carried one attack with no reported death.
- A total of 67 attacks were carried out by unidentified/unaffiliated groups. This resulted in 152 deaths

Figure 11: Attacks/Victims by Terrorist groups



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Figure 12: Category of Victims Killed by Terrorist Groups



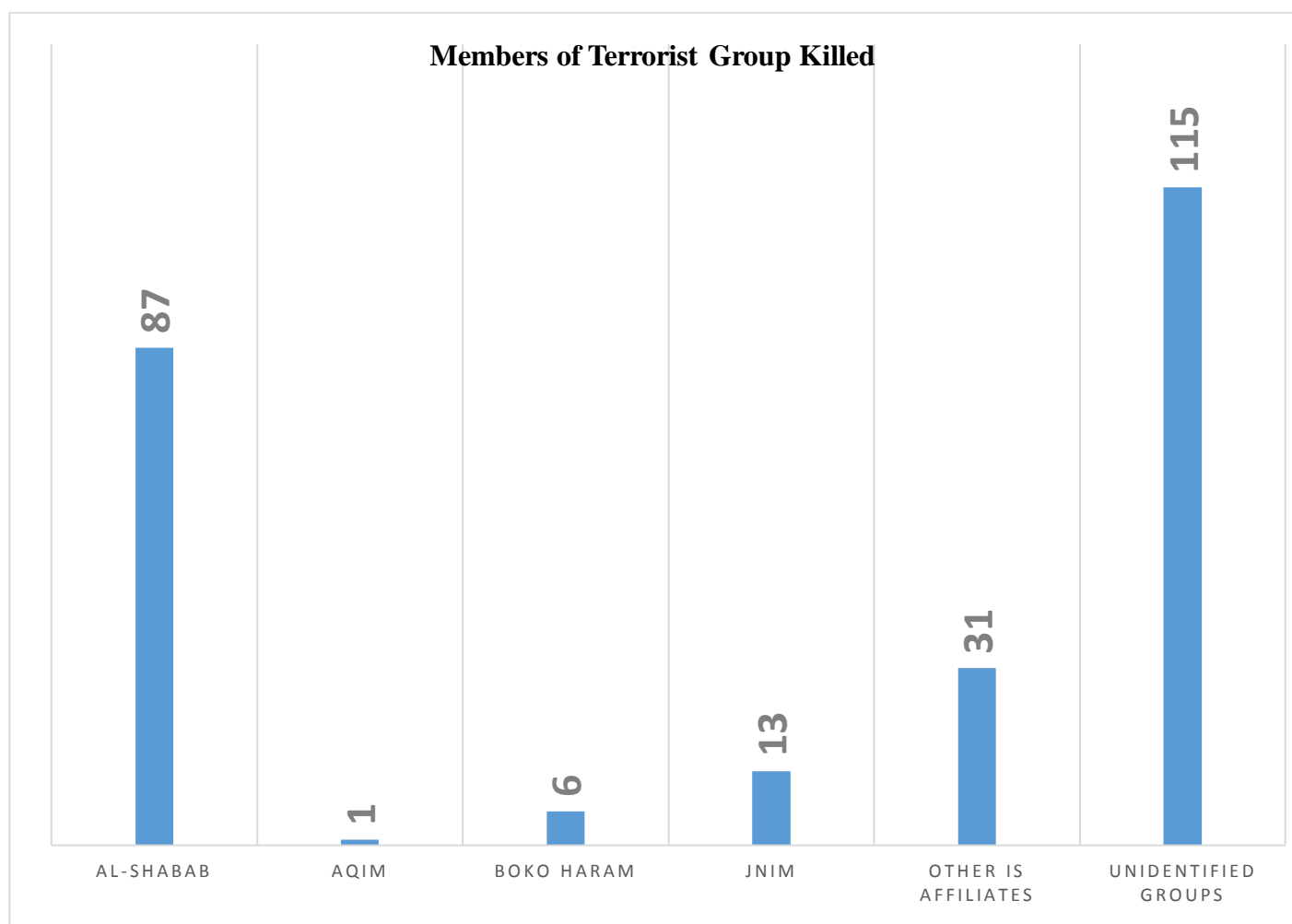
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

11. Members of Terrorist Groups Killed

Members of Terrorists Groups Killed: 253

- Al-shabaab: 87
 - IS and affiliates:31
 - JNIM: 13
 - Boko Haram: 6
 - AQIM: 1
 - Unidentified/Unaffiliated Groups :115
- Among the members of terrorist groups killed in counter- terrorism operations, Al-shabaab suffered the highest number of casualties. The terrorist group lost 87 of its members.
 - Militant groups in the Sinai Peninsula, Egypt lost 31 members whereas NJIM lost 13 members.
 - 6 fighters of Boko Haram were killed whereas AQIM lost 1 member during CT operations.
 - 115 other terrorists killed were members of unidentified/unaffiliated groups. These include 44 terrorists killed in Mali, 37 terrorists killed in Burkina Faso and 30 terrorists killed in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Figure 13: Members of Terrorist Groups Killed



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

12. Five Most Affected Countries

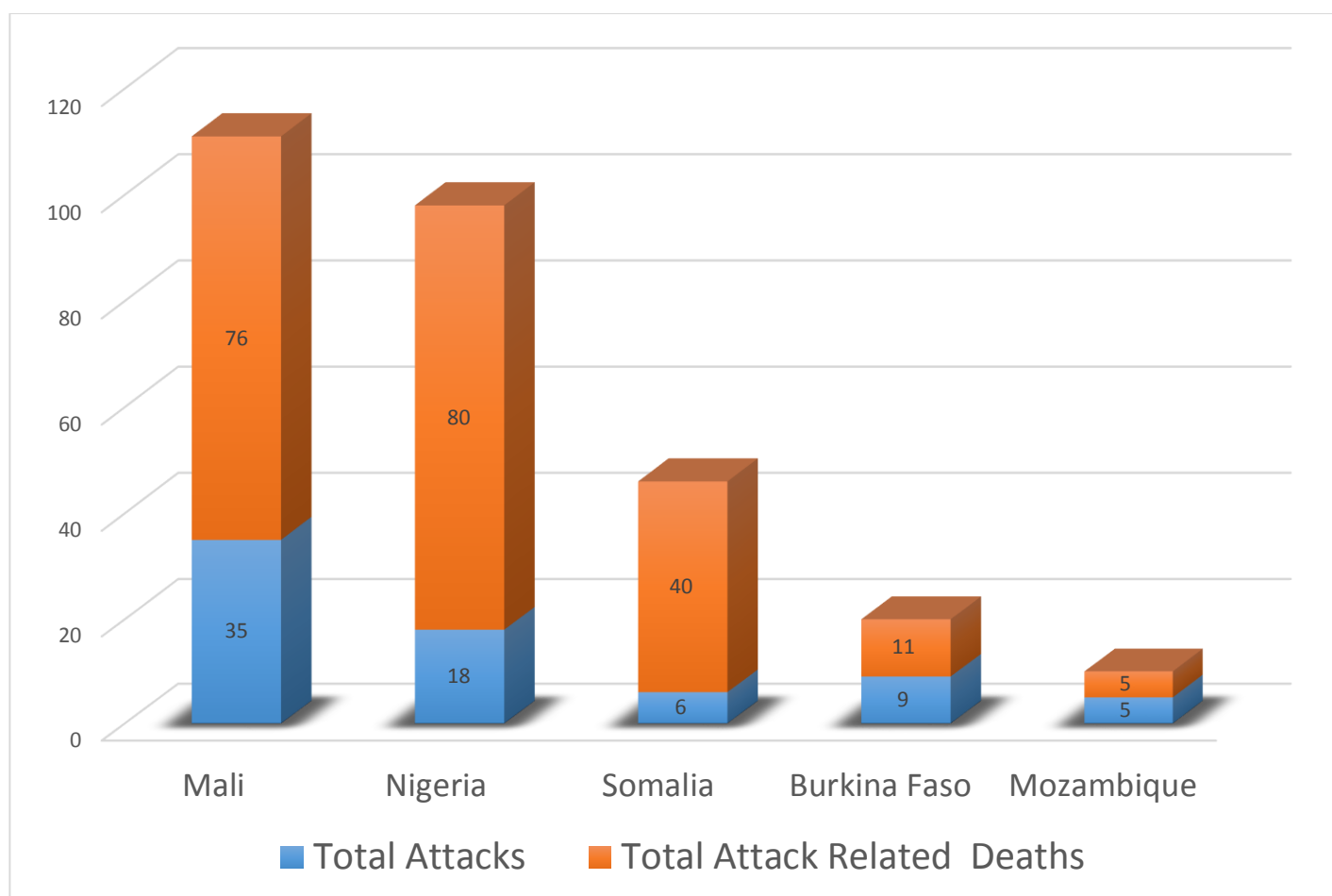
Table 1: Five (5) Countries Most Affected

Country	Total Attacks	Total Deaths Related to Attacks	Total injured
Mali	35	76	43
Nigeria	18	80	48
Somalia	6	40	88
Burkina Faso	9	11	0
Mozambique	5	5	26

- Mali recorded the highest number of attacks (35), whereas Nigeria recorded the highest number of deaths (80).
- Somalia recorded 6 attacks resulting in 40 deaths and 88 injuries.
- Burkina Faso recorded 11 deaths from 9 attacks whereas Mozambique recorded 5 attacks resulting in 5 deaths and 26 injuries.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Figure 14: Five Most Affected Countries



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

13. Most Fatal Terrorism Incidents

Table 2: List of Most Fatal Terrorism Incidents

No	Country	City	Date	Group	Deaths	Description
1	Somalia	Mogadishu	28/2/19	Al Shabaab	29	Assailants attacked Hotel Maka Al-Mukarama killing 29 people and injuring 88.
2	Nigeria	Borno	18/2/19	Boko Haram	18	Armed men from Boko Haram attacked a group of firewood merchants in Koshebe killing 18 civilians.
3	Mali	Mopti	27/2/19	*NGCR	17	An explosive device planted on a dead body exploded killing 17 people and injuring 15 others.
4	Nigeria	Benue	20/2/19	*NGCR	16	Armed men attacked Ebete community killing 16 people
5	Egypt	El-Arish	16/2/19	ISIS	15	Assailant attacked a military checkpoint in El-Arish, Northern Sinai killing 15 soldiers.

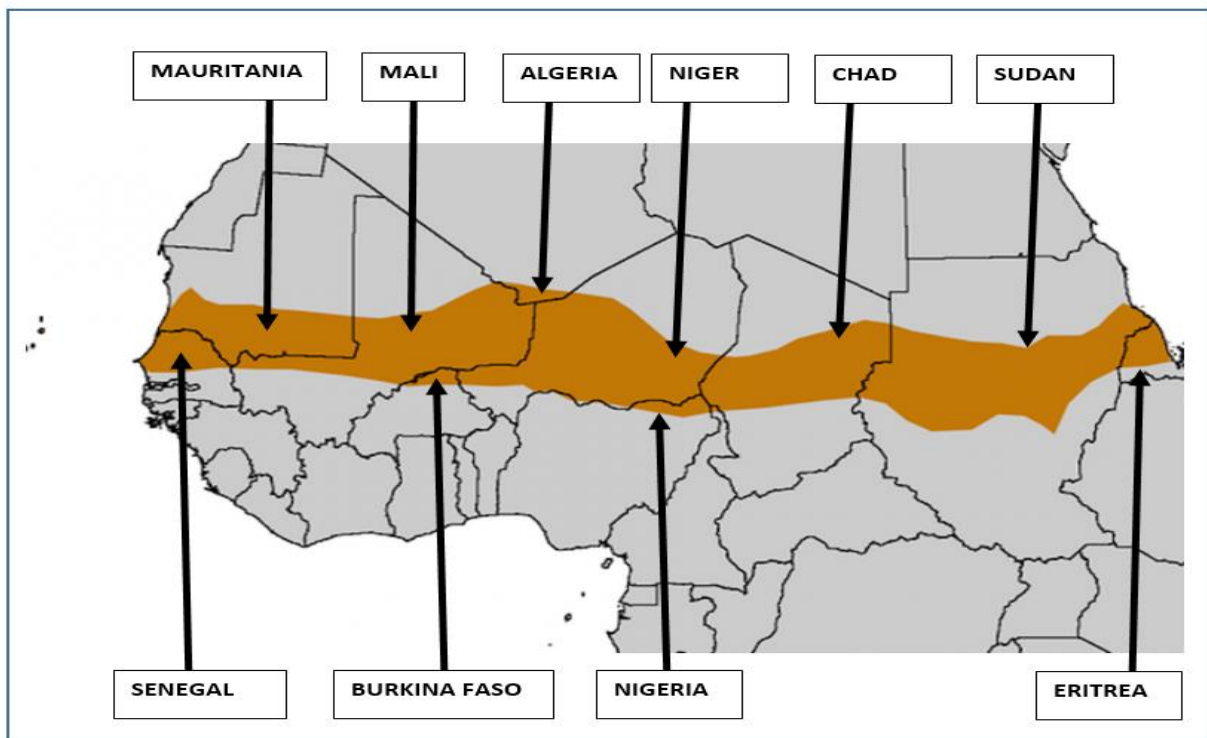
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

*No Group Claimed Responsibility

IN FOCUS

THE SAHEL REGION

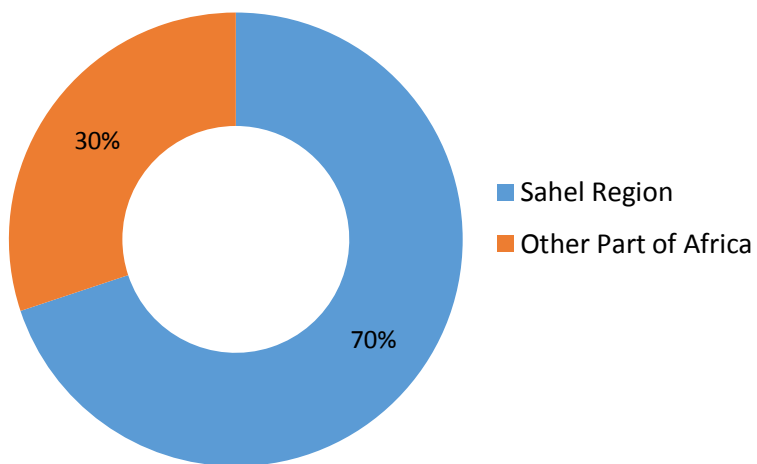
Map 2: Map Showing Countries of the Sahel Region



Source: Adapted from World Atlas, 2017

14. Total Attacks in the Sahel Region

Figure 16: Attacks in the Sahel



Total Attacks in Africa: 93

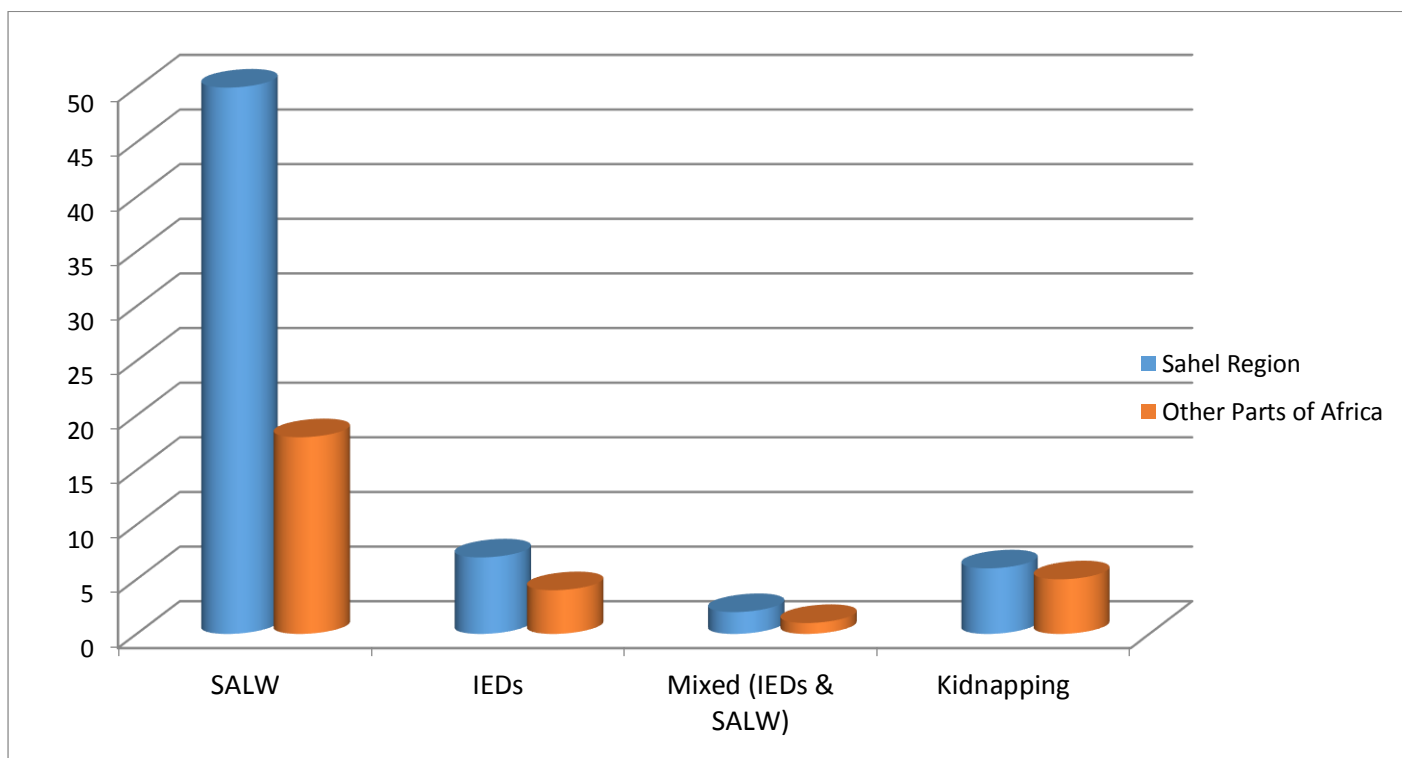
- Sahel region: **65**
- Other Parts of Africa: **28**

- Countries in the Sahel region that recorded attacks are Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Nigeria. 35 attacks occurred in Mali, 18 in Nigeria, 9 in Burkina Faso, and 3 in Niger.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

15. Means of Attack in the Sahel

Figure 17: Means of Attack in the Sahel



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Means of Attack in the Sahel

➤ SALW: 68

- Sahel: 50
- Other Parts of Africa: 18

➤ IED: 11

- Sahel: 7
- Other Parts of Africa: 4

➤ Mixed:3

- Sahel: 2
- Other Parts of Africa: 1

➤ Kidnapping: 11

- Sahel: 6
- Other Parts of Africa: 5

- Out of a total of 68 attacks using SALW, the Sahel recorded 50.

- This means that, SALW remain the highest means by which terrorist groups attack their targets.

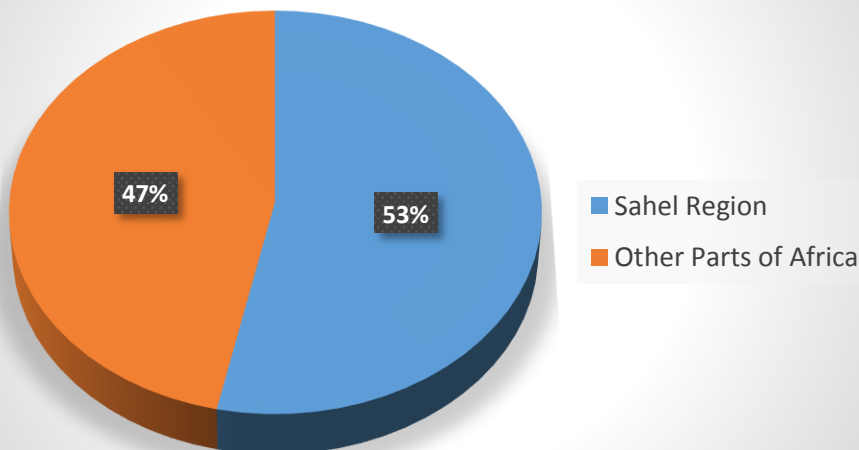
- The use of IEDs were also high in the Sahel region. 7 attacks in the Sahel used IEDs as against 4 in the rest of Africa.

- Six (6) out of the Eleven (11) terrorism incidents of kidnapping that took place happened in the Sahel.

- Two (2) out of the Three (3) terrorism incidents where IEDs and SALW were both used happened in the Sahel.

16. Total Deaths Recorded in the Sahel

Figure 18: Deaths in the Sahel Region



Total Deaths in Africa: 508

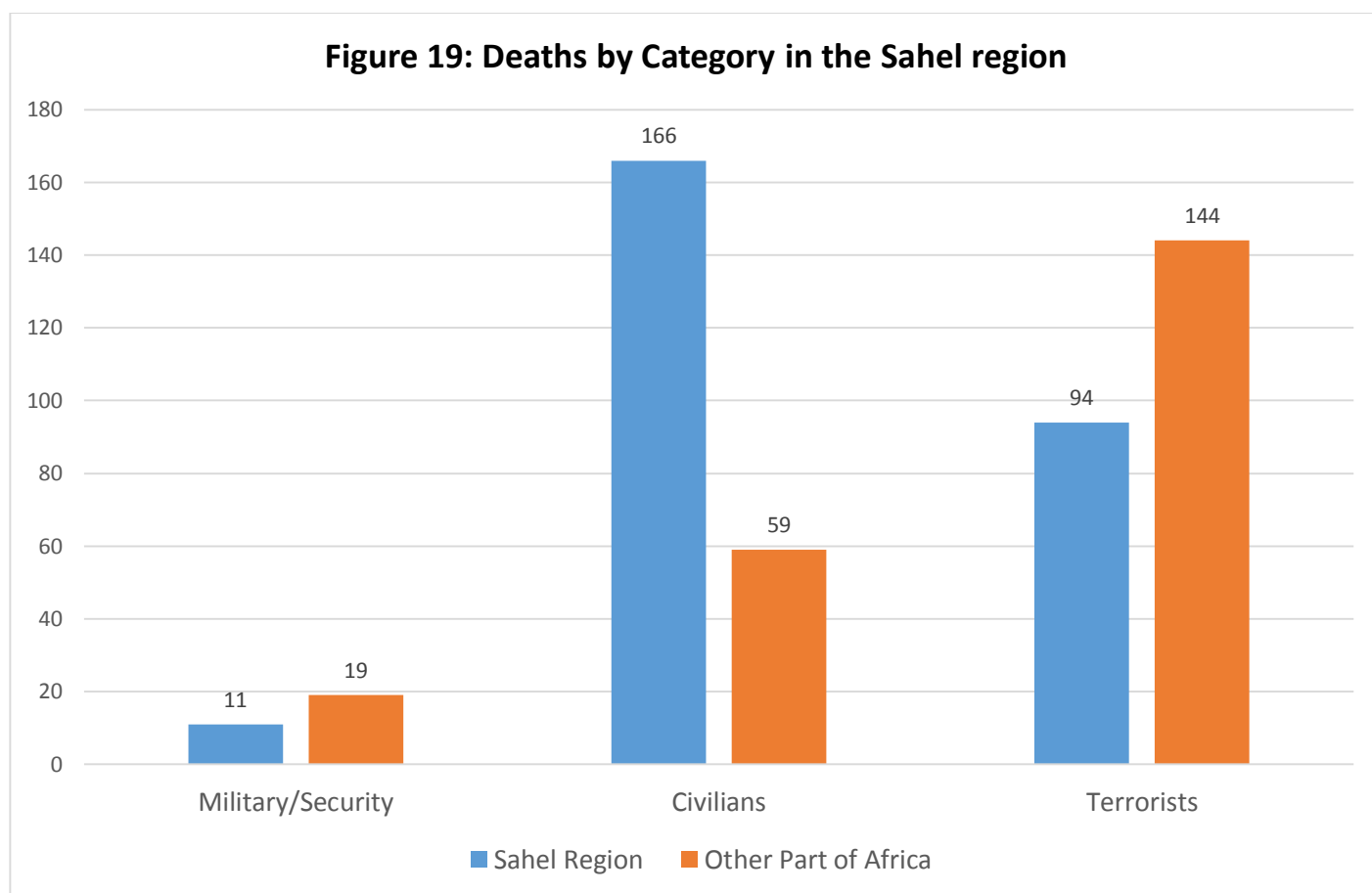
➤ Sahel Region: 271

➤ Other Parts of Africa: 237

- The countries in the Sahel where these deaths occurred were Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Nigeria

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

17. Deaths by Category in the Sahel Region



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Deaths by Category in the Sahel Region

- **Terrorists: 253**
 - Sahel: 94
 - Other Parts of Africa: 159
 - **Civilians: 225**
 - Sahel: 166
 - Other Parts of Africa: 59
 - **Security: 30**
 - Sahel: 11
 - Other Parts of Africa: 19
- 166 Civilians representing around 74% of all civilian deaths occurred in the Sahel Region as against 59 (26%) in the rest of Africa
 - 11 Military/Security personnel were killed in the Sahel whereas 19 were killed in the rest of Africa.
 - 94 members of terrorist groups were eliminated in the Sahel region as against 159 in the rest of Africa

18. Synthesis of Terrorism Incidents in Africa
Table 3: Synthesis of Terrorism Incidents in Africa

No	Country/ Regions: Central Africa East Africa North Africa Southern Africa West Africa	Type and total of attacks				Rebels/terrorists Clashes	Total Dead			Total Wounded			Hostages	Arrested Terrorists	Primary Targets				
		Explosives (IED)	Small Arms and light weapons (SALW)	Mixed (IED and SALW)	Kidnapping		Security/Military	Terrorists	Civilians	Security/Military	Terrorists	Civilians			Security/Military	Government officials or institutions	International Organizations	Civilians	
1	Cameroun	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	171	-	-	-	-	-	2
2	CAR	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
3	Chad	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	-	5	19	5	-	-	-	3	
4	DRC	-	4	-	1	3	-	30	8	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	
5	Kenya	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	-	-	
6	Somalia	1	4	1	-	-	-	87	40	3	3	85	-	2	1	2	1	2	
7	Algeria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	
8	Egypt	1	1	-	-	-	18	40	-	2	-	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	
9	Libya	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	
10	Tunisia	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	
11	Mozambique	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	26	-	-	-	-	-	5	
12	Burkina Faso	-	9	-	-	-	1	37	10	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	4	
13	Mali	5	24	1	5	-	4	51	72	4	-	39	11	2	8	-	2	25	
14	Niger	1	2	-	-	-	2	2	8	-	-	1	7	-	1	-	-	2	
15	Nigeria	1	15	1	1	-	4	4	76	28	-	20	12	-	2	-	-	16	
Sub-Total		11	68	3	11	4	30	253	225	38	11	180	220	23	20	4	5	64	
General Total		93				4	508			229			220	23	93				

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

NB: The color codes show countries in regions where incidents were recorded
DRC: Democratic Republic of Congo

CAR: Central African Republic
Nd: Not determined

19. Synthesis of Terrorist Groups Activities in Africa

Table 4: Synthesis of Terrorist Groups Activities in Africa

		al-Shabaab	Boko Haram	ISWAP	JNIM	AQIM	IS and Affiliates	Unidentified Groups	Sub-Total	TOTAL	
Attacks	Military & Security	2	2	-	1	-	1	14	20	93	
	International Org.	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	5		
	Gov. Off. & Institutions	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	4		
	Civilians	2	15	-	-	-	-	47	64		
Victims	Deaths	Military & Security	-	3	-	-	-	15	12	255	
		Civilians	40	45	-	-	-	-	140		225
	Injured	Military & Security	3	26	-	2	-	-	7	38	218
		Civilians	85	26	-	1	-	-	68	180	
Means of attack	IEDs	1	2	-	-	-	-	8	11	93	
	SALW	5	11	-	-	-	1	51	68		
	Mix (IEDs & SALW)	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	3		
	Kidnapping	-	3	-	-	-	-	8	11		
Lost (Killed)		87	6	Nd	13	1	31	115	253	253	
Arrested		6	5	-	-	1	2	12	23	23	

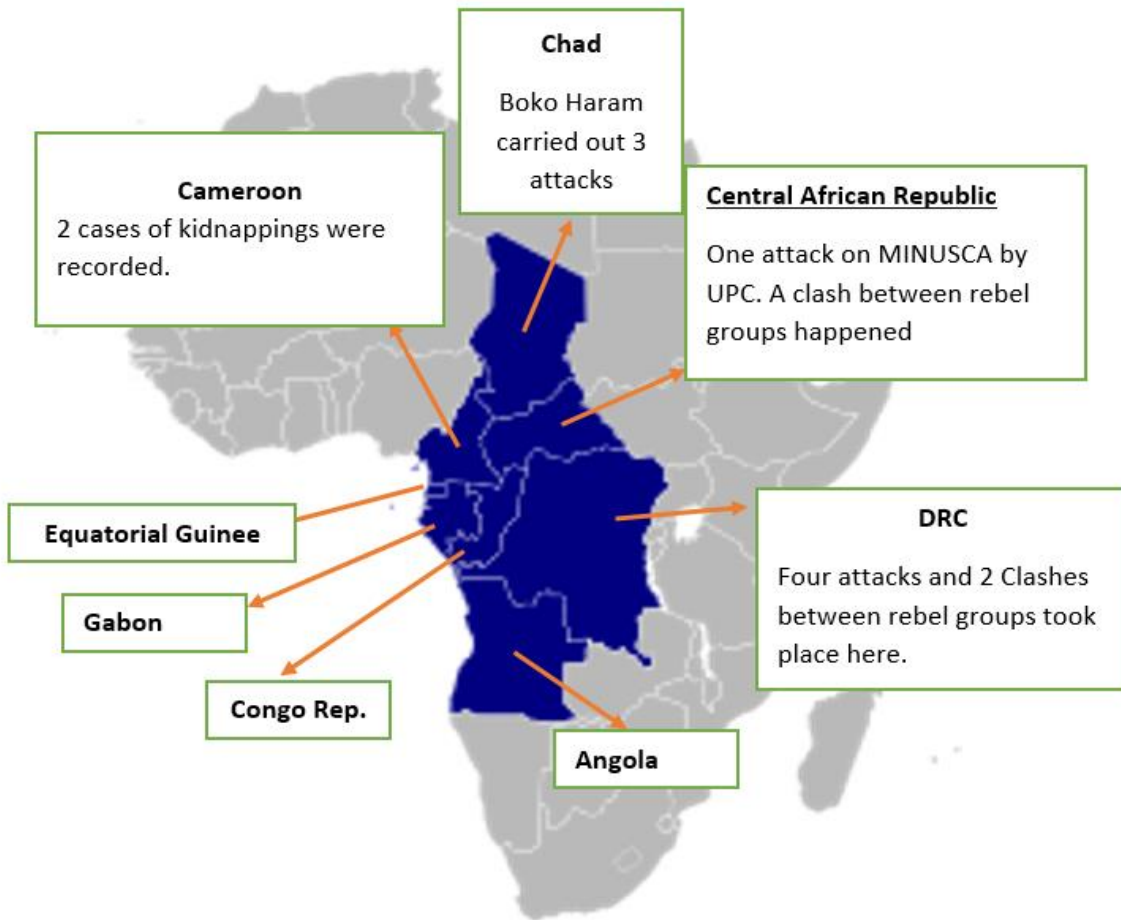
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Nd: Not determined

INCIDENTS RECORDED BY REGIONS

Map 3: Map Showing the Central Africa Region

CENTRAL AFRICA



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

CAMEROON

On 16 February 2019 in Kumbo. Unidentified gunmen abducted 170 students, two security guards, a teacher and three of his children. They were released the following day unhurt after negotiations with the kidnappers.

On 21 February 2019 in Bamenda. Unidentified armed men kidnapped the president of the Northwest regional chapter of Cameroon Association of English-speaking Journalists (CAMASEJ). He was released the following day unhurt.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

On 19 February 2019 in Bambari. Armed elements from the Union for Peace (UPC) in Central African Republic attacked MINUSCA peacekeepers on patrol. Two of the rebels were killed.

On February 24, 2019 in Liotto, Kouango. The Seleka and an Anti-Balaka groups clashed resulting in the assassination of Anti-Balaka leader by the Seleka group.

CHAD

On 18 February 2019 in N'Djamena. The Chadian army arrested five members of Boko Haram who had managed to infiltrate Chad in the Lac Region.

On 19 February 2019 in Bourbora and Ngatchia, Lac. Boko Haram attacked the villages killing five people and injuring five others. 12 people comprising 9 young women and three men were abducted.

On 21 February 2019 in Bohoma, Lac. Elements of Boko Haram stole more than 200 cattle heads and 7 drovers. One of the drovers managed to escape from the hands of his captors.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

On 16 February 2019 in Goma, North Kivu. Armed men carried out three attacks killing eight people.

On 16 February 2019 in Nyavikeri and Lwama, Masisi. Two militia groups the NDC / Rénové of Guidon and Nyatura factions led by Jean-Marie Kavumbi clashed. No casualties were reported.

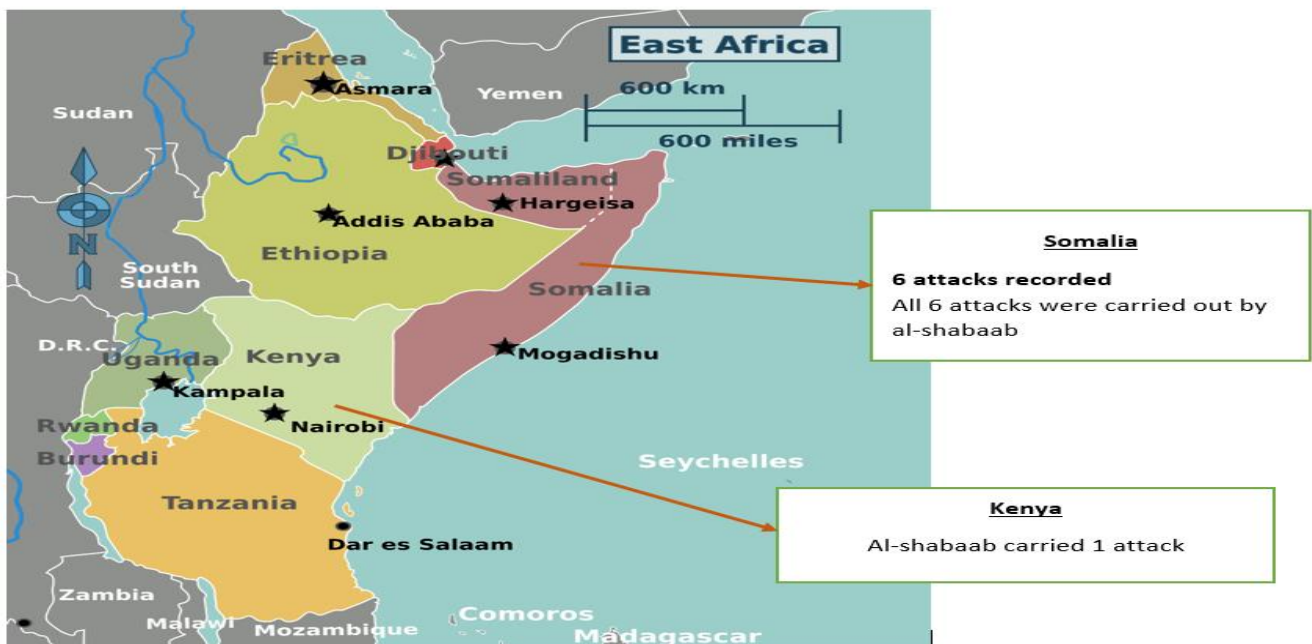
On 21 February 2019 in Katoko, Masisi. NDC / Rénové fighters and a coalition of Nyatura and APCLS fighters clashed. Eleven deaths and eight injuries were recorded.

On 24 February 2019 in Katwa. Armed men attacked Ebola treatment Centre run by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). The Centre was set on fire. No Casualty was recorded.

On 24 February 2019 in Kamako, Kasai Province. The ethnic clash between Kamuina Nsapu and Tetela Community militias resulted in 19 people killed on both sides.

EAST AFRICA

Map 4: Map Showing the East Africa Region



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

KENYA

On 19 February 2019 in Mandera. Kenya's Anti-Terrorism Police Unit (ATPU) arrested Abdu Hassan Yamah alias Somo Dubat Oukor, believed to be an Al Shabaab Spy.

On 25 February 2019 in Mandera. Al-Shabaab militants attacked the Dabacity military camp. The militants opened fire on policemen who successfully repulsed the attackers.

On 25 February 2019 in Nairobi. Kenyan Police arrested five suspects after they threw a live grenade. No Casualty was recorded.

SOMALIA

On 17 February 2019 in Mogadishu. Al-Shabaab militants attacked a military convoy belonging to the African Union Mission in Somalia killing unspecified number of soldiers.

On 20 February 2019 in Hodan, Mogadishu. Two men from al-shabaab armed with pistols attacked the convoy of Somalia's Deputy Attorney General, Mr Mohamed Abdirahman Mursal and killed him.

On 23 February 2019 in Mogadishu. Two men from Al-Shabaab armed with pistols shot dead a lawmaker, known as Osman Elmi Boqore.

On 24 February 2019 in Mogadishu. The police arrested two suspects and ceased a car which is believed to have been used to carry out the attack in which a federal lawmaker, Osman Elmi Boqore was killed.

On 23 February 2019 in Kunyow Barrow, Mogadishu. U.S. Africa Command conducted four airstrikes, killing 2 Al-Shabaab fighters.

On 24 February 2019 in Hiran. An Airstrike conducted by the United States military killed 35 fighters from al-Shabaab.

On 24 February 2019 in Lafole, Lower Shabelle. Al-Shabaab militants attacked civilians who were cleaning the streets. Nine were killed and two others injured.

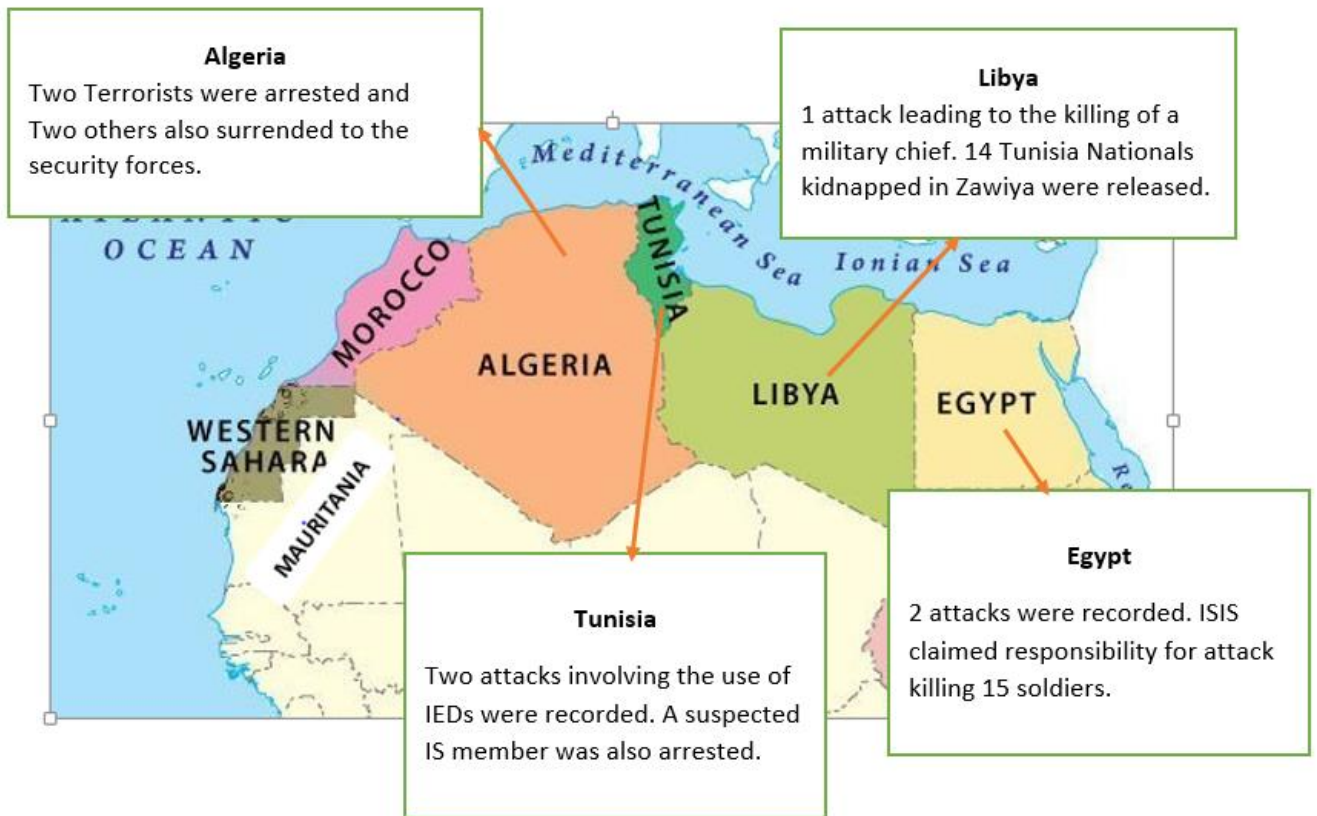
On 25 February 2019 in Shebeeley, Hiran. U.S. forces carried an air strike targeting an Al-Shabaab training camp. 20 Al-Shabaab fighters were killed

On 27 February 2019 in Qoryoley, Lower Shabelle Armed militants attacked African Union military base. The security forces killed one militant. Three AU soldiers were wounded.

On 28 February 2019 in Mogadishu. Al-Shabaab fighters attacked the Hotel Maka Al-Mukarama. One Shabaab fighter blew himself up. 29 persons were killed and 83 wounded. 3 al-shabaab militants were killed.

On 28 February 2019 in Hiran. The U. S Army carried out an airstrike killing a total of 26 Al-Shabaab fighters

Map 5: Map showing the North Africa Region



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

ALGERIA

On 16 February 2019 in Algiers. The People's National Army arrested a wanted terrorist by name "B. Yacine", while another detachment of the Army apprehended some individuals who provide support to terrorist groups, in M'sila.

On 20 February 2019 in Oran and Tissemsilt. The National People's Army arrested two people supporting terrorist groups, while another detachment of the Army discovered and destroyed two homemade bombs in Beni Bouatab, wilaya of Chlef.

On 25 February 2019 in Tamanrasset. Two terrorists, named Mustapha Imlaouene and Lahcen Dellali, surrendered to the military authorities and provided information that led to the discovery of a cache of weapons and ammunition.

EGYPT

On 16 February 2019 in El-Arish, Northern Sinai. Assailants attacked a military checkpoint killing 15 Egyptian soldiers. 7 Terrorist were also killed. ISIS-claimed responsibility for attack.

On 18 February 2019 in El-Darb al-Ahmar, Cairo. An explosive device carried by militants exploded killing three policemen. Two security officers and three civilians were wounded.

On 19 February 2019 in El Arish, Sinai Peninsula. Egyptian security forces killed 16 suspected armed fighters in two separate raids.

On 20 February 2019 in Cairo. Egyptian authorities executed nine prisoners for their involvement in the killing of Egyptian Attorney General Hisham Barakat on June 29, 2015. The prisoners were Ahmed Taha, Abu al-Qasem Ahmed, Ahmed Gamal Hegazi, Mahmoud al-Ahmadi, Abu Bakr al-Sayed, Abdulrahman Soliman, Ahmed Mohamed, Ahmed Mahrous Sayed and Islam Mohamed.

On 20 February 2019 in North Sinai. Security forces killed eight suspected jihadists who took part in an attack on a checkpoint on 16 February 2019. Militants' hideouts were also destroyed and ammunitions seized.

LIBYA

On 17 February 2019 in Zawiya, Tripoli. Fourteen Tunisian workers kidnapped by armed men were released through an operation conducted by the security forces.

On 20 February 2019 in Murzuk. Armed men murdered General Ibrahim Mohamad Kari, security head in the town. Following the murder, the Libyan National Army (LNA) claimed to have taken control of the town after clashes with the South Protection Force.

On 23 February 2019 in Umm al-Aranib. The Tariq bin Zayed Battalion of the Libyan National Army (LNA) carried out an operation against Chadian militias. No casualties were reported

On 26 February 2019 in Sirte. Security forces arrested Islamic State (IS) member Ibrahim Mohammed Saleh Al-Qaziri, Al-Qaziri is believed to have been responsible for broadcasting the IS radio station "Al-Tawhid" in 2015 and 2016.

On 25 February 2019 in Misrata. Security forces arrested suspected al-Qaeda member, Ayman Abu Amoud, who was involved in the kidnapping of Jordanian ambassador to Libya, Fawaz al-Itan, in 2014.

TUNISIA

On 22 February 2019 in Gafsa. A soldier was wounded by a landmine explosion in Orbata Mountain. The explosion took place when the soldier was taking part in an operational mission.

On 22 February 2019 in Kasserine. An explosion caused serious injury to a shepherd. He lost his leg in a landmine explosion.

On 26 February 2019, Tunisian security forces arrested IS member, Hicham Krouma, who is suspected of being involved in several attacks and assassinations.

Map 6: Map showing the Southern Africa Region



Source: Adapted from World Map,

MOZAMBIQUE

On 21 February 2019 in Mocimboa, Cabo Delgado. A convoy of the US energy company Anadarko Petroleum Corp was attacked by unidentified armed men. Six workers were injured.

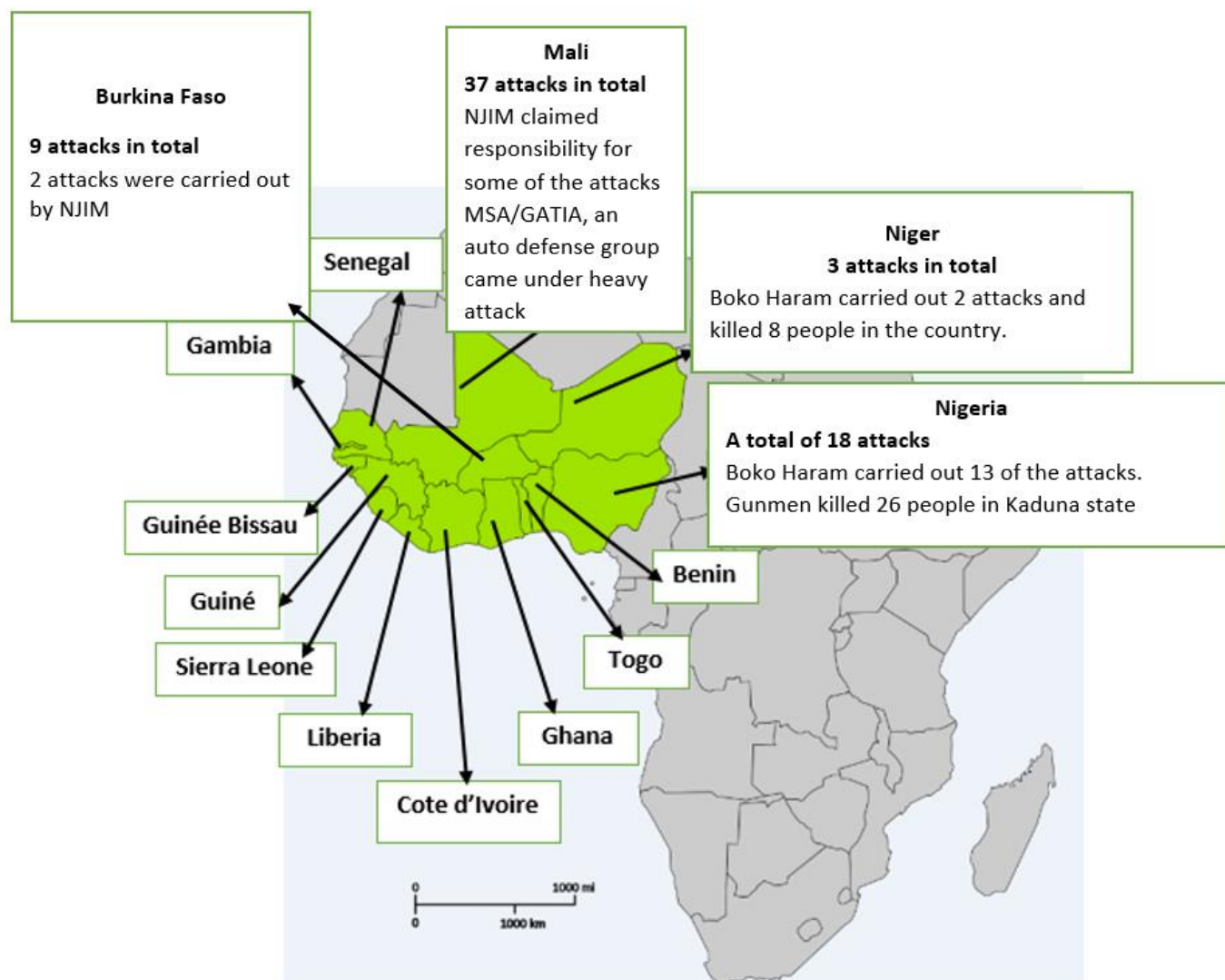
On 21 February 2019 in Cabo Delgado. Armed men attacked a worker of Anadarko Petroleum Corp. The man was killed on the construction site of the company.

On 23 February 2019 in Matapata, Cabo Delgado. Armed men attacked the village. One person was killed. No group claimed responsibility for the attack.

On 23 February 2019 in Quelimane, Cabo Delgado. Armed men attacked the village. Three civilians were killed and 16 were injured.

On 23 February 2019 in Mucujo, Cabo Delgado. Armed men attacked the village injuring four people.

Map 7: Map showing the West Africa Region



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

BURKINA FASO

On 19 February 2019 in Pétabouli, Oualalan. Armed men suspected to be members of JNIM assassinated a merchant.

On 19 February 2019 Kichi, Oudalan. Armed men suspected to be members of JNIM militants seized an ambulance.

On 19 February 2019 in Kompienbiga, Kompienga. Unidentified men attacked the village. Five members of the same family were murdered.

On 20 February 2019 in Kabonga, Kompienga. Three dead bodies including the councilor of the village were discovered on the Pama-Fada axis.

On 20 February 2019 in Kabonga, Kompienbiga. Security forces carried out a combined operation resulting in the neutralization of 29 suspected terrorists. A large cache of weapons and ammunition were seized.

On 21 February 2019 in Madjori, Kompienga. Suspected terrorists shot dead gendarmerie who left his post in Pama for Fada.

On 24 February 2019 in Pissila. Armed men on motorcycles attacked a police station. No casualty was recorded.

On 28 February 2019 in Kyèkelnoda, Soum. Armed men attacked a gendarmerie patrol team. Security forces repulsed the attack killing eight of the attackers.

MALI

On 16 February 2019 in Mondoro. Assailants attacked a military base. One soldier and one assailant were killed. The Security recovered 9 loaders filled with ammunitions

On 16 February 2019 inToguere-Koumbe, Mopti. Four hostages taken by suspected jihadists were killed.

On 16 February 2019 in Talataye, Gao. A Movement for the Salvation of Azawad (MSA) vehicle reportedly hit an IED/Mine. One MSA combatant died while another was seriously injured.

On 16 February 2019 in Koulogon-Habe, Mopti. Armed men suspected to be members of Dogon traditional hunters, attacked the Fulani Minima Maoude Peulh village, killing six people and injuring two others. Six people were also missing. The assailants burned down many houses in the village as well as granaries.

On 16 February 2019 in In-Thaka, Gao. Armed men attacked MINUSMA patrol team. No casualty was recorded.

On 17 February 2019 in Bankass, Mopti. Unidentified armed individuals attacked Libe Peulh village. Twelve people were killed.

On 17 February 2019 in Bankass, Mopti. Unidentified armed individuals stormed Niondo village, killing two people and burning twelve houses.

On 17 February 2019 in Bankass, Mopti. The Gendarmerie arrested two men in possession of two semi-automatic weapons and two hunting rifles, 15 cartridges, two machetes, and three knives were retrieved.

On 18 February 2019 in the Mopti region. Makan Doumbia, a senior government official abducted by suspected jihadists in May 2018 was rescued in a security operation.

On 18 February 2019 in Menaka. Unidentified armed individuals intercepted a truck on the Menaka - Kidal road. The assailants abducted the owner of the truck.

On 18 February 2019 in Tenenkou, Mopti. Four dead bodies suspected to be 4 people abducted in December 2018 were discovered by the local population.

On 18 February 2019 in Djenne, Mopti. Unidentified armed elements attacked Nouh Bozo village. One person was killed, and two others injured.

On 18 February 2019 in Djenne, Mopti. Unidentified armed elements opened fire against a National Guard patrol on escort. One civilian killed.

On 18 February 2019 in Dinangourou, Koro. Unidentified armed men attacked a FAMA patrol team on escort. No casualty was recorded.

On 18 February 2019 in Mondoro, Mopti. Unidentified armed elements attacked the Malian Defence and Security Forces (MDSF) check-point. One soldier and one assailant were killed.

On 18 February 2019 in Tenenkou, Mopti. Armed elements attacked a local boat between Nouh Peulh and Diafarabe villages. Two people were injured.

On 18 February 2019 in Kouna village, Mopti. Unidentified armed elements attacked the village. One person was injured.

On 18 February 2019 in Koro town, Mopti. Armed men abducted the chief of Dioungani Dogon village.

On 19 February 2019 Korossagou, Mopti. Unidentified armed elements attacked the Dogon village. One person was killed and several houses burnt.

On 19 February 2019 in Bankass, Mopti. Assailants attacked a truck of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). The assailants burnt the truck but no casualty was reported.

On 19 February 2019 in Djenne, Mopti. Armed elements attacked the National Guard checkpoint. No casualty was recorded.

On 19 February 2019 in Gourma-Rharous, Tombouctou. Armed elements on motorcycles abducted a man in the village.

On 20 February 2019 in Inegar, Ménaka. Three unidentified armed men attacked a vehicle of GATIA combatants. One GATIA element was killed and two women, as well as a six-month-old baby were injured.

On 20 February 2019 in Korossogou, Bankass. Unidentified gunmen attacked the village. The attack resulted in two deaths and two serious injuries.

On 21 February 2019 in Menaka. Unidentified gunmen murdered Youness Ag Hamad iknane, a GATIA officer. Some members of his family were also injured.

On 21 February 2019 in Kabio, Mopti. Dozo hunters clashed with radical armed elements. One Dozo hunter was killed and five others injured. Thirteen radical armed elements were also killed.

On 21 February 2019 in Timbuktu. The French Defence Forces carried out operation against terrorists. Eleven suspected terrorists were allegedly killed including the Deputy leader of JNIM and emir of Timbuktu region, Djamel Okacha, also known as Yahya Abou Hammam.

On 21 February 2019 in Mali. French forces reportedly killed Seifallah Ben Hassine, known as Abu Iyadh al-Tunisi, a senior Tunisian Al-Qaida member and founder of the Islamist organization Ansar al-Sharia in Tunisia (AST).

On 22 February 2019 in Bamako. Three UN peacekeepers in Mali (MINUSMA) on leave were killed by suspected bandits on a road leading from the capital Bamako to neighboring Guinea.

On 22 February 2019 in Aguelhok, Kidal. Unidentified armed men attacked a GATIA checkpoint. One person was kidnapped and a vehicle stolen.

On 22 February 2019 in Tamalate, Ménaka. Members of GATIA/MSA carried out an operation against unidentified cattle rustlers. Two persons were killed in the operation.

On 22 February 2019 in Douentza town, Mopti. Assailants attacked MINUSMA-contracted trucks. One of the trucks was reported missing.

On 23 February 2019 in Dialloubé. A joint operation of Malian and French Armed forces carried out counter-terrorism response. 15 suspected terrorists were killed.

On 24 February 2019 in Koulikoro, Bamako. Assailants attacked a Gendarmerie base using Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Devices (VBIEDs). Two soldiers and one civilian were injured. Two assailants were killed. JNIM claimed responsibility for the attack.

On 24 February 2019 in Dioungani village, Mopti. Assailants attacked FAMa post. Security forces repulsed the attack. Seven assailants were killed, and two soldiers injured.

On 25 February 2019 in Tounou, Mopti. A minibus carrying civilians hit an explosive device. Four passengers were killed, eleven others injured.

On 25 February 2019 in Dallah village, Mopti. A FAMa vehicle hit an explosive device. Two soldiers were killed and several others injured.

On 26 February 2019 in Gondogourou, Mopti. Unidentified armed elements attacked the community using IED. Ten Dogons were killed and two others injured.

On 26 February in Tintiquiben, Timbuktu. Suspected terrorists attacked GATIA elements. Two GATIA combatants were killed and six others wounded. Two vehicles and several motorbikes were also destroyed.

On 27 February 2019 in Tonka, Timbuktu. A FAMa patrol team discovered and destroyed an explosive device one km from the Gendarmerie Brigade of the locality.

On 27 February 2019 in Diankabou, Mopti. Unidentified armed men planted an explosive device on a dead body. The device exploded killing seventeen civilians and injuring 15 others.

NIGER

On 17 February 2019 in Bosso, Diffa region. Two women carried out a suicide bombing attack near a refugee camp, killing four people. The two women also died in the explosion. Boko Haram is suspected for the attack.

On 18 February 2019 in Oufagadoute, Dirkou. Armed men attacked the convoy of Lamine Mohamedine, commander of the largest military base in the Ténéré Desert. He was killed with his driver.

On 22 February 2019 in Garin-Amadou, Diffa. Armed men from Boko Haram attacked the community. Four persons were killed and one injured. Seven people were also abducted.

NIGERIA

On 16 February 2019 in Maiduguri, Borno. Armed men from Boko Haram attacked the villages shooting sporadically. IEDs strapped to their bodies also exploded killing 11 persons and injuring 15 others. 3 of the bombers died.

On 16 February 2019 in Gwoza, Borno. Armed men from Boko Haram attacked a vehicle carrying civilians. 3 passengers were killed and 2 others injured. 12 passengers were abducted by the gunmen.

On 16 February 2019 in Jidari Polo, Borno State. Boko Haram terrorists attacked the community using Person Borne Improvised Explosive Device (PBIED). No casualties were recorded.

On 17 February 2019 in Banki, Borno. Boko Haram attacked a military post near the Cameroon border. Two Nigerian soldiers were killed and six others injured.

On 18 February 2019 Koshebe, Borno. Suspected Boko Haram members attacked a group of firewood merchants killing 18 of them.

On 20 February 2019 in Ebete, Benue. Unidentified armed men attacked the community killing 16 persons.

On 22 February 2019 in Maiduguri, Borno. Unidentified armed men attacked the community. No casualty was reported.

On 23 February 2019 in Maiduguri, Borno. Security forces repulsed Boko Haram attack on the community. No casualties were reported.

On 23 February 2019 in Maiduguri, Borno. Boko Haram attacked a military post. One soldier was killed and 20 others injured.

On 23 February 2019 in Geidam, Yobe. Armed men from Boko Haram attacked the community. Security forces successfully repelled the attacks. No casualties were reported.

On 23 February 2019 in Auno, Borno. Nigerian Army carried out attacks against Boko Haram terrorists. Records of casualties were not known.

On 23 February 2019 in Gwoza, Borno. Armed men from Boko Haram attacked the community using rockets. Three people were injured and a mosque was also destroyed.

On 24 February 2019 in Kolloram, Borno. The Nigerian Air Task Force (ATF) of Operation LAFIYA DOLE carried out an operation against Islamic State of West Africa Province (ISWAP). Several militants were neutralized.

On 27 February 2019 in Kajuru, Kaduna. Unidentified gunmen attacked four villages. 29 people including a policeman were killed and two other policemen injured.

TERRORISM RELATED NEWS

On 19 February 2019 in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Seven active Twa militia armed groups announced their readiness for a peace deal being facilitated by MONUSCO. A delegation of seven Twa leaders handed over weaponry and ammunitions to MONUSCO. Twa leaders' willingness to put an end to hostilities is part of MONUSCO DDR mission to ensure sustainable peace in DRC. The leaders of the armed militia appealed to the government to ensure favorable economic conditions for them as they lay down their weapons including providing education to their children. In addition, Kamuina Nsapu militias are voluntarily disarming in Kananga in the Kasai Central Province and Tshikapa in the Kasai Province.

On 22 February 2019 in Ghana. The Heads of State of Ghana, Benin, Burkina Faso, Togo and the Vice President of Côte d'Ivoire met at a summit called "Accra Initiative" to discuss issues of common interest especially the pooling and harmonization of the approach to the terrorist threat. The summit was preceded by a meeting of experts and Ministers of Security, Defense and Foreign Affairs. The heads of state have agreed

and committed themselves to meeting regularly, and to create frameworks for cooperation in order to secure and protect their countries from the security threats posed by terrorist and extremist groups.

On 28th February 2019 in Mali. The Andalous and Az-Zallaqua media foundations, jointly broadcasted a 19 minutes exclusive interview it purportedly conducted with Amadou Kouffa, leader of the Macina Liberation Front (MLF) or Katibat Macina, a jihadi group operating in Central Mali, who until the interview, was reportedly killed together with 34 others in a joint operation by the French Operation Barkhane and the Malian Armed Forces (FaMA) on 23rd November 2018, in Mopti. In December 2018, a senior member of JNIM and leader of AQIM, Abdelmalek Droukdel, denied that Kouffa was killed. Droukdel claimed the announcement on the disappearance of the jihadist was a "manoeuvre" by France to divert the attention of the French people from what was happening in the street, an allusion to the "yellow vest" protests.

CONCLUSION

The results obtained for this edition of the bulletin demonstrate that, activities of terrorist groups are far from abating. The various terrorist groups operating in Africa scaled up their activities within the period under review. Contrary to opinion that Boko Haram has been technically defeated, the group has demonstrated enough capability and presence particularly in north eastern Nigeria and along its borders with Niger and Cameroon. In the Sahel, Mali and Burkina Faso were again victims of attacks from JNIM and its affiliate groups.

The results further show that, Islamist groups in the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt are still active with the capacity to carry out devastating attacks. Similarly, the activities of Al-Shabaab, an Al-Qaeda affiliated group operating in the Horn Africa remind us of the diverse tactics being employed by the various terrorist groups to carry out sophisticated attacks against innocent civilians and security forces. Although, the situation in the Anglophone regions of Cameroon remained calm for the period under review, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo and Mozambique recorded increased incidents in attacks from local armed groups.

The escalation of terrorists' activities in the Lake Chad Basin for the period under review, the sophisticated attacks by terrorist groups in the Sahel Region of West Africa coupled with the re-emergence of Amadou Kouffa, the persistent atrocities committed by Al-Shabaab in the Horn of Africa, and the protracted attacks by Islamist groups in the Sinai Peninsula indicates that terrorism remains a major threat to peace and security on the continent. There is therefore the need for governments in Africa and their international partners to strengthen the counterterrorism initiatives as well as adopt a whole of society approach where all segments of the societies particularly those affected by activities of terrorists and extremist groups feel part of the system. This will enable the governments to win the hearts and minds of local communities who will serve as the eyes and ears for the relevant authorities.

FORECAST FOR NEXT EDITION

The next edition of the Africa Terrorism Bulletin will cover terrorism incidents from 1st -15th March, 2019.

PROFILE OF ACSRT

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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