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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
AQIM	Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb
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
IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IS	Islamic State
ISGS	Islamic State in the Greater Sahara
ISIL	Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant
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)
NISA	National Intelligence Service Agency (Somalia)
OAU	Organization of African Unity
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 (1st -15th March 2019) recorded a total of 43 terrorist attacks and a total of 482 terrorism-related deaths.
- Out of the 482 terrorism-related deaths, 296 resulted directly from terrorist attacks, whereas 186 were deaths recorded during counter terrorism operations by security forces.
- 51% (246) of the victims killed were members of terrorist groups whereas 40% (193) were civilians. Security/Military Forces accounted for 9% (43).
- In 26 out of the 43 attacks, the terrorists used Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). 12 attacks involved the use of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and 2 attacks involved the use of both IEDs and SALW. 3 cases of kidnappings were recorded.
- Al-Shabaab used IEDs more than SALW in their attacks, whereas Boko Haram (Shekua faction) and the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) used more SALW. Islamic State in Greater Sahara (ISGS) employed both IEDs and SALW. Unidentified/unaffiliated groups used SALW in majority of their attacks.
- Civilians were targeted most for the period. 22 of the attacks targeted civilians, 16 targeted security forces, 4 targeted Government Institutions/Officials, and 1 targeted International Organization (MINUSMA in Mali).
- All attacks carried out by Al-Shabaab targeted civilians. ISWAP targeted mainly Security forces whereas Boko Haram (Shekau faction) targeted civilians most in their attacks.
- Al-Shabaab killed 14 victims (all civilians), Boko Haram killed 3 (2 civilians, 1 military), Islamic militants in Sinai killed 3 (all military). ISWAP killed 20 (15 military, 5 civilians) and unidentified/ unaffiliated groups killed 196 (172 civilians, 24 military).

- ISWAP suffered the biggest lost. 78 people killed in CT operation belong to ISWAP. 56 members of Boko Haram were also killed. The rest include militants in the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt, and Al-Shabaab who lost 46 and 27 of their members to CT operations respectively. 39 others killed by counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency belong to unidentified/unaffiliated groups.
- Five countries most affected by terrorism during the period are Nigeria, Mali, Niger, Somalia and Mozambique (**In decreasing order**).
- Countries of the Sahel region recorded 29 out of the 43 incidents, and total deaths of 338 out of the 482, representing 70% of the terrorism related deaths for the period. Out of the 338 casualties, 155 are civilians, 147 terrorists, and 36 security/ military personnel.
- Civilian and military deaths in the Sahel constituted 80% and 84% of the total casualties in Africa. Also, 60% of terrorists killed on the continent were in the Sahel.

RECENT HIGH PROFILE INCIDENT

- **On 08 March 2019 in Diffa, Niger.** Militants from Islamic State affiliated faction of Bok Haram (ISWAP) attacked a military post. Security forces repulsed the attack killing 38 militants. Seven soldiers also died. One terrorist was also arrested.
- **On 10 March 2019 in Ménaka, Mali.** Armed men attacked international security forces, using a Suicide Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Device (SVBIED) and small arms fire. Fifteen French soldiers of the Barkhane force were injured.
- **On 15 March 2019 in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique.** Assailants attacked the villages of Nabajo and Maculo in the early hours. 13 civilians were killed in the attack

Faced with the growing and sophisticated attacks, Security forces have remained responsive to the situation in the first half of March 2019. Besides 63 terrorists eliminated during attacks, Deliberate CT operations resulted in the neutralization of 176 members of terrorist groups. This includes 50 Boko Haram militants killed by the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF), 46 terrorists killed in Egypt (Sinai Peninsula), 33 ISWAP members killed in the Diffa region of Niger, 27 killed in Somalia and 13 terrorists killed in Mali.

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

Terrorism and violent extremism continue to threaten the peace, security, stability and development on the continent. Jihadi militancy appears to be present in most of the terrorism cases on the continent, with various terrorist groups in Africa pledging allegiance or support to notable terror organizations such as Al-Qaeda and Islamic State (IS). Although collaborative efforts are delivering some effective preventative and counter-measure responses, terrorist and violent extremist organizations continue to hold considerable initiative. This is manifest in their capacity to continue to launch attacks and cause debilitating harm and destruction to security personnel, civilians and properties. Amid a decline in terror incidents worldwide, African countries are struggling to prevent the expansion of terror groups in parts of the continent. This is evident in the consistent and sophisticated attacks that have been carried out by the various terrorist groups since the beginning of 2019.

In the Sahel region, an umbrella of al-Qaida-affiliated groups and an Islamic State affiliates have expanded their operations in central Mali and in the tri-border regions of, Burkina Faso and Niger. Al-Qaeda affiliated group comprising of Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), Ansar al-Dine, Macina Liberation Front (MLF) and al-Mourabitoun the operating under the name Jama'a Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimeen (JNIM) as well as the Islamic State in the Greater Sahara (ISGS) and Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP) have claimed responsibility for several attacks in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

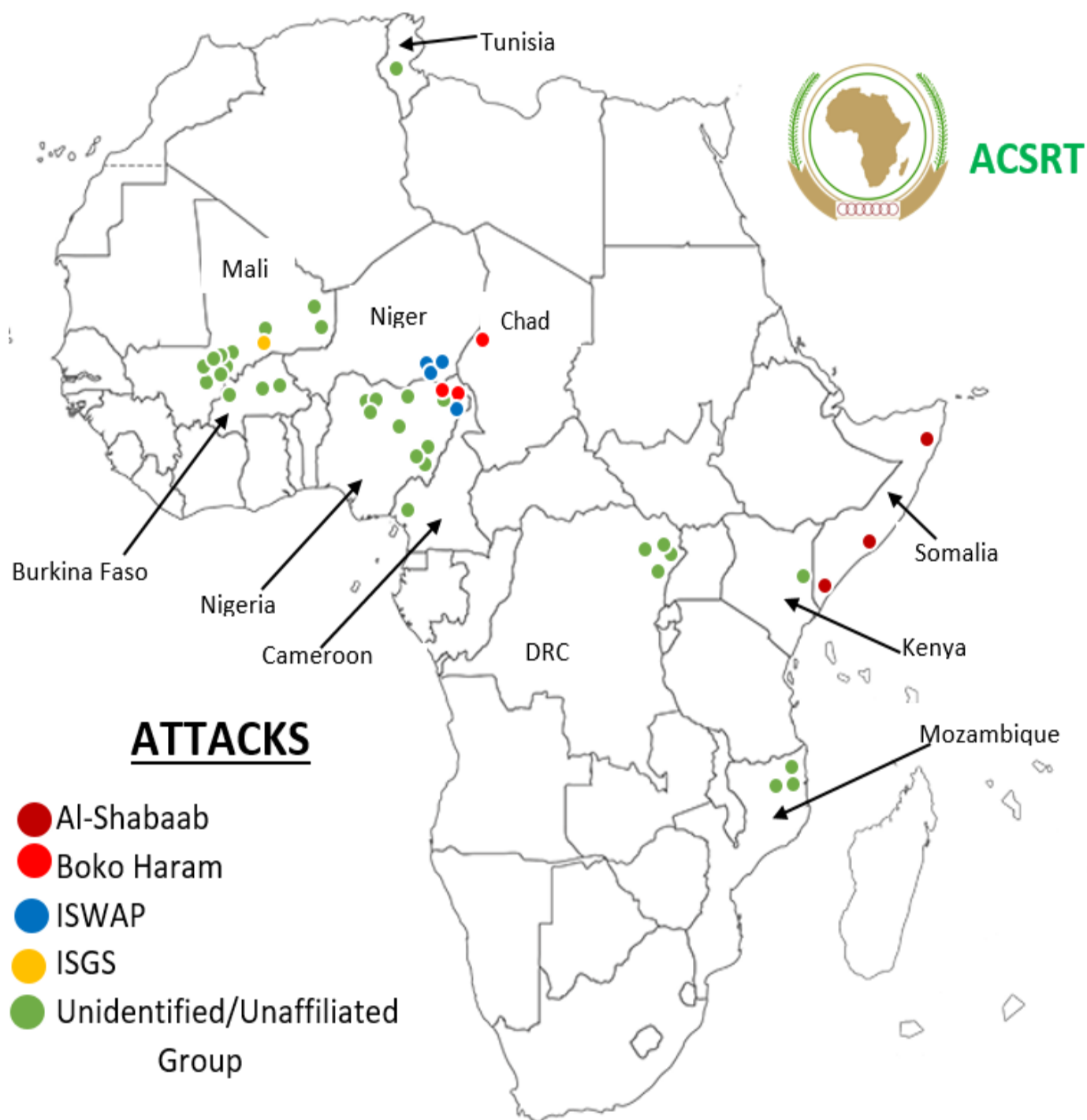
In the Lake Chad Basin, Boko Haram and its offshoot Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP) increased asymmetric attacks against civilians, government, and security forces, which resulted in deaths, injuries, abductions, and destruction of property in Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad, and Niger. The resurgence in asymmetric attacks on civilian, government and military targets by groups like Boko Haram and ISWAP need critical evaluation and attention. The two groups have consistently caused devastated atrocities in the Northeastern Nigeria particularly Yobe, Borno and Adamawa States. .

In East Africa, al-Shabaab continued to threaten regional security. It retained safe haven, access to recruits and resources, and de facto control over large parts of Somalia through which it moves freely. Despite having lost a number of operatives to counterterrorism operations, the group sustained attacks in Somalia and bordering countries. Northeastern Kenya has experienced attacks attributed to al-Shabaab, primarily in the form of improvised explosive device attacks targeting Kenyan security forces. In the Southern Africa Region, Mozambique's northern Cabo Delgado province has been experiencing attacks by insurgents. Armed attacks, decapitations and the destruction of property have been increasing. The incidents need to be curbed before it escalates to destabilize the region.

The North Africa and the Maghreb remained relatively stable for the period under review. Counter-terrorism efforts in the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt, the destruction of ISIS linked terrorists' cells in Morocco and the discovery and destruction of cache of weapons and ammunition in Algeria by the Army continued unabated. However, an IED explosion suspected to be planted by local terrorist group linked to IS wounded one soldier in Gafsa on March 1, 2019. In the central Africa region, the North Kivu of the Democratic Republic of Congo came under serious attack from local armed groups. The Mai-Mai militia and other groups of similar orientation carried out attacks causing deaths and injuries to civilians and security.

Map 1: Map of Terrorism Incidents from 1 to 15 March 2019

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



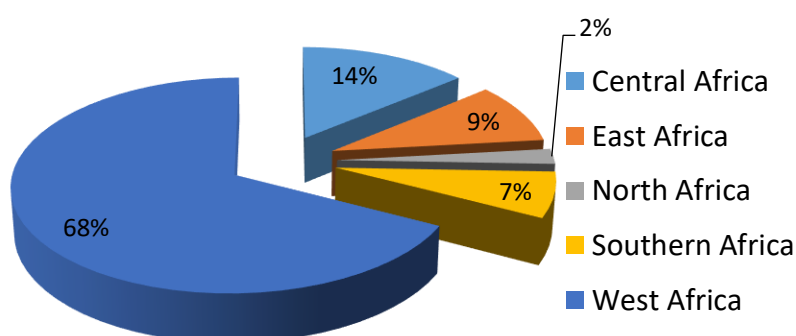
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

1. Total Terrorist Attacks: 43

A total of 43 terrorism incidents including 3 cases of kidnappings were recorded from 1st to 15th March 2019.

2. Terrorists attacks by Region

Figure 1: Terrorists attacks by Region



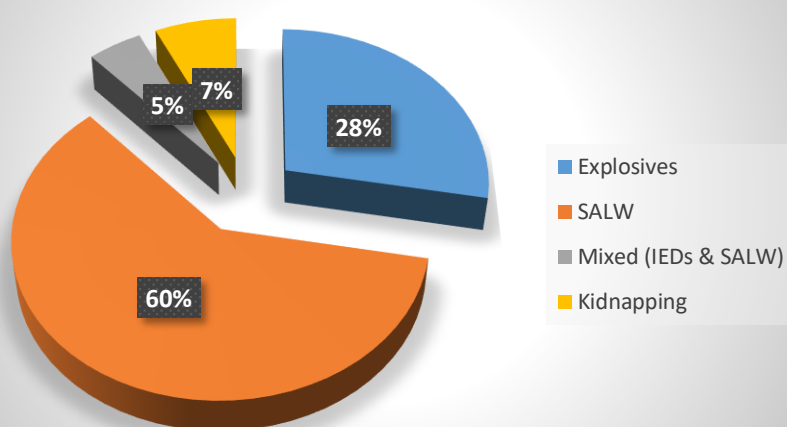
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

By Regions:

- Central Africa: **6**
 - East Africa: **4**
 - North Africa: **1**
 - Southern Africa: **3**
 - West Africa: **29**
- West Africa recorded the highest number of terrorist attacks. A total of 29 attacks representing 68% was recorded within the period.
 - Central Africa recorded 6 attacks and East Africa recorded 4 attacks representing 14% and 9% respectively. Three attacks were recorded in Southern Africa and one attack recorded in North Africa.

3. Means of Attack

Figure 2: Means of Attacks



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Means of Attacks:

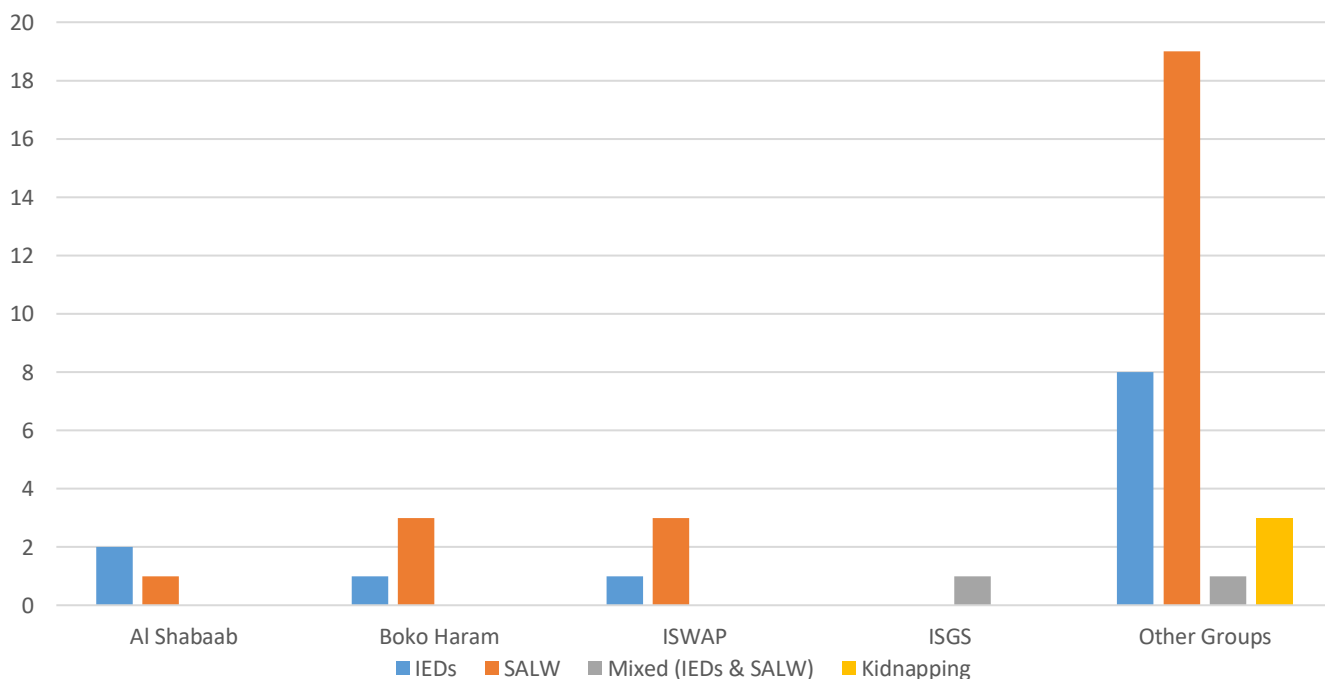
- IEDs: **12**
- SALW: **26**
- Mixed (IEDs & SALW): **2**
- Kidnapping: **3**

SALW recorded the highest means (60%) by which terrorist groups attack their targets. In 12, out of 43 attacks, terrorists used IEDs.

4. Terrorist Groups and their Means of Attack

- **Al Shabaab :**
 - IEDs : 3
 - SALW: 1
 - **Boko Haram:**
 - IEDs : 1
 - SALW: 3
 - **ISWAP:**
 - IEDs : 1
 - SALW: 3
 - **ISGS :**
 - Mixed (IEDs &SALW): 1
 - **Unidentified/Unaffiliated Groups :**
 - IEDs : 8
 - SALW: 19
 - Mixed (IEDs &SALW):1
 - Kidnapping: 3
- IEDs continue to be the preferred choice of Al-Shabaab in its attacks. In 3 out of the 4, attacks the Group used IEDs.
 - In 3, out of 4 attacks carried out by Boko Haram, SALW were used as a means of attack.
 - Similarly, ISWAP used SWLW in 3 out of 4 attacks.
 - ISGS employed both IEDs and SALW in their attack.
 - Majority of attacks carried out by unidentified/unaffiliated groups used SALW. All three (3) Kidnappings were carried out by unidentified/unaffiliated groups.

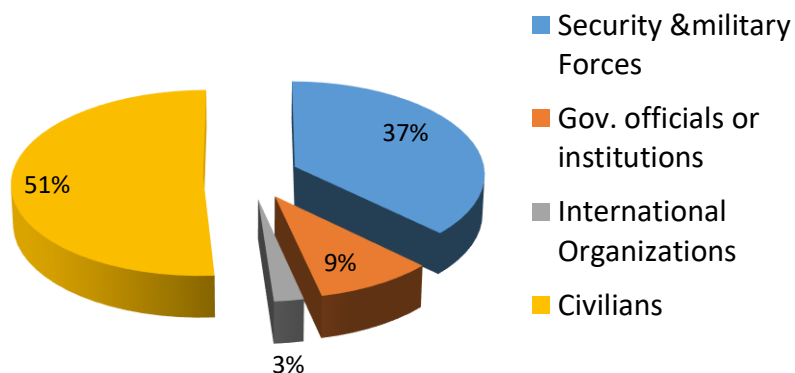
Figure 3: Groups and their Means of Attack



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

5. Primary Targets

Figure 4: Primary Targets



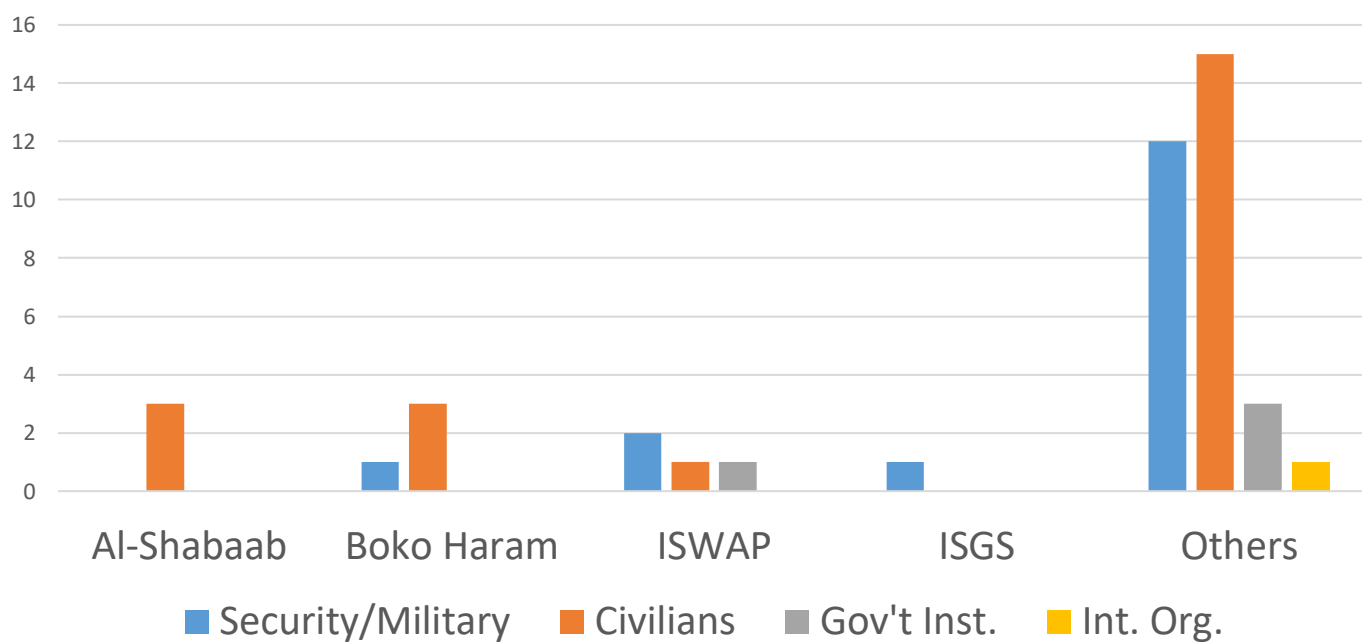
Primary Targets

- Security/Military Forces: **16**
 - Gov. Officials or Institutions: **4**
 - International Organizations : **1**
 - Civilians: **22**
- 22 of the attacks representing 51 % targeted civilians. Similarly, 16 of the attacks representing 37% targeted Security/Military Forces.
 - 4 attacks representing 9% targeted government officials/ institutions whereas 1 attack representing 3% targeted International Organization (MINUSMA)

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

6. Terrorist Groups and their Primary Targets

Figure 5: Groups and the Primary Targets



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Al-Shabaab: 3

- **Civilians: 3**

All attacks by Al-Shabaab targeted civilians.

Boko Haram: 4

- **Military/Security : 3**
- **Civilians: 1**

3 of Boko Haram's attacks targeted Security/Military whereas 1 of their attacks targeted civilians.

ISWAP : 4

- **Military/Security : 3**
- **Gov. Officials & institutions: 1**

Similarly, ISWAP also carried out 3 attack against Military/Security Forces and one attack against civilians

ISGS: 1

- **Military/Security : 1**

ISGS carried out 1 attack targeting Security/Military forces

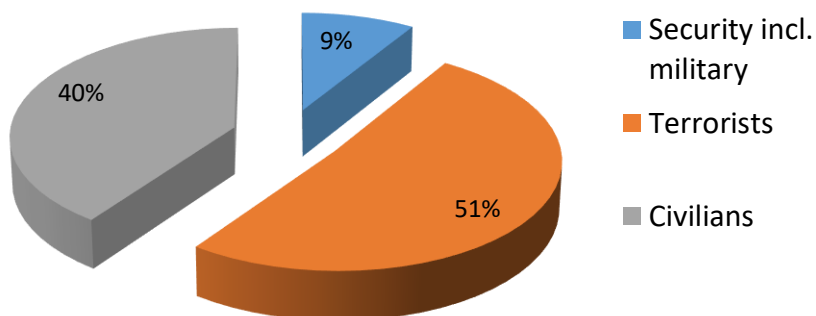
Unidentified/Unaffiliated Groups : 31

- **Military/Security : 12**
- **International Org. (Military): 1**
- **Gov. Officials & institutions: 3**
- **Civilians: 15**

In attacks where no group claimed responsibility, civilians were mostly targeted. 15 out of 31 attacks by unidentified/unaffiliated groups targeted civilians whereas 12 targeted Military/Security Forces.

7. Total Terrorism-related Deaths

Figure 6: Total Terrorism Related Deaths



Total Terrorism-related Deaths: 482

- **Security/Military: 43**
- **Terrorists: 246**
- **Civilians: 193**

- A total of 482 terrorism-related deaths were recorded within the period under review.
- Out of the number, 51% were members of terrorist groups whereas 40% were civilians. 9% of the deaths were Security/Military Forces.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Total Deaths Related to Terrorist Attacks: 296

- Security/Military: **40**
- Terrorists: **63**
- Civilians: **193**

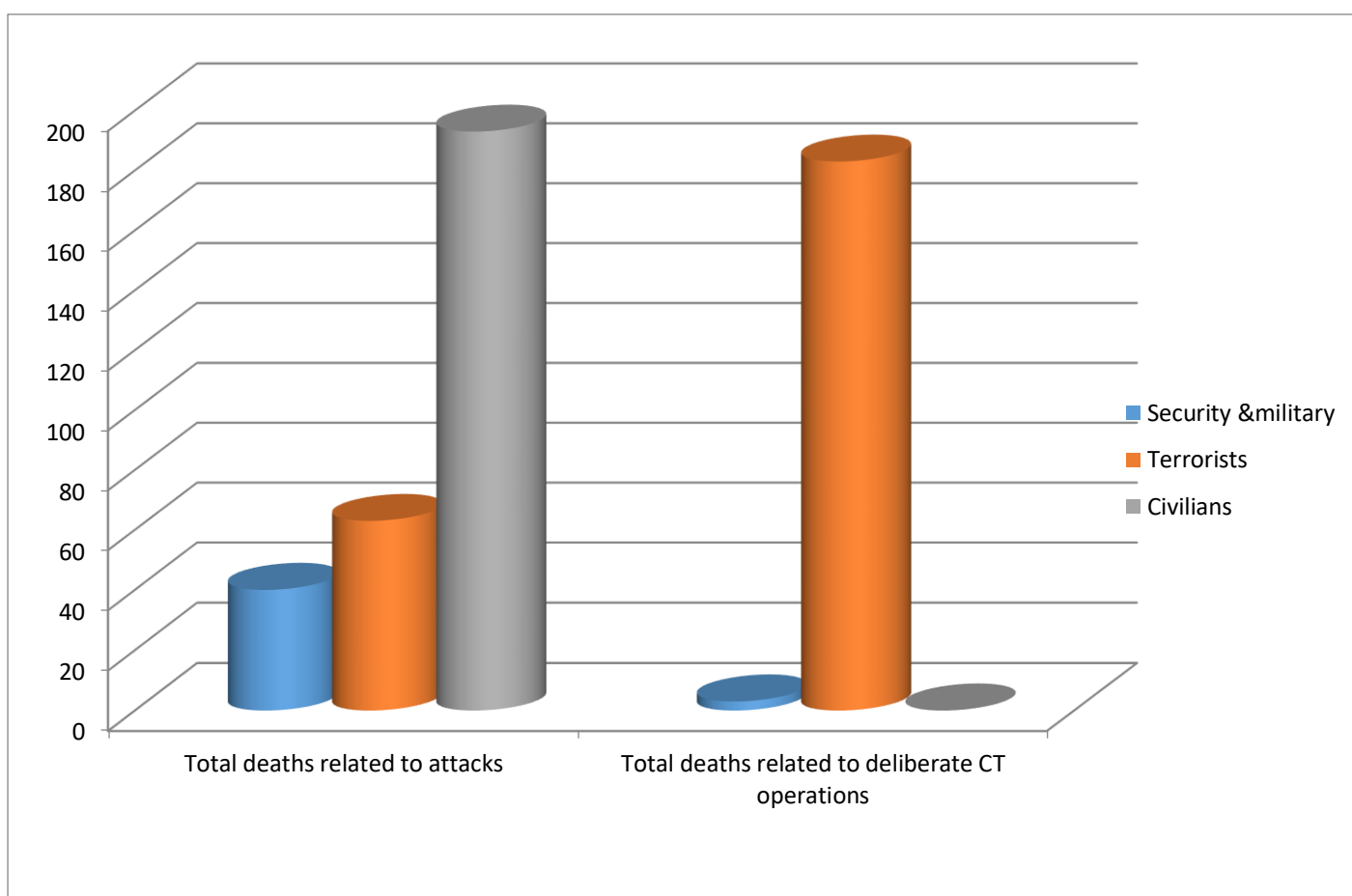
- 296 out of the 482 terrorism-related deaths resulted from terrorist attacks.
- Civilians suffered the most casualties of 193 out of 296 deaths

Total Deaths Related to CT Operations: 186

- Security/Military: **3**
- Terrorists: **183**

- CT Operations resulted in 186 deaths, out of which 183 were members of terrorist groups and 3 being security personnel.

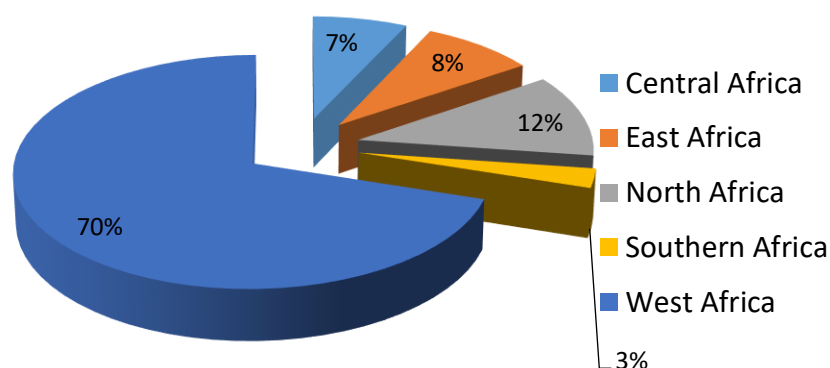
Figure 7: Deaths Related to Terrorist Attacks and Deliberate CT Operations



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

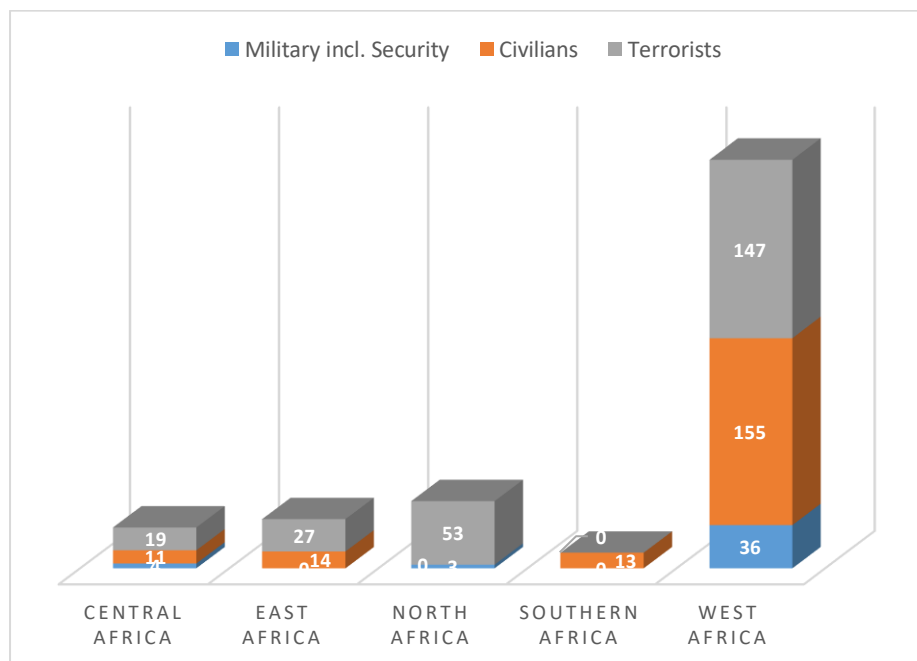
8. Terrorism-related Deaths by Region

Figure 8: Deaths by Regions



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Figure 9: Regional Deaths by Category



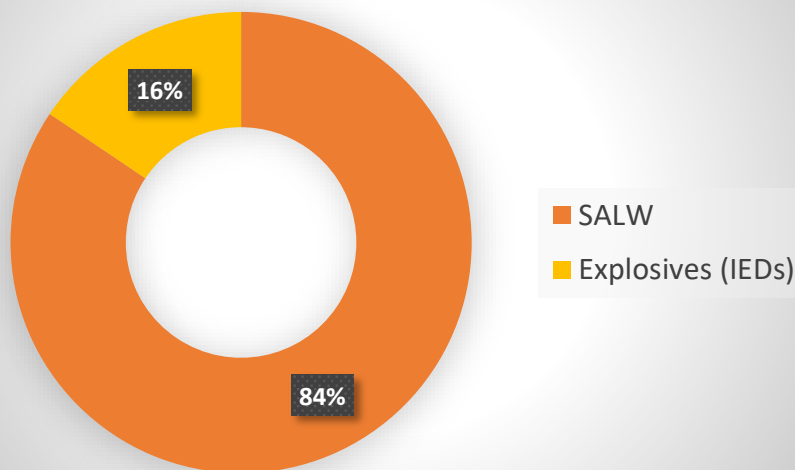
Source: ACSRT Database

Deaths by Regions:

- Central Africa: **34**
 - Military/sec.:4
 - Civilians:11
 - Terrorists: 19
 - East Africa: **41**
 - military/sec.:0
 - Civilians:14
 - terrorists: 27
 - North Africa: **56**
 - military/sec.:3
 - Civilians: 0
 - terrorists: **53**
 - Southern Africa: **13 (all civilians)**
 - West Africa: **338**
 - military/sec.:36
 - Civilians:155
 - terrorists: 147
- West Africa recorded the highest number of terrorism-related deaths. 70% of deaths recorded within the period occurred in the region.
 - 12%, 8% and 7% of all terrorism-related deaths within the period occurred in North, East and Central Africa respectively.
 - Southern Africa recorded 3 terrorism incidents resulting in 13 deaths.

9. Deaths by Means of Attack

Figure 10: Deaths by Means of Attack



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Deaths by Means of Attack

- IEDs: 36
SALW: 195
- SALW accounted for 84% of terrorists attack related deaths, whereas IEDs accounted for 16% of deaths related to terrorist attacks.

10. Attacks/Victims by Terrorist Groups

Attacks by Terrorist Groups

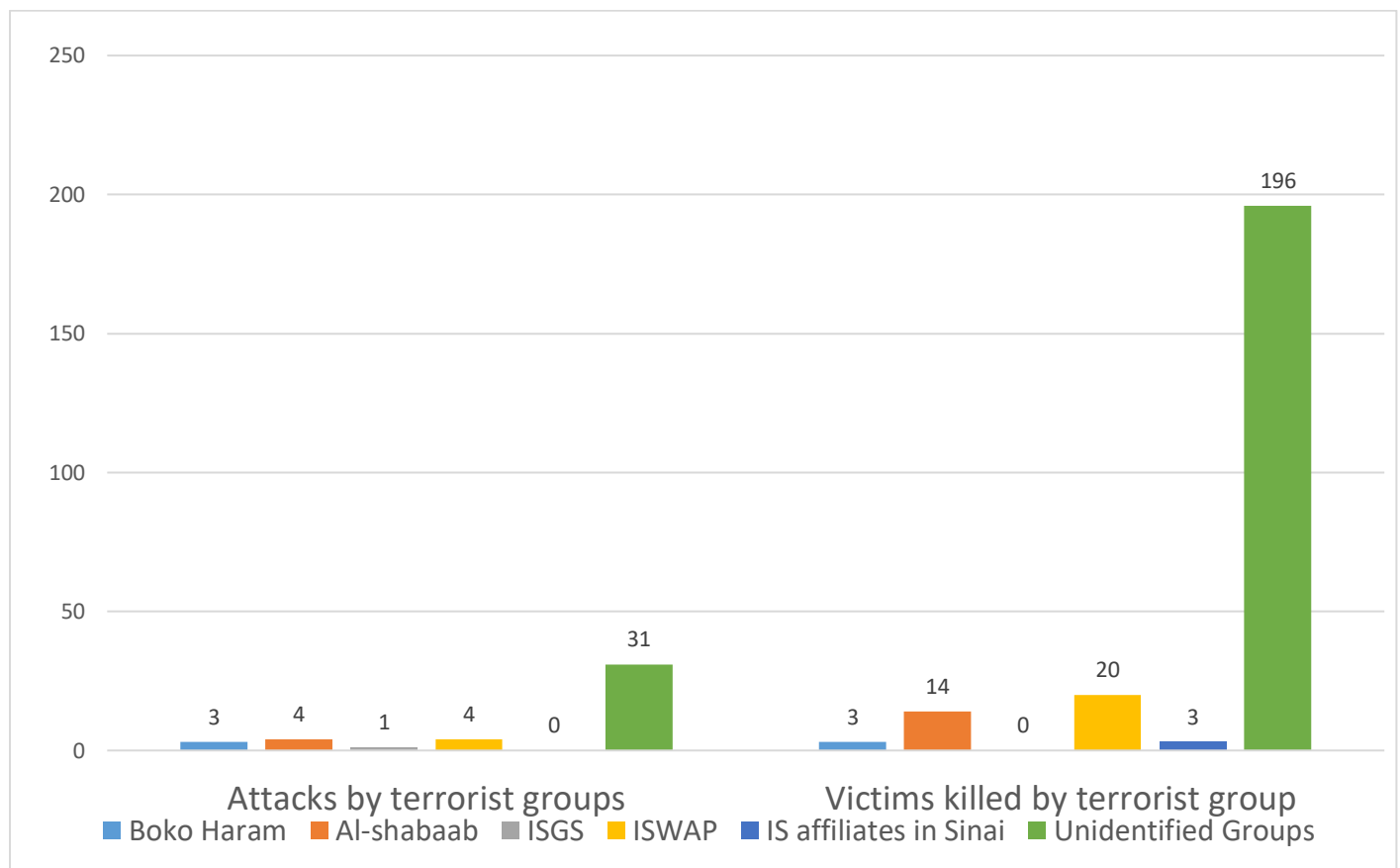
- Al-Shabaab: 4
- Boko Haram: 3
- ISGS: 1
- ISWAP: 4
- Unidentified/Unaffiliated Groups: 31

Victims Killed by Terrorist Groups: 229

- Al-Shabaab: 14 (all Civilians)
- Boko Haram: 3 (1 Military; 2 Civilians)
- ISWAP: 20 (15 Military; 5 Civilians)
- Militants in Sinai : 3 (all Military)
- Others: 196 (24 Military; 172 Civilians)

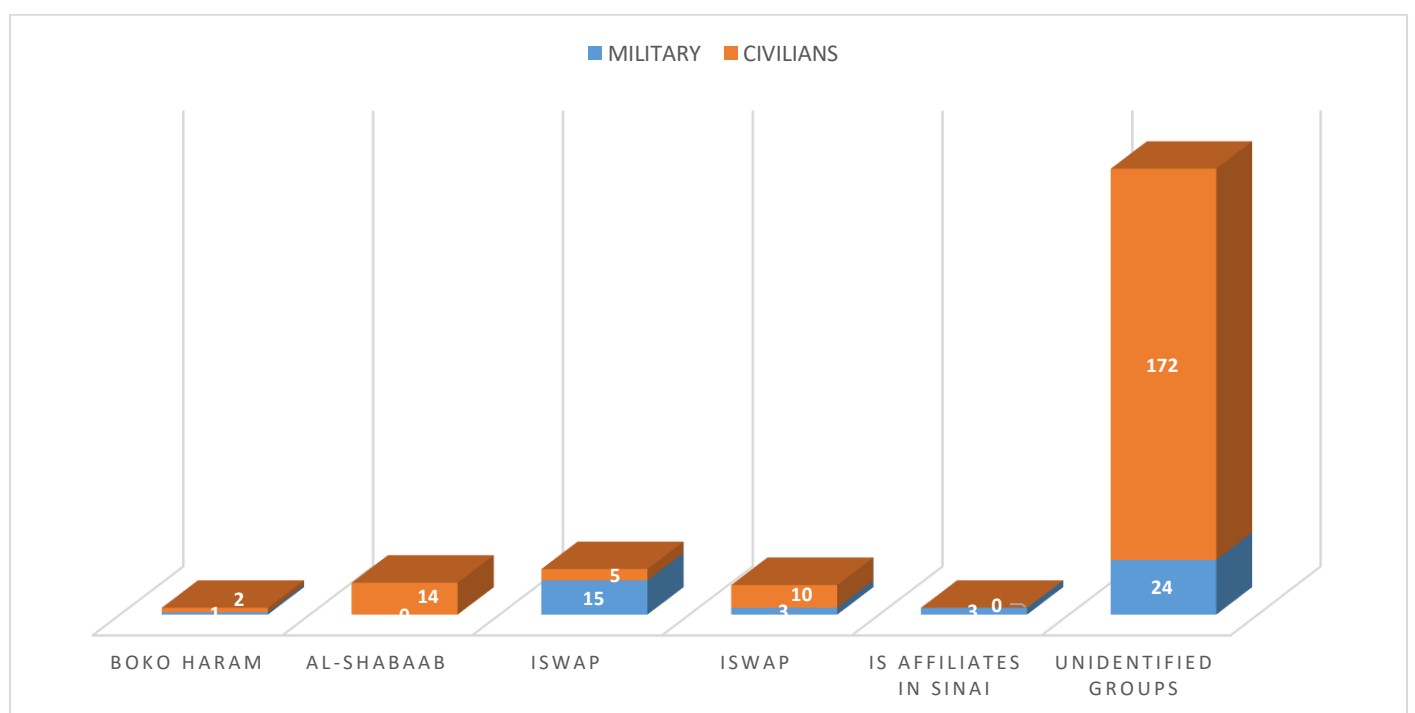
- Al-Shabaab carried out the highest number of attacks, killing a total of 14 persons, all civilians.
- ISWAP carried out 4 attacks killing 15 members of Security/Military forces and 5 Civilians.
- Boko Haram conducted 3 attacks killing 2 Civilians and 1 Military/Security force.
- ISGS carried out 1 attack with no casualties.
- Militants in Sinai killed 3 Security/Military forces during Counter-terrorism operations conducted by Egyptian Army Forces.
- A total of 31 attacks were carried out by unidentified/unaffiliated groups. This resulted in 196 deaths comprising 172 Civilians and 24 Military/Security forces.

Figure 11: Attacks/Victims by Terrorist groups



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Figure 12: Category of Victims Killed by Terrorist Groups



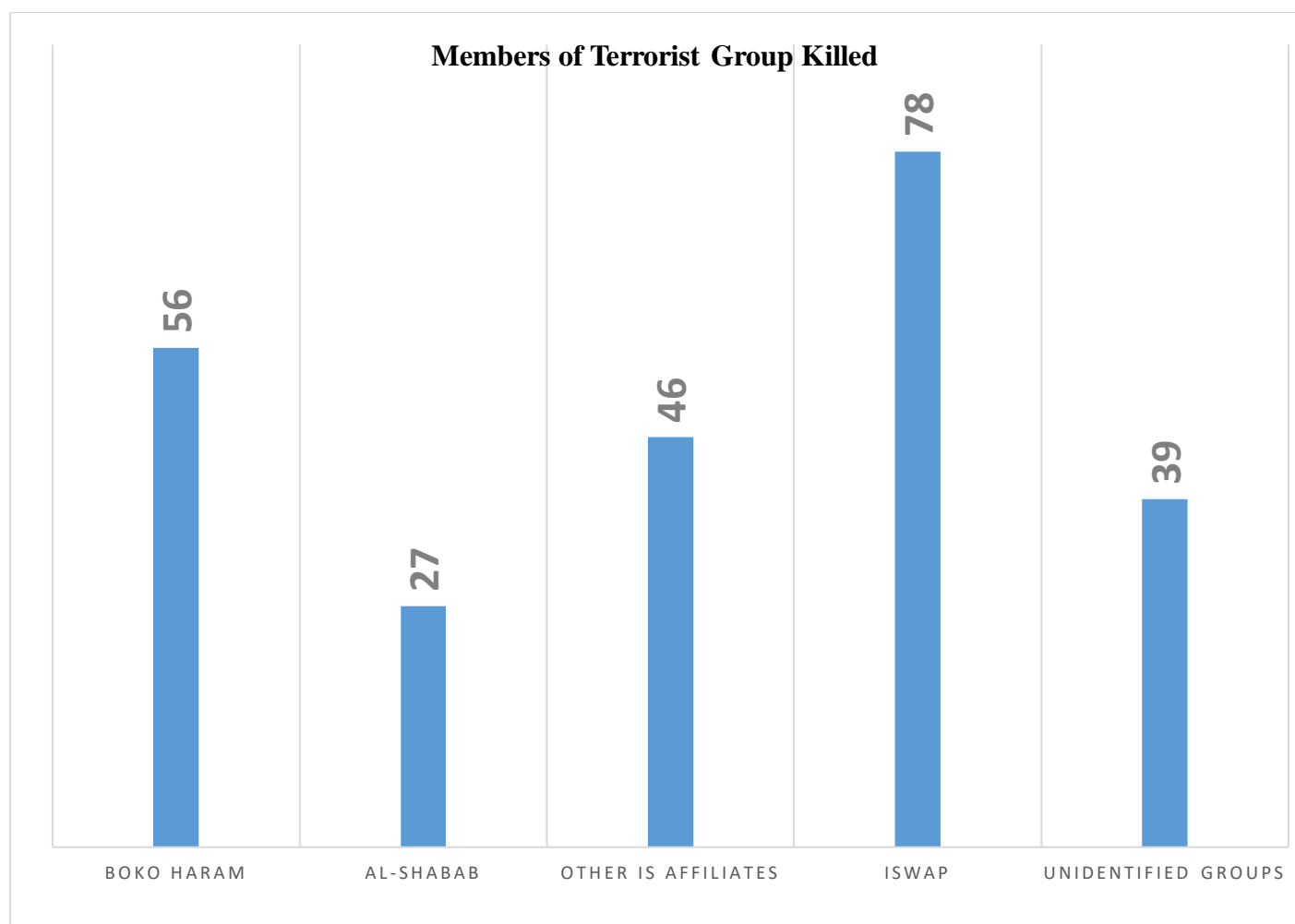
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

11. Members of Terrorist Groups Killed

Members of Terrorists Groups Killed: 239

- Boko Haram: 56
 - Al-Shabaab: 27
 - ISWAP: 78
 - Other IS affiliates: 46
 - Unidentified/Unaffiliated Groups :39
-
- Among the members of terrorist groups killed in counter- terrorism operations and combat missions, ISWAP suffered the highest number of casualties. The terrorist group lost 78 of its members.
 - Boko Haram (Shekau faction) lost 56 and Islamic militants in the Sinai Peninsula of Egypt lost 46 members.
 - 26 fighters of Al-Shabaab were killed.
 - 39 other terrorists killed were members of unidentified/unaffiliated groups.

Figure 13: Members of Terrorist Groups Killed



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

12. Five Most Affected Countries

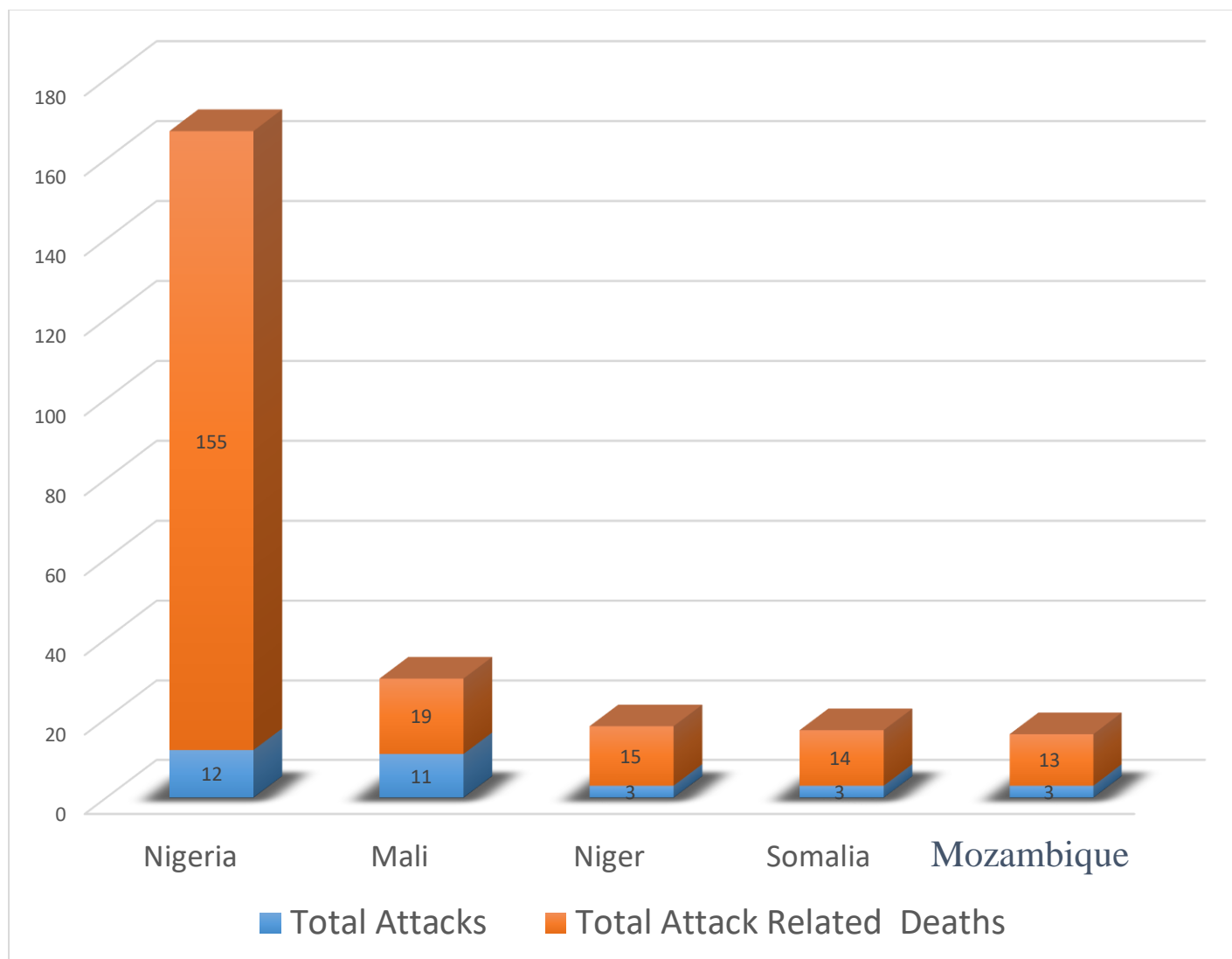
Table 1: Five (5) Countries Most Affected

Country	Total Attacks	Total Deaths Related to Attacks	Total injured
Nigeria	12	155	21
Mali	11	19	25
Somalia	3	14	49
Niger	3	15	0
Mozambique	3	13	0

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

- Nigeria recorded both the highest number of attacks (12) and the highest number of deaths (155). Mali recorded 11 attacks resulting in 19 attack related deaths.
- Somalia, Mozambique and Niger recorded each 3 attacks and 14, 13 and 8 deaths resulting in 50 deaths respectively.

Figure 14: Five Most Affected Countries



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

13. Most Fatal Terrorism Incidents

Table 2: List of Most Fatal Terrorism Incidents

N o	Country	City	Date	Group	Deaths	Description
1	Nigeria	Zamfara	03/03/19	*NGCR	34	Assailants attacked Kware village opening fire on residents and burning homes.
2	Nigeria	Zamfara	01/03/19	*NGCR	32	Armed men attacked a checkpoint set up by local vigilantes.
3	Nigeria	Kaduna	12/03/19	*NGCR	22	Gunmen stormed the village of Layin Maigwari community. 22 persons were killed and several others wounded
4	Nigeria	Kaduna	10/03/19	*NGCR	16	Assailants attacked the Barde Village killing 16 persons.
5	Mozambique	Cabo Delgado	15/03/19	*NGCR	13	Assailants attacked the villages of Nabajo and Maculo in the early hours killing 13 civilians

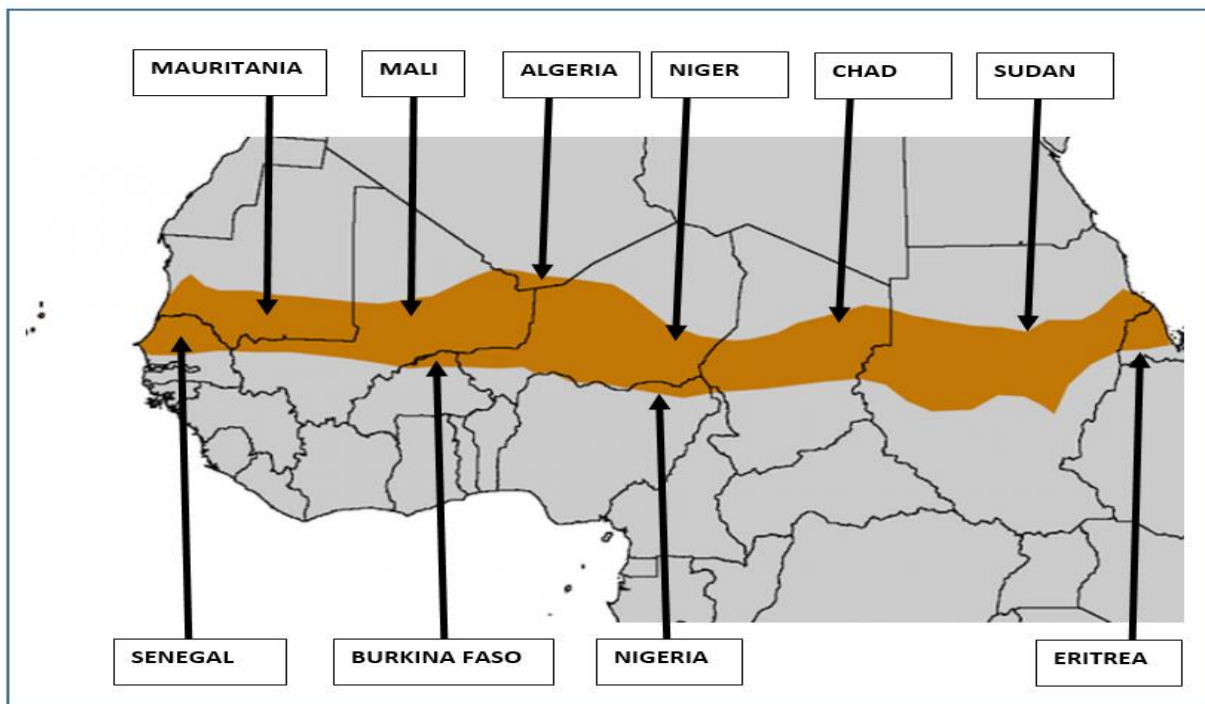
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

*No Group Claimed Responsibility

IN FOCUS

THE SAHEL REGION

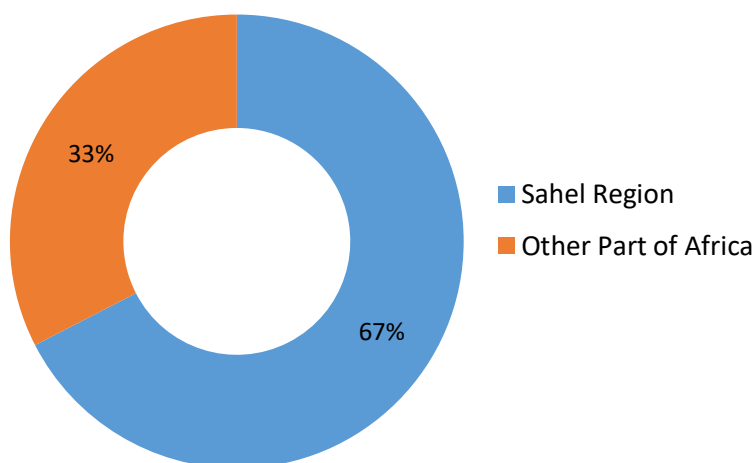
Map 2: Map Showing Countries of the Sahel Region



Source: Adapted from World Atlas, 2017

14. Total Attacks in the Sahel Region

Figure 15: Attacks in the Sahel



Total Attacks in Africa: 43

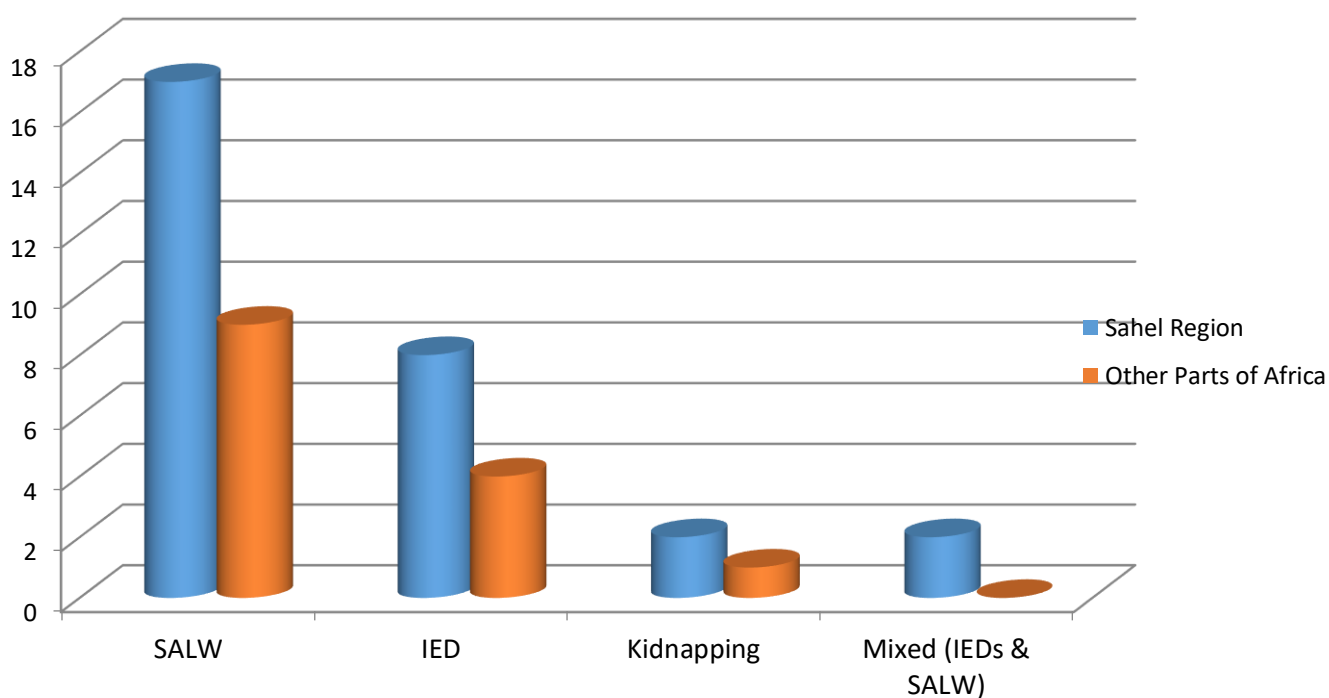
- Sahel region: **29**
- Other Parts of Africa: **14**

- Within the period under review, the Sahel region recorded a total number of 29 attacks representing 67% of all the attacks in Africa.
- Countries in the Sahel region that recorded attacks are Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Nigeria. 12 attacks occurred in Nigeria, 11 Mali, 3 in Burkina Faso and 3 in Niger.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

15. Means of Attack in the Sahel

Figure 16: Means of Attack in the Sahel



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Means of Attack in the Sahel

➤ SALW: 26

- Sahel: 17
- Other Parts of Africa: 9

➤ IED: 12

- Sahel: 8
- Other Parts of Africa: 4

➤ Kidnapping: 3

- Sahel: 2
- Other Parts of Africa: 1

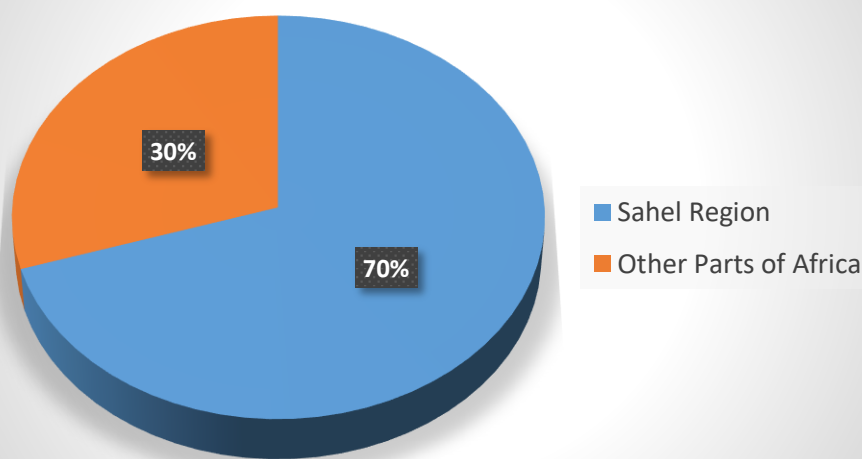
➤ Mixed (IEDs & SALW): 2

- Sahel: 2
- Other Parts of Africa: 0

- Out of a total of 52 attacks using SALW, the Sahel recorded 37.
- This means that, SALW remain the highest means by which terrorist groups attack their target.
- The use of IEDs were also high in the Sahel region. 10 attacks in the Sahel used IEDs as against 8 in the rest of Africa.
- 1 out of the 3 incidents of kidnapping that took place occurred in the Sahel.

16. Total Deaths Recorded in the Sahel

Figure 17: Deaths in the Sahel Region



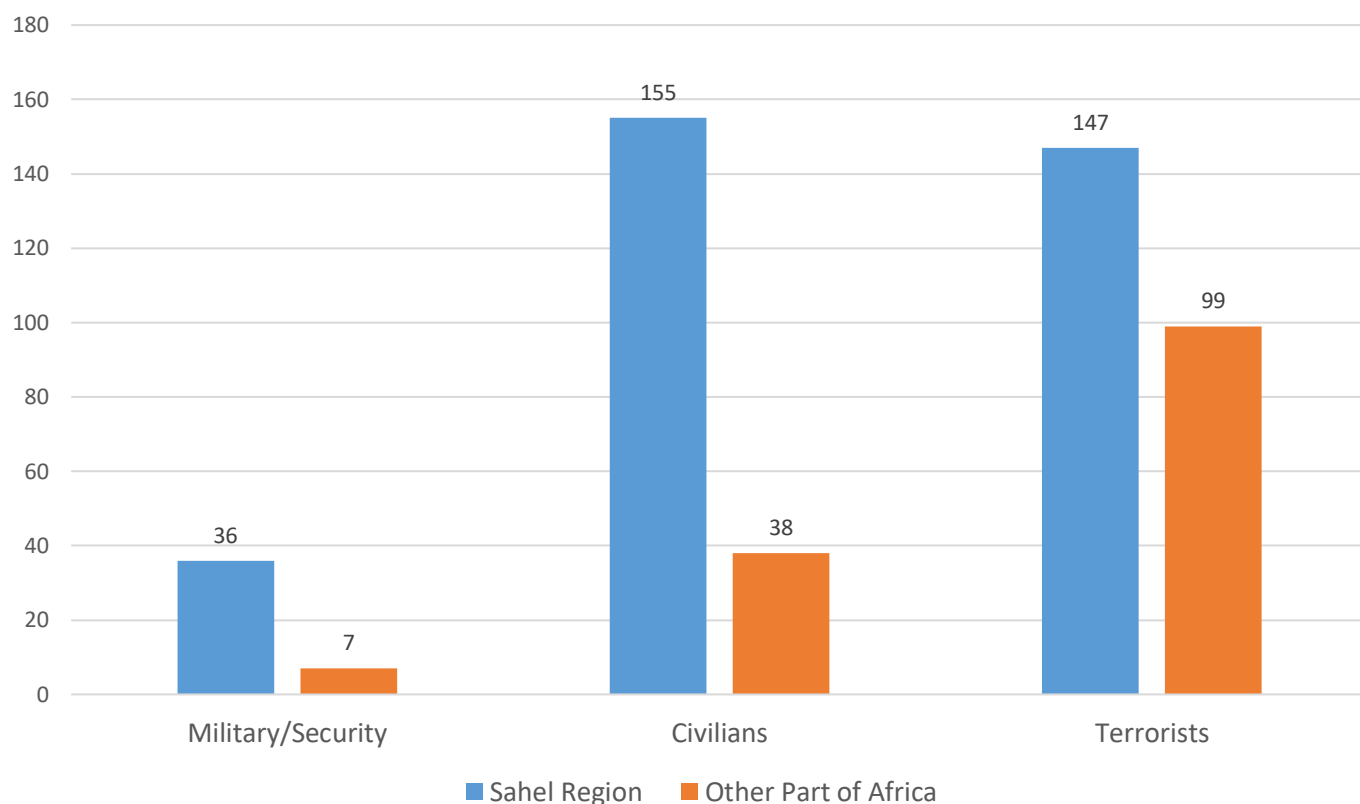
Total Deaths in Africa: 482

- Sahel Region: 338
- Other Parts of Africa: 144
- 70% of the terrorism-related deaths recorded within the period under review occurred in the Sahel region whereas 30% occurred in the rest of Africa.
- The countries in the Sahel where these deaths occurred were Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Nigeria.
- Nigeria alone recorded 210 deaths out of 324 deaths in Sahel.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

17. Deaths by Category in the Sahel Region

Figure 18: Deaths by Category in the Sahel region



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Deaths by Category in the Sahel Region

➤ Security: **43**

- Sahel: 36
- Other Parts of Africa: 7

➤ Civilians: **193**

- Sahel: 155
- Other Parts of Africa: 38

➤ Terrorists: **246**

- Sahel: 147
- Other Parts of Africa: 99

- 155 civilians representing 80% of all civilian deaths occurred in the Sahel Region as against 38 (20%) in the rest of Africa
- Majority of the Security/Military forces who died during the period were from the Sahel. 36 Military/Security personnel (84%) were killed in the Sahel whereas 7 (16%) were killed in the rest of Africa.
- 147 (60%) members of terrorist groups were eliminated in the Sahel region as against 99 (40%) in the rest of Africa.

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

No	Country/ Regions:	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	Central Africa East Africa North Africa Southern Africa West Africa Cameroun	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
2	Chad	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
3	DRC	-	4	-	-	2	4	18	10	-	12	1	-	1	1	1	-	2
4	Kenya	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nd	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
5	Somalia	2	1	-	-	-	-	27	14	-	-	49	-	4	-	-	-	3
6	Algeria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Egypt	-	-	-	-	-	3	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Libya	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Morocco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
10	Tunisia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
11	Mozambique	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
12	Burkina Faso	-	3	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	7	3	-	-	-	-
13	Mali	6	1	2	2	-	15	13	4	19	-	6	10	-	6	-	1	4
14	Niger	1	2	-	-	-	15	78	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-
15	Nigeria	1	11	-	-	-	4	55	151	-	-	21	2	-	2	1	-	9
Sub-Total		12	26	2	3	3	43	246	193	20	22	79	13	19	16	4	1	22
General Total		43				3	482			121			13	19	43			

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 Terrorist Groups Activities in Africa

Table 4: Synthesis of Terrorist Groups Activities in Africa

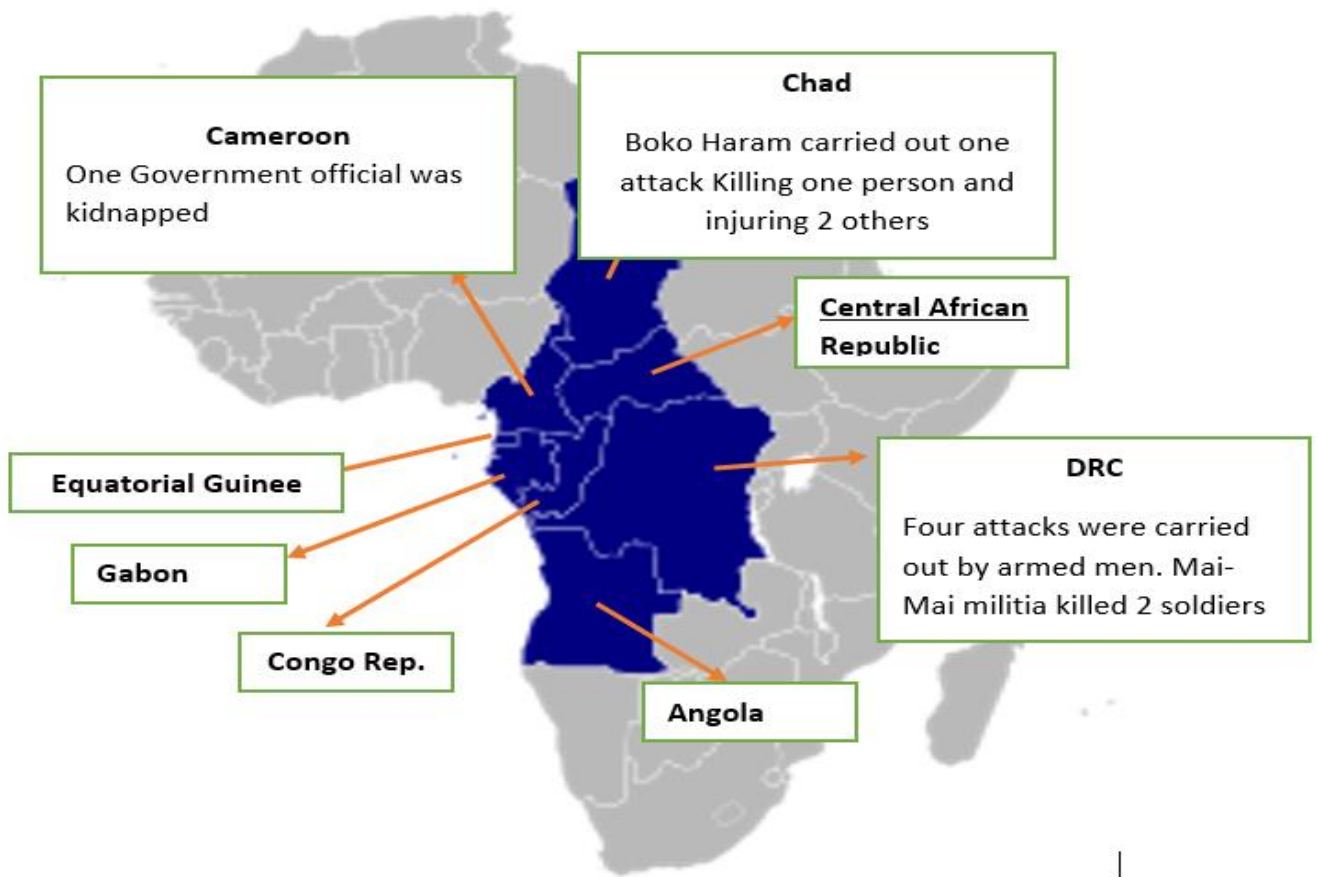
			al-Shabaab	Boko Haram	ISWAP	ISGS	IS affiliates	Others	Sub-Total	TOTAL
Attacks	Military & Security		-	1	2	1	-	12	16	43
	International Org.		-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
	Gov. Off. & Institutions		-	-	1	-	-	3	4	
	Civilians		3	3	1	-	-	15	22	
Victims	Deaths	Military & Security	-	1	8	-	3	24	36	229
		Civilians	14	2	5	-	-	172	193	
	Injured	Military & Security	-	-	-	15	-	5	20	99
		Civilians	49	3	20	-	-	7	79	
Means of attack	IEDs		2	1	1	-	-	8	12	43
	SALW		1	3	3	-	-	19	26	
	Mix (IEDs & SALW)		-	-	-	1	-	1	2	
	Kidnapping		-	-	-	-	-	3	3	
Lost (Killed)			27	56	71	-	46	39	239	239
Arrested			1	-	1	-	6	11	19	19

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

INCIDENTS RECORDED BY REGIONS

CENTRAL AFRICA

Map 3: Map Showing the Central Africa Region



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

CAMEROON

On 03 March 2019 in Buea. Unidentified gunmen kidnapped Franckline Ngwa Che, a senior government official. The kidnappers later demanded an amount of money as ransom for his release.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

On 03 March 2019 in Bangui. The Popular Front for the Renaissance of the Central African Republic (FPRC), one of the main armed groups operating in the country withdrew from the peace agreement. The group has accused authorities in the country of not forming inclusive government.

CHAD

On 02 March 2019 in Ngollom, Kaïga-Kindjiria. Armed men from Boko Haram attacked the village. One civilian was killed and two others injured. One member of Boko Haram was also killed.

On 03 March 2019 in N'Djamena, Chad. The Security and Defense Minister Mahamat Abba Ali Salah announced the closure of its border with Libya. According to the Minister, the area has become crossroads of all thugs, terrorists and rebels hence the closure.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

On 02 March 2019 in Ndosho, North Kivu. Armed men attacked the village. Five civilians and one soldier were shot dead.

On 02 March 2019 in South Kivu. The Armed Forces of DRC killed six members of a militia group in counter-insurgency operation.

On 03 March 2019 in Bugoy, Kalungu. Armed men from Nduma Defence of Congo (NDC) militia and Nyatura Kavumbi militia clashed. Eleven people were killed and twelve wounded.

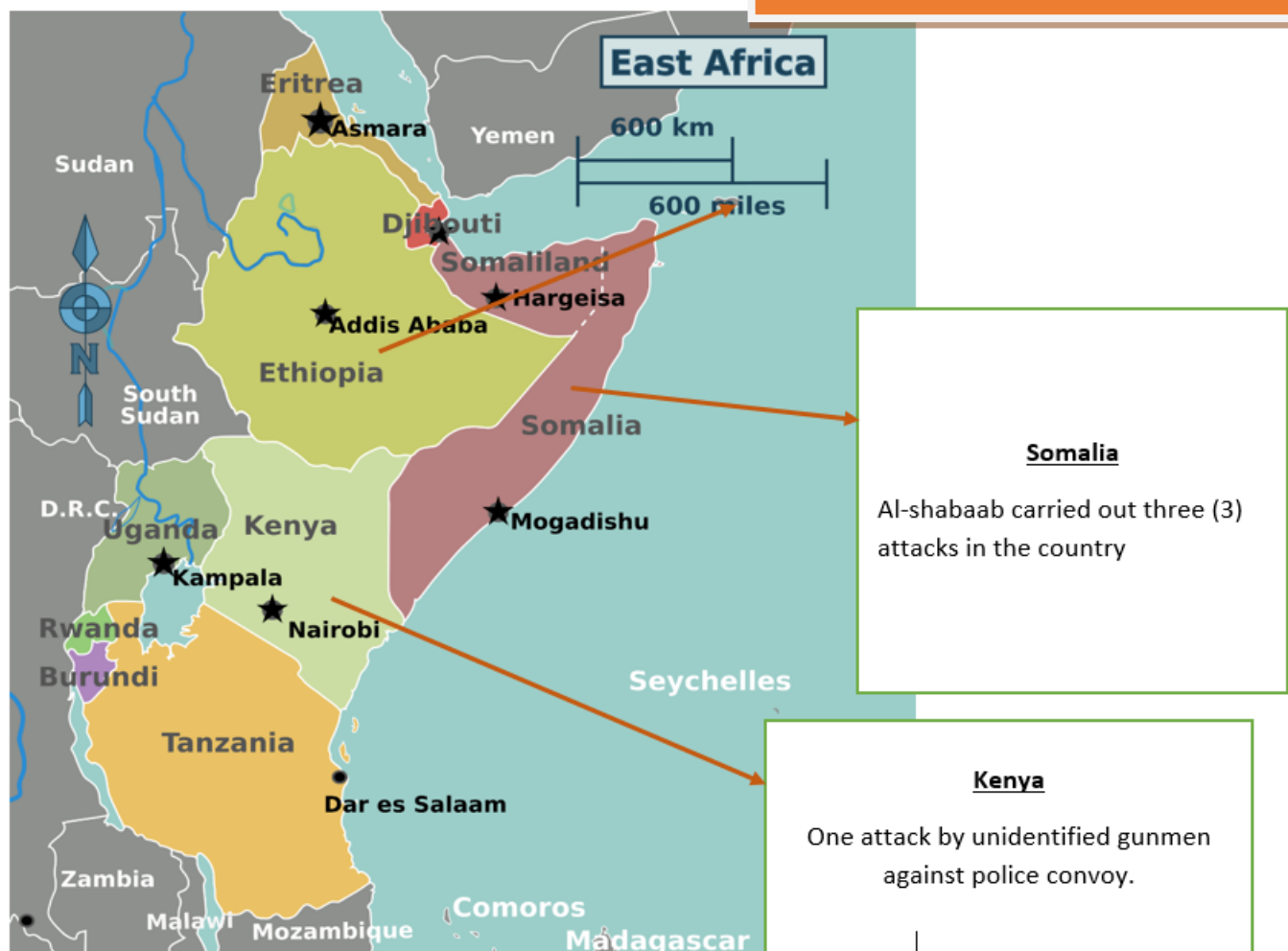
On 05 March 2019 in Butembo, North Kivu. Armed men from Mai-Mai militia group attacked a military camp. Two soldiers were killed. One assailant was also killed by security forces.

On 05 March 2019 in Ndosho, North Kivu. Assailants attacked the village using machete. A total of five civilians were killed in the attack.

On 09 March 2019 in Butembo, North Kivu. Assailants attacked an Ebola treatment Centre. One police officer was killed and one health worker injured. One attacker was arrested.

Map 4: Map Showing the East Africa Region

EAST AFRICA



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

KENYA

On 03 March 2019 in Garissa. Unidentified armed men attacked police convoy with an IED. Unspecified number of Kenyan police officers were injured.

SOMALIA

On 03 March 2019 in Wadajir, Mogadishu. Somali security forces arrested three al-Shabaab militants. The militants were planning to assassinate a female member of the electoral delegation committee.

On 07 March 2019 in Mogadishu. Five people were killed and nine wounded when a car loaded with explosives devices exploded. Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack.

On 10 March 2019 in Qoryoley, Lower Shabelle. Al-Shabaab militants stoned to death a 12-year-old for celebrating Arsenal win over Manchester United. He was accused of causing disturbance.

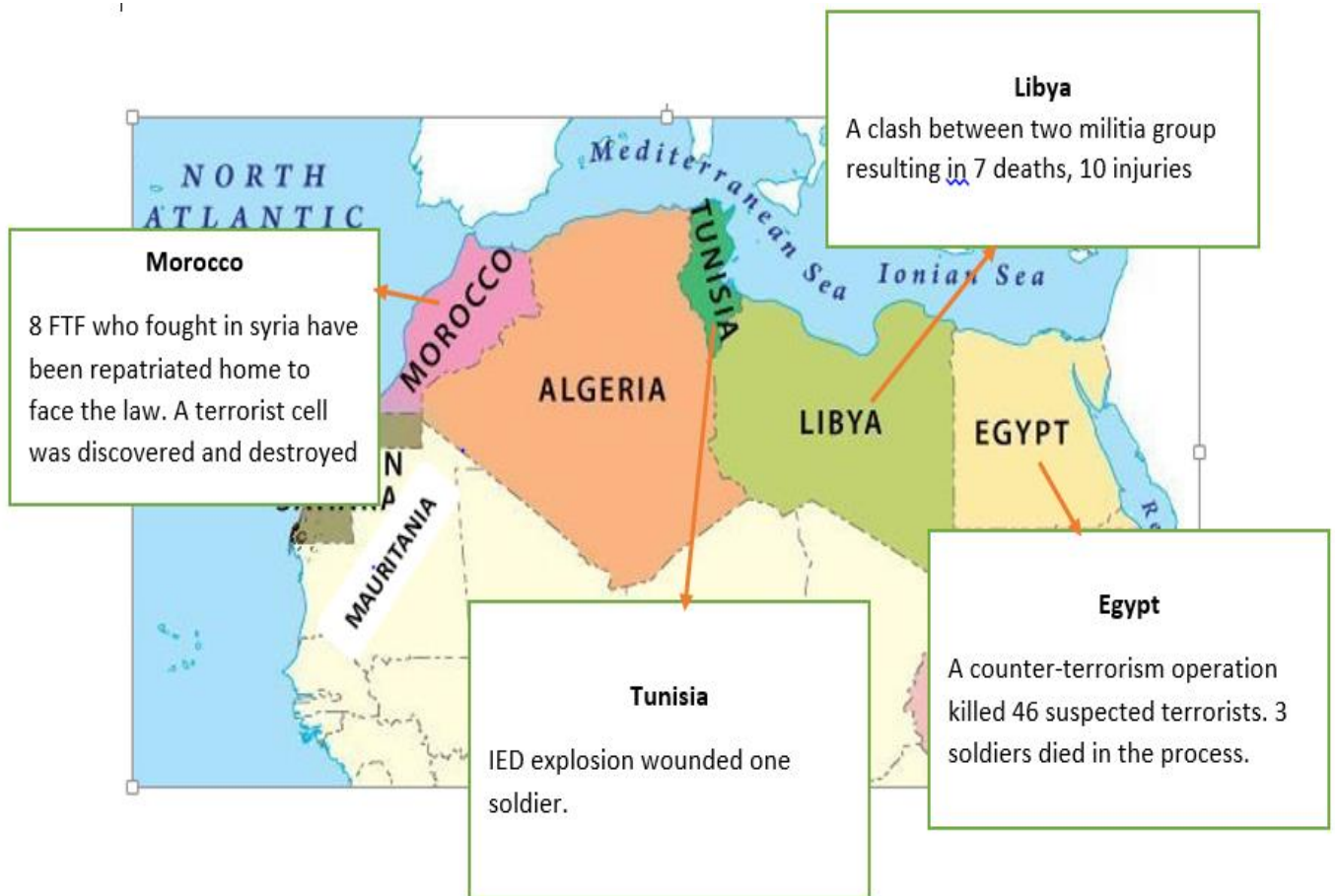
On 11 March 2019 in Daru Salam, Lower Shabelle. Somali security forces carried out counter-terrorism operation. Eight members of Al-Shabaab terrorist group were killed.

On 13 March 2019 in Gof-gadud, Bay. Al-Shabaab attacked a market square using IED. Eight people were killed and 40 others injured.

On 13 March 2019 in Lower Juba. Somali National Army (SNA) and international security forces carried out anti-terrorism operation. 16 Al-Shabaab militants were killed.

On 13 March 2019 in Bura Hache. Kenya Defense Forces (KDF) operating under African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) killed three Al-Shabaab militants. One militant was also arrested. The military seized 9 AK-47 rifles, 10 magazines, two rocket-propelled grenade launchers and three grenades.

Map 5: Map showing the North Africa Region



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

ALGERIA

On 12 March 2019 in Adrar. A detachment of the Algerian Army discovered a cache of weapons and ammunition containing several heavy weapons. Among the weapons found: a 106mm caliber gun with an M90 sight, heavy machine guns, including three Kalashnikov type machine guns, two Simonov type semi-automatic rifles, a sniper rifle, spear shells -roots, mortar rockets, nearly 80 antipersonnel mines, and more than 600 bullets of different calibers.

EGYPT

On 11 March 2019 in North Sinai. Egyptian Army carried out counter-terrorism operations against Islamist Militants killing 46 suspected terrorists. Three soldiers also died in the operation.

LIBYA

On 02 March 2019 in Sossal. Seven people were killed, ten wounded and seven vehicles destroyed when Union of Forces for Democracy and Development (UFDD) militia clashed with Toros-Boros militia group.

MOROCCO

On 14 march 2019 in Casablanca and Marrakech. Morocco's Central Bureau of Judicial Investigation (BCIJ) dismantled ISIS-linked terror cell in the cities of Sidi Bennour, El Jadida, Mohamedia and Marrakech. Six radicalized suspects aged 27 to 40 were arrested. A preliminary investigation found the suspects had pledged allegiance to ISIS.

On 10 march 2019 in Rabat. Eight Moroccan citizens who fought in Syria as Foreign Terrorist Fighters have been repatriated home to be prosecuted.

TUNISIA

On 01 March 2019 in Mount Orbata, Gafsa. A landmine exploded injuring one Tunisian soldier near a cache of a discovered terrorist's site. Terrorists linked to ISIS is suspected to have planted the landmine.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Map 6: Map showing the Western Africa Region



Source: Adapted from World Map, n.d

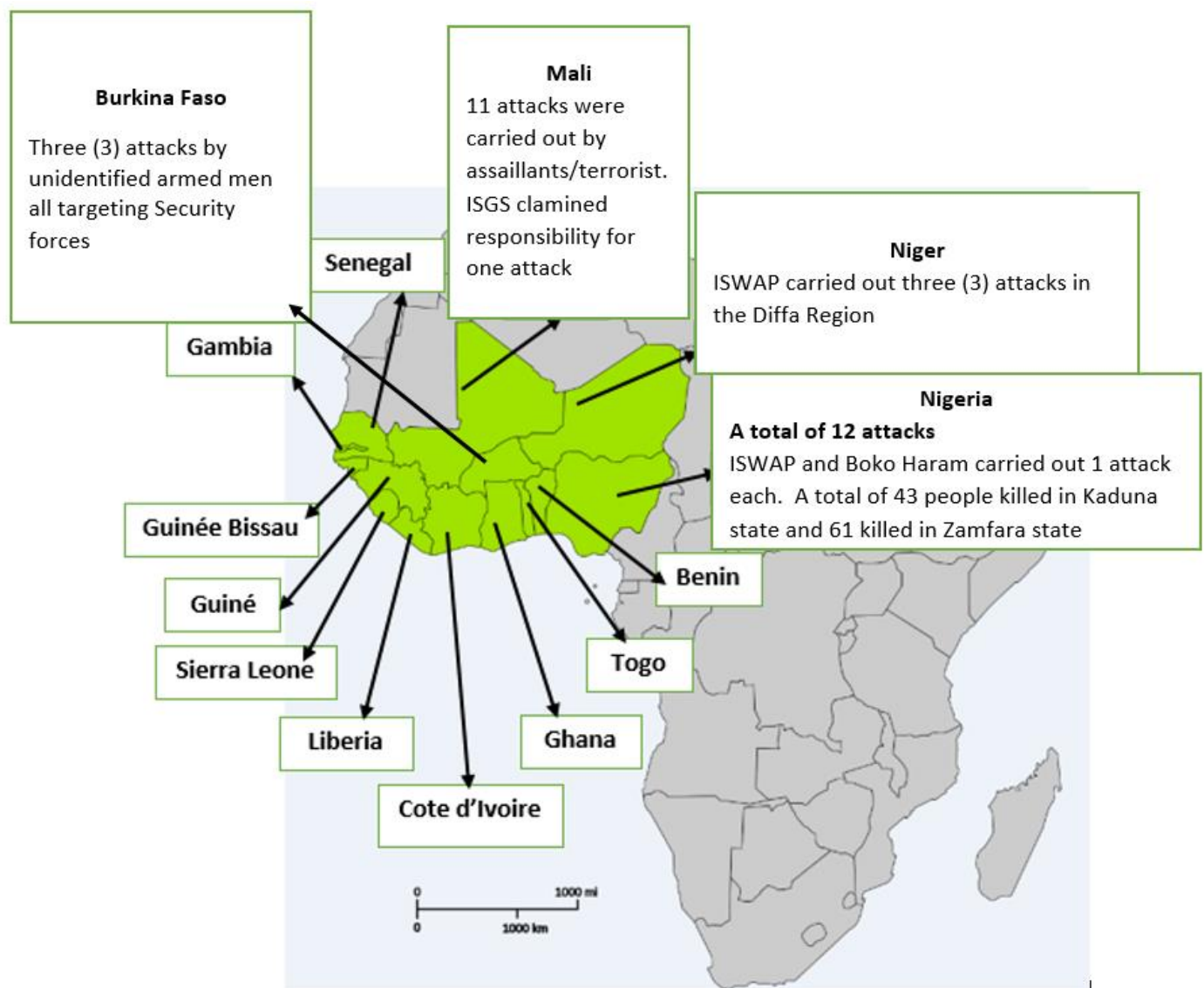
MOZAMBIQUE

On 14 March 2019 in Ulo, Mocimboa da Praia. Suspected terrorists of local jihadist group attacked the village. More than 120 houses were destroyed.

On 15 March 2019 in Nabajo and Maculo, Cabo Delgado. Two attacks were carried out during the early hours on the villages of Nabajo and Maculo. 13 civilians were killed in the attack.

WEST AFRICA

Figure 25: Map showing the Southern Africa Region



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

BURKINA FASO

On 04 March 2019 in Liptougou, Gnagna. Unidentified armed individuals attacked a Gendarmerie station. No casualties were recorded.

On 12 March 2019 in Banh, Loroum. Armed men ambushed the District Police Commissioner. He was shot dead on his way to Ouahigouya.

On 12 March 2019 in Cinkasse, Koulpelogo. Seven suspected terrorists crossing the border in the eastern Burkina Faso to Togo were arrested. The leader of the group was killed while the seven were sent to Burkina Faso for prosecution.

On 13 March 2019 in Tougouri, Namentenga. Armed men attacked Gendarmerie Brigade. One Gendarme was killed

MALI

On 01 March 2019 in Koro, Mopti. A FAMa vehicle hit an explosive device between Dioungani village and Koro town. Nine FAMa soldiers were killed and one injured.

On 02 March 2019 in Tarkint, Gao. Assailants attacked FAMa camp. Three mortar shells and small arms fire were used in the attack. No casualties were reported.

On 02 March 2019 in Tinzouraghen, Ménaka. Joint FAMa and French forces carried out anti-terror operations. Thirteen suspected terrorists were killed and six motorcycles recovered.

On 04 March 2019 in Tenenkou. Unidentified gunmen ambushed a transport vehicle on the Tenenkou-Mopti route, dispossessed passengers of their property and abducted four people.

On 04 March 2019 in Douentza, Mopti. A MINUSMA-contracted vehicle escorted by FAMa hit an explosive device. Only minor material damages to the vehicle were reported.

On 06 March 2019 in Minta, Mopti. Unidentified armed elements reportedly stormed a local bar. Six Fulani men were abducted.

On 10 March 2019 in Akabar, Ménaka. Armed men attacked Operation Bakhane team on counterterrorism operation. The militants suspected to be members of ISGS used a SVBIED and small arms fire. Fifteen French soldiers of the Barkhane force were injured.

On 11 March 2019 in Gourty, Mopti. A public transport vehicle hit an explosive device between Dioungani and Gourty villages. Six people were injured.

On 11 March 2019 in Bandiagara, Mopti. Unidentified gunmen attacked the villages of Tegourou and Ogossagou. Four people were killed.

On 12 March 2019 in Dialloubé, Mopti. A FAMa vehicle hit explosive device killing two soldiers died and injuring three others.

On 12 March 2019 in Hombori, Mopti. A FAMa vehicle hit explosive device killing four soldiers.

On 13 March 2019 in Ansongo, Gao. FAMA discovered an IED. No casualties were recorded.

On 14 March 2019 in Douentza, Mopti. A FAMA vehicle hit an explosive device between Dioungani village and Koro town. Only minor material damages to the vehicle were reported.

NIGER

On 08 March 2019 in Gueskerou, Diffa. Militants from Islamic State affiliated faction of Bok Haram (ISWAP) attacked a military post. Security forces repulsed the attack killing 38 militants. Seven soldiers also died. One terrorist was arrested.

On 12 March 2019 in Diffa. Niger Army carried out anti-terror operation. 40 Boko Haram terrorists of the ISWAP were killed. An armored vehicle was destroyed, two other vehicles, two motorcycles, a 120-millimetre mortar, 10 AK-47 assault rifles, two 60mm shells and 3,736 rounds of calibres were seized.

On 13 March 2019 in Toumour, Diffa. A car bomb attack by the ISWAP left an Army commander and seven soldiers killed. Armored vehicle was destroyed by the Group.

NIGERIA

On 01 March 2019 in Kware, Zamfara. Armed men attacked a checkpoint set up by locals, killing 32 vigilantes.

On 02 March 2019 in Sabon Sara, Kaduna. Armed men attacked the villages. Five civilians were killed.

On 02 March 2019 in Shinkafi, Zamfara. Local police source confirmed an attack on the village by armed men. 29 civilians were killed in the attack that happened on 28th February 2019.

On 03 March 2019 in Shinkafi District, Zamfara state. Gunmen attacked Kware village opening fire on residents and burning homes. 34 people were killed and many unaccounted for.

On 03 March 2019 in Benue state. Seven people from Tse-Kuma community were killed in an early morning attack by unidentified gunmen.

On 04 March 2019. ISWAP allegedly replaced Abu Musab Al-Barnawi as the leader of the group. The purported new leader of the group is believed to be Abu Abdullah Ibn Umar Al-Barnawi. This has not been independently verified.

On 06 March 2019 in Addamari, Maiduguri. Public transport vehicle hit suspected ISWAP planted landmine. Five people were killed and 20 injured in the explosion.

On 08 March 2019 in Lake Chad Basin. Fifty Boko Haram militants were killed by troops from the Multinational Joint Task Forces (MNJTF) in a counter terrorism operation. Some equipment belonging to the terrorists were captured during the operations, while others were destroyed.

On 09 March 2019 in Ngwom, Borno. Armed men from Boko Haram attacked a military base. Security forces repulsed the attack killing five Boko Haram terrorists.

On 08 March 2019 in Tumbun Sale, Borno. The Nigerian Air Task Force (ATF) conducted a CT operation destroying ISWAP vehicle and some logistics.

On 10 March 2019 in Kajuru, Kaduna. Assailants attacked Barde Village and killed 16 civilians.

On 12 March 2019 at Afuze, Edo. Gunmen attacked the Divisional Police Command killing the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) and three other officers on duty. The assailants also attacked the office of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in the town and destroyed electoral materials while burning down a police van on the compound.

On 12 March 2019 in Birnin Gwari, Kaduna. Gunmen stormed the village of Layin Maigwari community. 22 persons were killed and several others wounded.

On 13 March 2019 in Muthavu, Borno. Armed men attacked the village burning houses and looting food. Two teenage girls were kidnaped and one person killed.

TERRORISM-RELATED NEWS

On 07 March 2019 in Kampala, Uganda. President Yoweri Museveni threatened to withdraw his country's forces from the peacekeeping Mission in Somalia if the United Nations insists on reducing the number of troops on the mission. Due to declining and irregular funding, the UN Security Council, in Resolution 2372 of 2017, proposed a phased drawdown of peacekeepers in Somalia with a full pullout by 2020. The Ugandan president said he had personally informed the Security Council that Uganda would withdraw its 6,400 contingent from Somalia if it is forced to scale down. This comes after Burundian President Pierre Nkurunziza also threatened to pull out of AMISOM if the funders of the Mission insist that Bujumbura recall its 1,000 soldiers. Mr Museveni, while addressing a high-level meeting of ministers in charge of refugees in the Great Lakes Region, said the Security Council's move is "total lack of seriousness" to the task of flushing Al-Shabaab out.

On 11 March 2019 in N'Djamena, Chad. About 400 fighters from the Libyan-led rebel group, the Union of Forces for Democracy and Development (UFDD), laid down their arms according to information provided by the Chadian Defense Minister. The rebels of the UFDD decided to surrender and respond a call for peace by President Idriss Deby. In May 2018, President Idriss Deby Itno announced a general amnesty, inviting all Chadians who for one reason or another left the country to return with dignity. However, the UFDD disputed the defection of 400 of its elements insisting that only a tiny number of its elements presented themselves to the army.

On 11 March 2019 in Gao, Mali. The population of Seyna Sonrai paid 375,000 CFA in ransoms for their cattle. The money was handed over to suspected jihadists. Reports regarding the payment of ransoms to presumed terrorists for the return of livestock in Ansongo area illustrate how terrorists can raise funds locally to sustain their operations. Kidnapping for ransoms, robbery and other criminal economic activities are sources of financing terrorist and their activities.

CONCLUSION

The period under review recorded consistent attacks from terrorist groups mainly targeting Security and Military Forces, particularly in the West African part of the Sahel region. Security Forces came under heavy and sophisticated attacks from ISWAP in the Diffa region of Niger. Sporadic attacks from armed men continued in central Mali against civilians and security forces. In terms of means by which terrorists attack, the results revealed consistent use of Improvised Explosive Devices in most of the sophisticated attacks by ISGS, JNIM and other jihadist groups operating in the Sahel.

In the Lake Chad basin, the report revealed continued attacks by ISWAP and Boko Haram in Northeastern Nigeria and Chad. The important issue to follow in the Lake Chad region is the alleged leadership change within the ISWAP. If it is confirmed, the modus operandi of the ISWAP may change to more vociferous attacks or may be tamed. It may be recalled that the taking over of the leadership of Boko Haram by Abubakar Shekau turned the Group into the deadly organization that it has become today.

The results further show an escalation of violent activities in the Northwestern Nigeria, particularly Zamfara state. The fear is that, the driving force behind the rise of militancy in Zamfara extending to neighboring parts of Sokoto and potentially elsewhere in northwestern Nigeria may be a revival of Jamaatu Ansarul Muslimin fi Biladis Sudan (Vanguards for the protection of Muslims in Black Africa), popularly referred to as “ANSARU”. The group may become immersed into the cells of local bandits in Zamfara and take advantage of the leadership crisis in ISWAP to reassert its influence in Nigeria and provide militant forces some support that could potentially aggravate the security situation in Nigeria. The group may provide the local bandits in Zamfara an insurgent model based on that of Al-Qaeda affiliated jihadists such as Ansarul Islam and JNIM in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger border axis whose operation areas are approximately 300 miles from Zamfara. The focus on Boko Haram and ISWAP activities in Yobe, Borno, Adamawa, Sambisa and the Lake Chad have created a security vacuum in northwestern Nigeria which requires kinetic and intelligence measures to prevent escalation of violent extremism.

To counter the threat, the following policy recommendations are provided for African countries to consider in their efforts to completely defeat terrorist groups. There should be an intensification of efforts to address the push factors in communities where socio-economic challenges enable recruitment into terror groups. Part of the problem has also been the apparent shortcomings in the provision of public services to the population, which allowed militant groups to exploit people's grievances. Where there is a lack of state public service provision, terror groups are providing some services, which strengthen their links within the population. Provision of public services and community protection as well as addressing issues of corruption, political impunity both at the local and central government level could go a long way to win the hearts and minds of the local population culminating in the defeat of terrorist and insurgent groups.

FORECAST FOR NEXT EDITION

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



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

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