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

THE MONTHLY AFRICA TERRORISM BULLETIN

1st – 31st December 2020



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ABOUT AFRICA TERRORISM BULLETIN

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

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

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

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ABBREVIATIONS

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

SUMMARY

General Situation. The reporting period, 1st to 31st December 2020 recorded a marginal decrease in terrorist attacks compared to the period 1st to 30th November 2020. At the end of December 2020 there were 150 terrorist attacks compared to 156 for November 2020, representing a 04% decrease. With respect to casualties, there was also a decrease in the number of deaths from terrorist attacks. While there were 575 deaths recorded in November 2020, 362 deaths were recorded in December 2020, representing less than 37% increase.

Countries Most Affected. The five countries most affected by terrorist and violent extremist attacks during the period were: DRC, Somalia, Mali, Nigeria, and Mozambique. (*In decreasing order*).

Targets of Terrorist and VE Attacks. While 91 out of the 150 terrorist attacks were launched against Civilians, 54 targeted Military/Security Forces. Four attacks targeted International Organisations and one attack targeted Governmental Institutions/Officials. ADF was very active during the period targeting both civilians and Military, with Mai-Mai groups also largely targeting Civilians while ISWAP directed all its attacks against Military/Security Forces.

Weapons Used. The terrorist groups used Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs) in 115 out of the 150 attacks whilst Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) were used in 13 of the attacks and the complex attacks used in one attack.

Deaths from Terrorists and VE Attacks. 362 deaths were recorded during the period: 285 civilians, 90 Military/Security personnel and 87 terrorists.

Casualties Inflicted by Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups.

Boko Haram killed 69 persons (68 civilians and 01 Military/Security Forces); ADF killed 52 persons (25 civilians, 27 Military/Security Forces); ISWAP killed 19 persons all Military/Security Forces; Al-Shabaab killed 18 persons (17 civilians, 01 Military/Security Forces); ASWJ killed 15 persons (14 civilians and 01 Military/Security Forces); Other VE groups killed 11 persons (07 civilians and 04 Military/Security Forces); Mai-Mai groups killed 32 persons (27 civilians and 05 Military/Security Forces); Unknown groups killed 59 persons (29 civilians, 30 Military/Security Forces).

Casualties Sustained by Terrorist Groups. ASWJ, Mai-Mai groups, Al-Shabaab, ADF and Boko Haram suffered the highest number of casualties during the period. Military/Security forces killed 53 ASWJ members, 33 Mai-Mai groups members, 32 of Al-Shabaab fighters and 17 members of ADF. Boko Haram terrorists suffered 09 casualties while 12 members of other VE groups and 45

unknown groups were also killed.

Kidnapping. 21 cases of kidnappings were recorded.

A total of 516 persons were taken hostage in Nigeria, DRC, and Mali.

Focus on Epicentres. Out of the 150 terrorist attacks, the Great Lakes region recorded 96 attacks with 147 deaths, the Horn of Africa recorded 18 attacks with 52 deaths, the Sahel region accounted for 13 attacks and 41 deaths and Lake Chad Basin accounted for 11 attacks with 97 deaths during the period.

High Profile Attacks.

18 December, North Kivu, DRC. An attack on FARDC positions by ADF / MTM rebels resulted in 31 deaths including 17 FARDC soldiers and 14 ADF, 12 soldiers wounded, 18 others missing. **12 December, Diffa Region, Niger.** Boko Haram terrorists' attack led to the deaths of 28 people - 10 were shot dead, 14 others were victims of fire and 4 others died by drowning. They also destroyed 800 homes and workplaces along with vehicles during the attack. **18 December, Galkayo, Somalia.** An Al Shabaab suicide bomber attacked a stadium killing 15 people. **21 December, Taroun Town, Tillaberi Region.** An attack by terrorists on a military patrol led to the deaths of seven soldiers and injury of three others. A counter attack by the military led to the deaths of seven terrorists. **12 December, Lukuamba villages, Nangade district, Cabo Delgado.** ASWJ militants on motorbikes attacked six villages killing 14 civilians and destroyed four vehicles.

Counter-Terrorism Response. CT operations resulted in neutralizing 118 terrorists. Four Military/Security Forces died during those operations across the continent.

Counter-Terrorism Response. CT operations resulted in neutralizing 118 terrorists. Four Military/Security Forces died during those operations across the continent. Conclusion/Recommendation: As 2020 draws to a close, the terrorism and violent extremism in the continent remains the single most destabilizing factor. Although there was an overall reduction of terrorist attacks in December vis a vis November 2020, the general trend remains fluid and unpredictable. There needs to be a new thinking and strategy to break the back of the terrorists across the continent by adopting tailored made strategies for each of the regions in 2021.

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

THREAT UPDATE

Terrorist attacks across the continent for December followed the same pattern with that of November by registering a decrease in number. While there was an increase of 3% in terrorist attacks in October 2020, November recorded a sharp decrease of 20% in attacks. The decrease continued with another 4% in December when there were 150 attacks recorded across the continent compared to 156 in November.

With respect to deaths occasioned by terrorist attacks, there was sharp decline in December compared to November that had also registered a marginal increase of 1% of deaths resulting from terrorist attacks across Africa compared to October. While there were 575 deaths recorded in November 2020, 362 deaths were recorded in December 2020, representing a 37% decline. The decrease in attacks and deaths indicates that the terrorists were not very successful in causing mass casualties with fewer attacks as observed in the past. This could be attributed to the Covid-19 restrictions including ban on mass gatherings put in place by countries. The absence of which makes it difficult for terrorist to launch attacks against populated areas.

Of the 362 deaths recorded during the period, 285 civilians, 90 Military/Security personnel and 87 terrorists died in the course of attacks. The five countries most affected by terrorist and violent extremist attacks during the period were: DRC, Somalia, Mali, Nigeria, and Mozambique. (In decreasing order).

Counter terrorism operations independently conducted by military and security forces in various regions of the continent also resulted in the elimination of 118 terrorist. ASWJ, Mai-Mai groups, Al-Shabaab, ADF and Boko Haram suffered the highest number of casualties during the period.

Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs) continue to be the most common weapon being used by terrorists and were used in 115 out of the 150 attacks. Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) were used in 13 attacks while one attack was complex involving SALW as well as IEDs.

21 cases of kidnappings were recorded and 516 persons were taken in hostage in Nigeria, DRC, and Mali.

Great Lakes.

Violent extremist groups in the Great Lakes region have made the area the most active epicentre of terrorism and violent extremism in the entire African continent. The situation continues to deteriorate as the region maintains its rather unenviable record of witnessing the highest number of attacks and deaths in the continent since early 2020. For the month of December, the region recorded a whopping 96% of attacks in the continent and also accounted for 41% of total deaths.

As in the preceding month of November, all the attacks in the region in December occurred in the DRC where were recorded 96 attacks that resulted in 147 deaths. While the number of attacks rose by just three incidents between November and December, from 93 to 96, the number of deaths declined from 229 in November to 147 in December, representing 03% increase and 36% decrease, respectively. Of the total deaths recorded, 59 were civilians, 42 military/security personnel and 46 terrorists/violent extremists. Mai-Mai groups as well as the ADF continue to be the main groups operating in the region. Mai-Mai groups carried out 47 attacks killing 32 people while ADF was responsible for 23 attacks that resulted in 52 deaths. In one of its high-profile attacks on 18th December in North Kivu, ADF attack on FARDC forces resulted in 31 deaths comprising 17 FARDC soldiers. 14 ADF fighters also died during the attack.

It was observed during the period under review that two armed groups, the YIRA Mai Mai group and the violent extremist group FDLR/FPPH carried out attacks against local villages and stole pharmaceuticals. This indicates that the groups had run out of medical supplies and needed same for restocking.

Apart from the ISCAP (aka ADF/MTM) that is linked to the Islamic State, all the other groups operating in the DRC, particularly the North Kivu province are not known to have links to internationally identified terrorist organizations. As a result, the Great Lakes region and for that matter the DRC is not receiving the needed attention with respect to the fight against terrorism and violent extremism.

East Africa and Horn of Africa.

The decline in the number of attacks and deaths witnessed in November was repeated in December 2020. While attacks and deaths totalled 25 and 90 respectively in November, December registered 15 attacks and 52 deaths, representing 40% and 42% decrease, respectively. 11 of the 15 attacks occurred in Somalia while four attacks were conducted in Kenya. Out of the 52 deaths recorded during the period under review, 31 were civilians, 13 were military/security while eight were terrorists, returning to previous trend where civilians have mostly been victims of attacks.

The Al Qaeda affiliated Al-Shabaab group continue to be the main organization wreaking havoc in the region. In addition to maintaining control over swathes of territories in southern and central Somalia, it also persists in targeting military and security establishments. Although the group claimed responsibility for seven attacks that resulted in 18 casualties, it is also suspected to be behind some of the other attacks in both Somalia and Kenya. In one high profile attack on 18th December in Galkayo, Somalia, an Al Shabaab suicide bomber attacked a stadium killing 15 people.

The political deadlock in Somalia if not resolved immediately could complicate the security situation. The deadline for holding fresh parliamentary elections expired at the end of December, and a planned one-person-one-vote presidential election has also been delayed, until leaders agree on a way forward. Meanwhile there are reports that the current Government led by Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, is no longer recognized by two of the five states, and his four-year presidential term has officially ended prior to an agreement over how to conduct fresh polls. These uncertainties will provide an impetus for Al Shabaab to denounce the Government as illegitimate and use same to carry out more attacks in Somalia.

Sahel Belt of West Africa.

The Sahel Sahara region was third most affected region by terrorism and violent extremism during the period under review coming after the Great Lakes and East/Horn of Africa regions. The region recorded 13 attacks, 10 fewer than 23 attacks witnessed in November, representing 43% lull. With respect to casualties, the region again witnessed a decline from 58 in November to 41 in December representing a 29% fall. However, while the 58 deceased in November comprised, 47 civilians, 2 military/security personnel and 9 terrorists, the deaths in December were largely terrorists. Of the 41 dead, 24 were terrorists, 12 were security personnel and five were civilians. This is the first time in a long while where civilian casualties were very minimal. The rate of death among the terrorists was occasioned by the persistent counterterrorism operations in the region during the period under review. Mali was the most affected country in the region with 12 attacks resulting in the 27 deaths. Of the three attacks that took place in Niger during the period under review, one occurred in the Tillaberi region making it the 13th incident in the Sahel while the other two occurred in Diffa region of the Lake Chad Basin.

Lake Chad Basin.

The number of attacks recorded in December in the Lake Chad Basin rose to 11 from the three attacks registered in November, representing 267% rise. With respect to deaths, the region also witnessed a 35% increase in December, compared to the preceding month as the number of deaths rose from 63 in November to 97. The deceased comprised 68 civilians, 20 military/security personnel and nine terrorists. Attacks by Boko Haram in both Nigeria and Niger mostly targeted civilians while the ISWAP targeted security/military personnel. In one incident, the attack led to the demise of 19 Nigerian soldiers. The strategy of ISWAP to primarily target security forces is part of their long-term goal to win the hearts and minds of local communities by portraying itself as the defender of the populace against abuses by security sector personnel.

Southern Africa.

As the year draws to a close, the terrorism landscape in Southern Africa is driven primarily by the situation in northern Mozambique's Cabo Delgado province where ASWJ terrorists continue to launch successful attacks against security personnel and the civilian population, leading to increased number of casualties and mass displacement of people. The number of attacks in the region rose from eight in November to 10 in December 2020. However, the number of deaths decreased significantly from 135 in November to 24 in December, representing 82% fall. Of the deaths registered, 21 were civilians, 3 were military/security personnel. In addition to seizing nine towns in early November, the terrorists also attacked and occupied the village of Mute on 07 December and torched houses. The attack led to the killing of one soldier. Also on 12 December, ASWJ militants on motorbikes attacked six villages killing 14 civilians and destroyed four vehicles.

The ability of the terrorists to take control and occupy territories as well as target security personnel demonstrates their growing confidence and ambitions and therefore require a concerted regional and continental strategy to dislodge them from the territories they are occupying.

North Africa and the Maghreb.

North Africa has maintained its enviable record of being the region least affected by terrorism and violent extremism in the continent for most part of 2020. For the period under review, there was only one incident in Tunisia on 21 December where a suspected terrorist attack led to the decapitation of a young man in Kasserine governorate of Al-Soltanya Region. The previous month recorded no terrorist incident in the region.

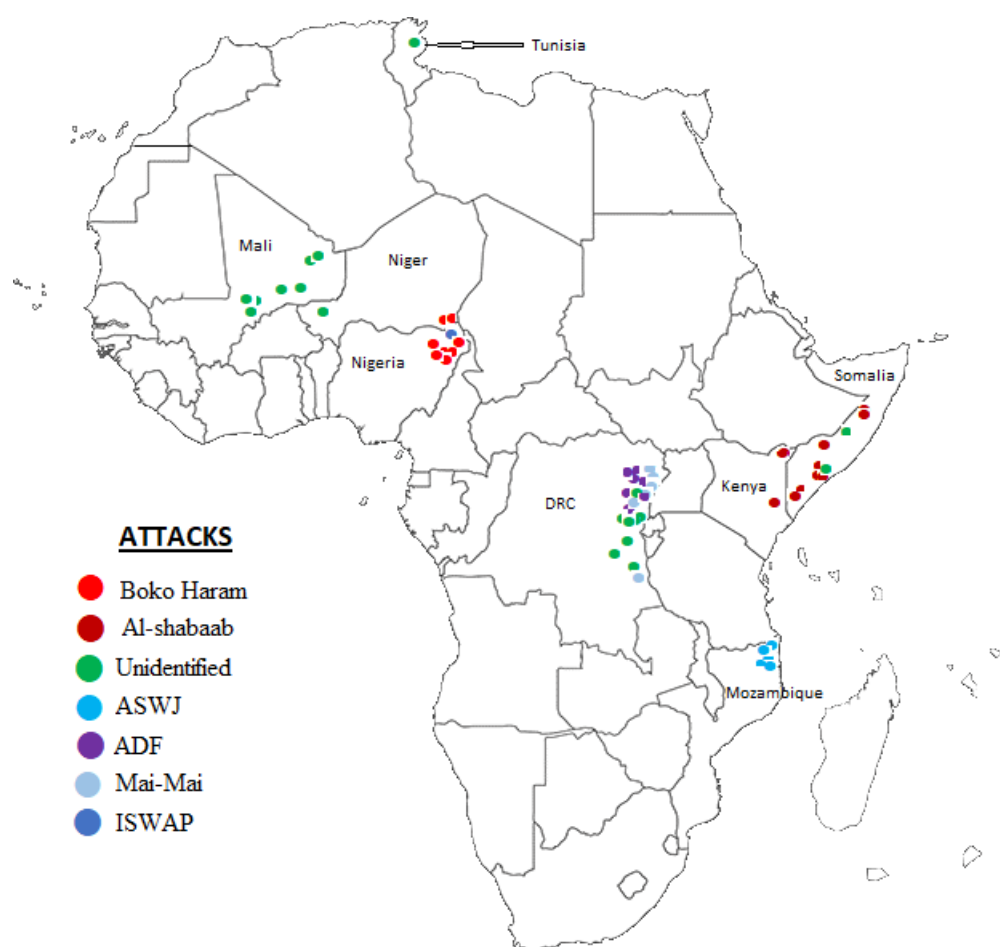
However, in spite of the seeming lull in terrorist activities, security forces across the region continue to conduct pre-emptive counterterrorism operations to weed out sleeper cells affiliated to both Al Qaeda and ISIS.

In Algeria, the ANP conducted three operations that led to the elimination of three terrorists. The Army also captured a terrorist named Rezkane Ahcène. On 29 December, the ANP in an operation in Jijel Province seized \$100,000 and said it might have been part of ransom money paid to the terrorist group JNIM for the release of the late Malian opposition leader Soumaila Cisse and other European captives in October 2020.

Meanwhile the Egyptian military killed 15 terrorists in a CT operation on 08 December. In another operation on 09 December, the security forces destroyed 21 4x4 vehicles carrying terrorists, arms, and ammunition. The number of terrorists killed in that particular operation was not known. During the same period, The Moroccan authorities on a counterterror mission dismantled a terrorist cell and arrested three individuals with links to ISIS.

General Trend: Terrorism and Violent Extremist Groups Attacks

Map 1: Map of Terrorism and Violent Extremism Attacks from 1st to 31st December 2020



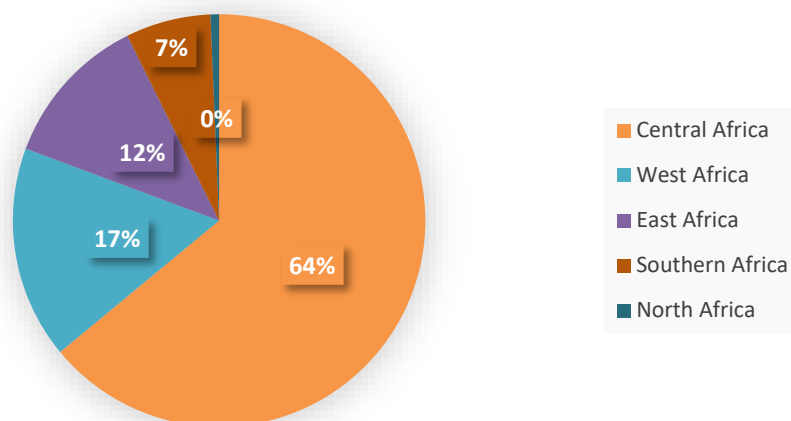
Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

1. Total Number of Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups Attacks:

A total of 150 terrorism and violent extremism incidents including 21 cases of kidnapping were recorded from 1st to 31 December.

2. Terrorist and Violent Extremist Attacks by Region

Figure 1: Percentage per Region



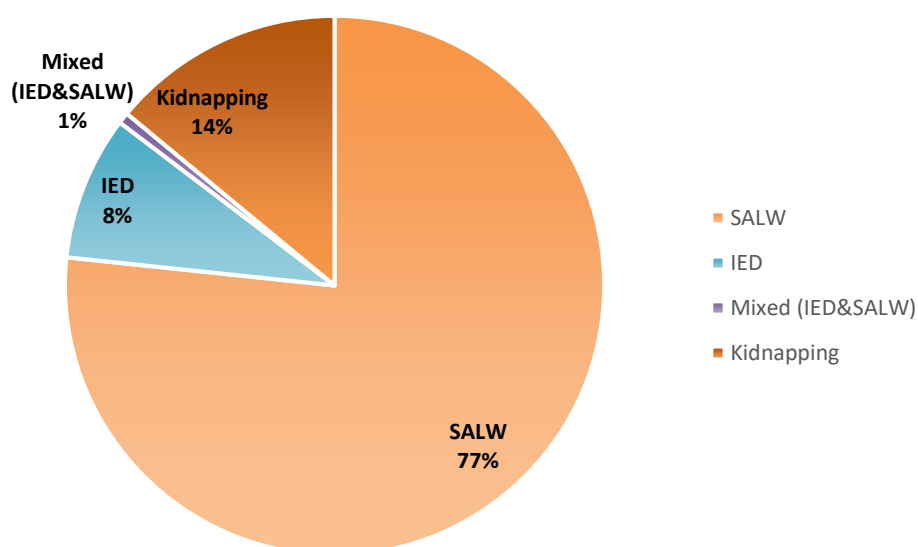
Number of Attacks per Region:

- Central Africa: **96**
- West Africa: **25**
- East Africa: **18**
- Southern Africa: **10**
- North Africa: **01**

Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

3. Type of Attacks

Figure 2: Percentage per type of Attacks



Type of Attacks:

- SALWs: **115**
- IEDs: **13**
- Mixed (IED&SALW): **01**
- Kidnapping: **21**

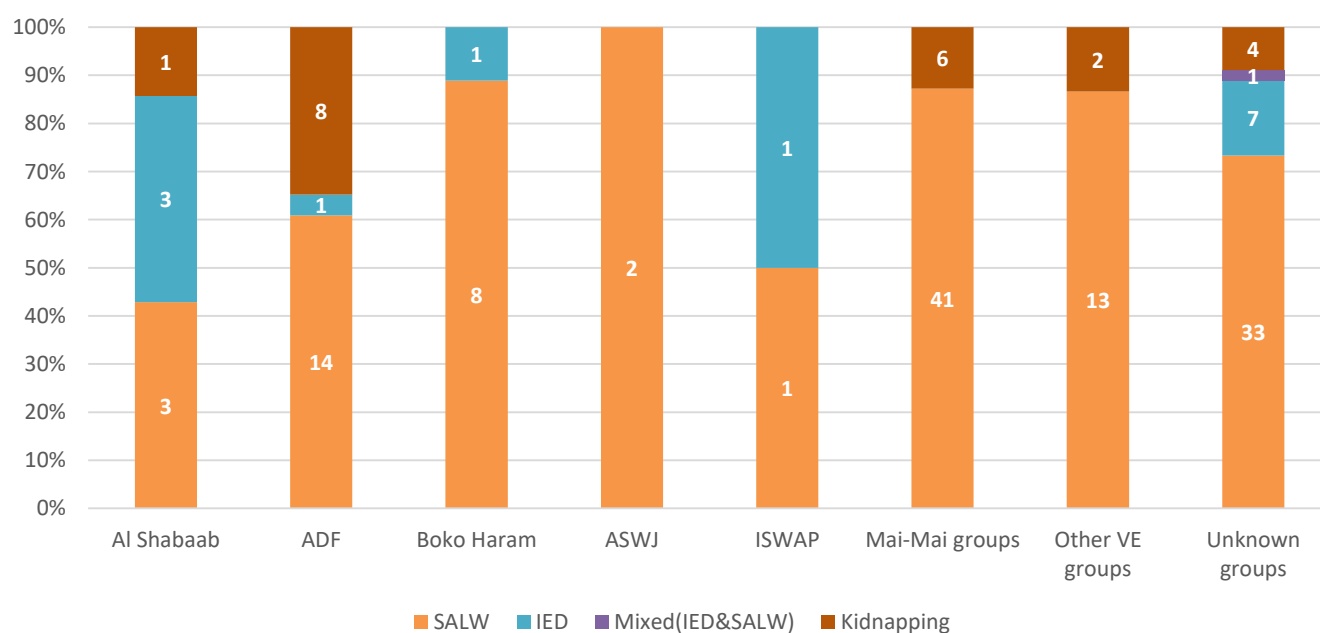
Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

Table 1: Types of Attacks by Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups

| Terrorist Group | SALW | IED | Mixed | Kidnapping | Comments |
|-----------------|------------|-----------|----------|------------|---|
| ADF | 14 | 1 | - | 8 | ADF carried out 23 attacks using 14 SALWs, one IED and is responsible of eight kidnappings. |
| Boko Haram | 8 | 1 | - | - | Boko Haram carried out nine attacks using eight SALWs and one IED. |
| Al-Shabaab | 3 | 3 | - | 1 | In a total of seven attacks by the group, three involved SALWs. Al Shabaab was also responsible for three attacks using IEDs and one kidnapping. |
| ASWJ | 2 | - | - | - | ASWJ carried out two attacks using SALWs. |
| ISWAP | | 1 | - | -1 | ISWAP carried out one attack using IED and was also responsible for one kidnapping. |
| Mai-Mai groups | 41 | - | - | 6 | Mai-Mai groups carried out 41 attacks using SALWs and was also responsible for six kidnappings. |
| Other VE groups | 13 | - | - | 2 | Other VE groups carried out 13 attacks using SALW and were responsible for two kidnappings. |
| Unknown groups | 33 | 7 | 1 | 4 | Unknown groups used SALWs in majority of the attacks. In 33 out of 45 attacks by these groups, SALWs were used. They used IEDs in seven attacks and one complex attack (mixed SALW & IED). They were also responsible for four cases of kidnapping. |
| TOTAL | 115 | 13 | 1 | 21 | |

Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

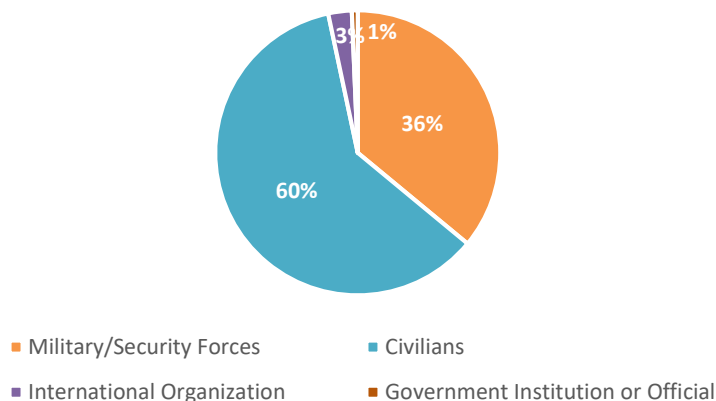
Figure 3: Types of Attacks by Terrorist and Violent Extremist groups (Percentage)



Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

4. Primary Targets

Figure 4: Primary Targets



Primary Targets

- Civilians: **91**
- Military/Security Forces: **54**
- International Organization: **4**
- Government Institutions/Officials: **01**

Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

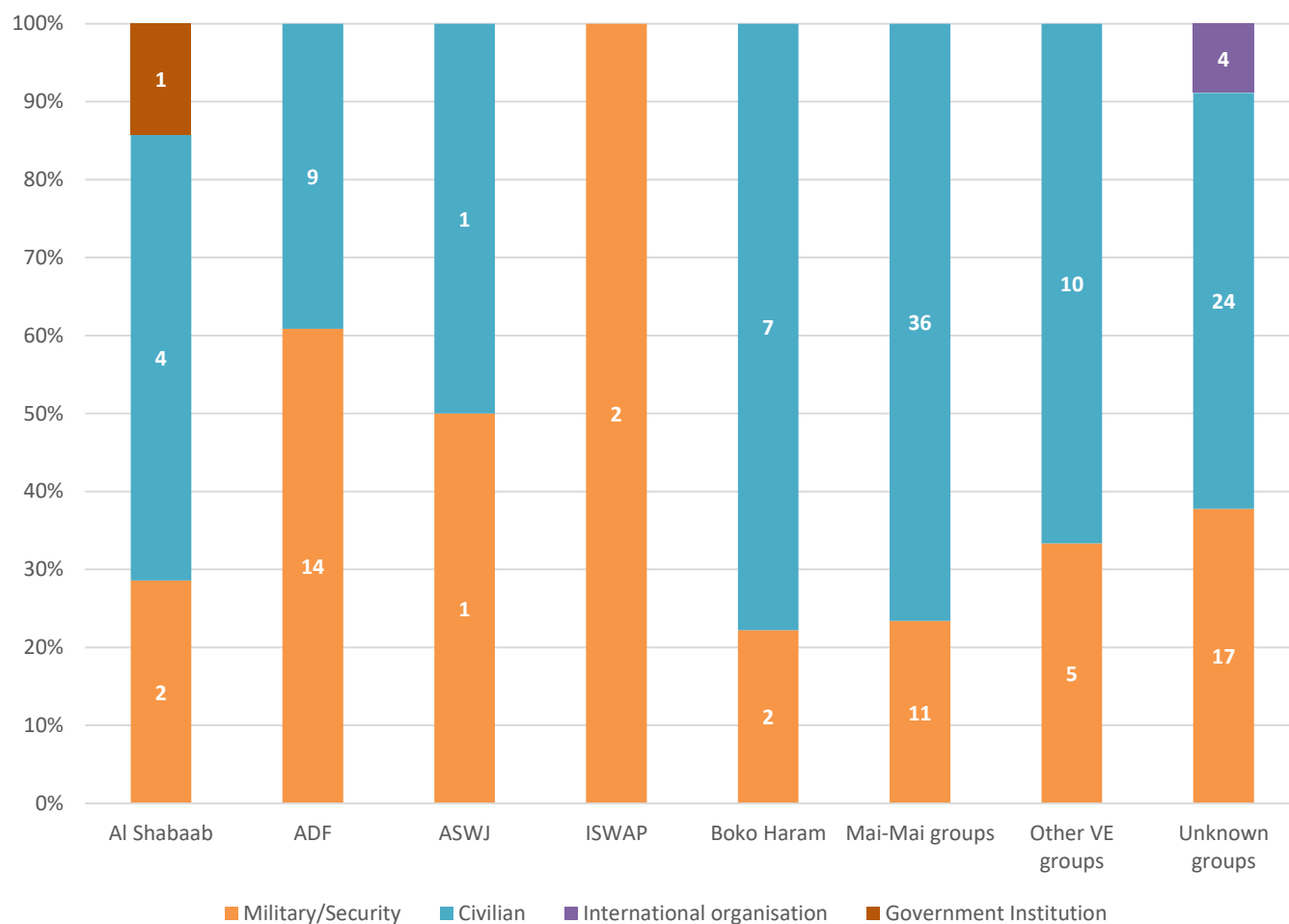
5. Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups and their Primary Targets

Table 2: Details of Terrorist and Violent Extremist groups and their Primary Targets

| Terrorist Groups | Civilians | Military/ Security | Gov't Inst./ Of. | Int. Org. | Comments |
|------------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------------|-----------|--|
| ADF | 9 | 14 | - | - | ADF conducted nine attacks against civilians and 14 attacks against Military/Security Forces. |
| Al-Shabaab | 4 | 2 | 1 | - | Al-Shabaab carried out four attacks against civilians, another two attacks against Military/Security Forces. They also carried out one attack against Government Institutions/Officials. |
| ASWJ | 1 | 1 | - | - | ASWJ was responsible for one attack against civilians and another one attack against Military personnel during the period. |
| Boko Haram | 7 | 2 | - | - | Boko Haram carried out seven attacks against civilians and two attacks against Military/ Security Forces. |
| ISWAP | 2 | - | - | - | ISWAP terrorists carried out two attacks against Military/Security. |
| Mai-Mai groups | 36 | 11 | - | - | Mai-Mai groups carried out 36 attacks against civilians and 11 attacks against Military/Security Forces. |
| Other VE groups | 10 | 5 | - | - | Other VE groups carried out 10 attacks against civilians and five attacks against Military/Security Forces. |
| Unknown groups | 24 | 17 | - | 4 | Attacks for which no groups claimed responsibility mostly targeted civilians. 24 out of 45 attacks targeted civilians, 17 targeted Military/Security Forces and four targeted International Organizations. |
| TOTAL | 93 | 52 | 1 | 4 | |

Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

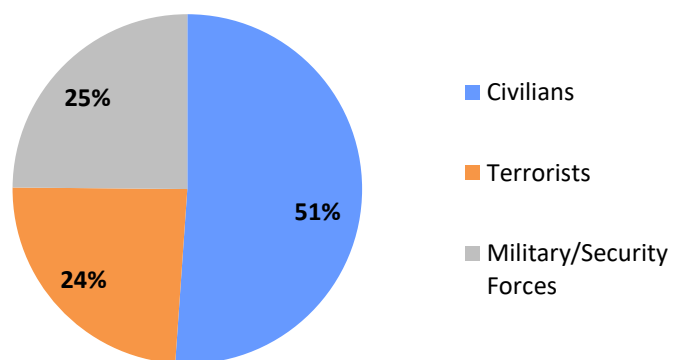
Figure 5: Percentage of Target per Group



Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

6. Total Deaths

Figure 6: Total Deaths



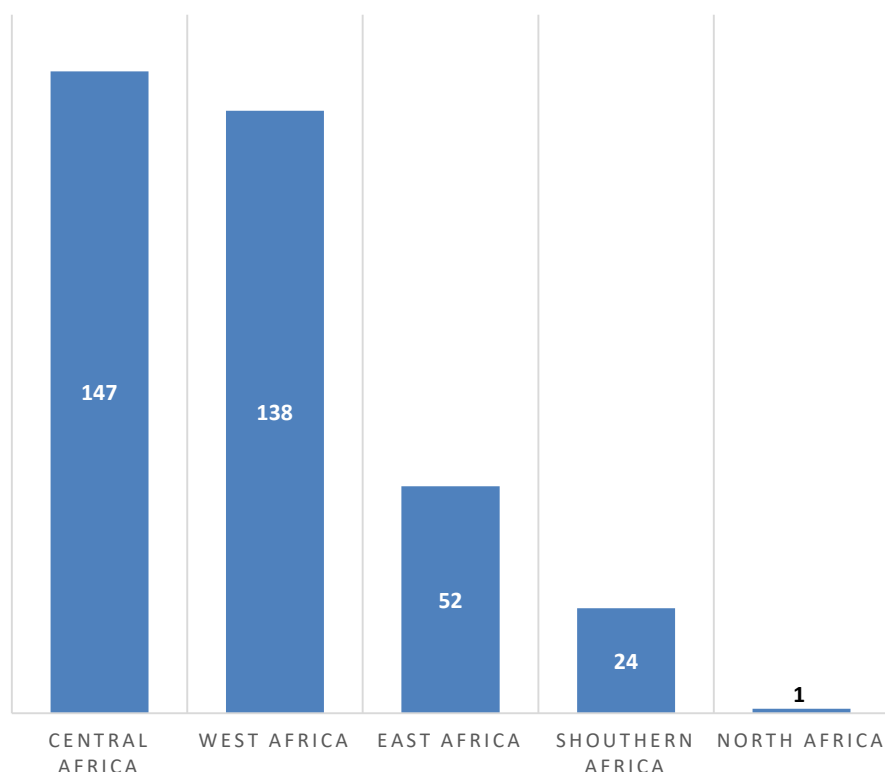
Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

Total Deaths: 362

- Civilians: **185**
- Military/Security Forces: **90**
- Terrorists: **87**

7. Deaths Per Region

Figure 7: Deaths by Region

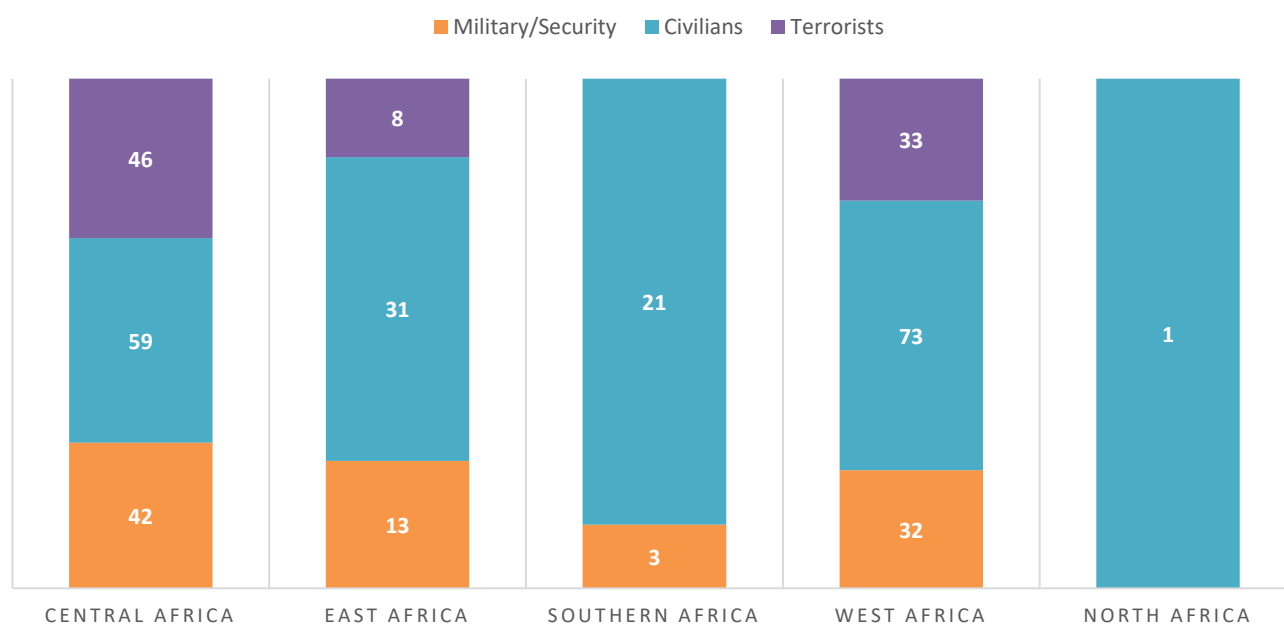


Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

Deaths per Region

- **Central Africa** recorded the highest number of deaths accounting for **41%**.
- **West Africa** recorded **38%**
- **East Africa** recorded **14%** of deaths.
- **Southern Africa** recorded **7%** of deaths.
- **North Africa** recorded less than **01%** of deaths

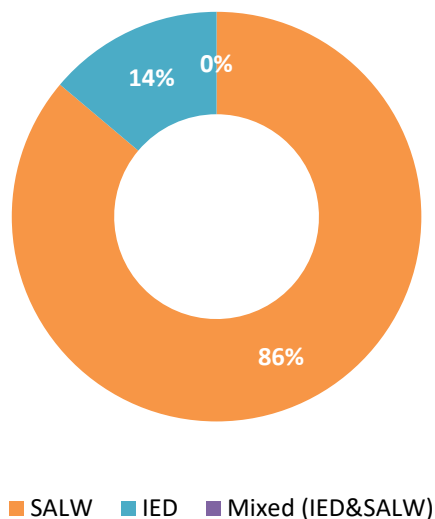
Figure 8: Deaths per Regions and Categories



Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

8. Deaths per Type of Attacks

Figure 9: Deaths per Types of Attacks



Deaths by Type of Attacks

- SALWs: 311
- IEDs: 50
- SALWs accounted for **88%** of the deaths occasioned by terrorist attacks.
- **12%** of deaths were as a result of **IED attacks**.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

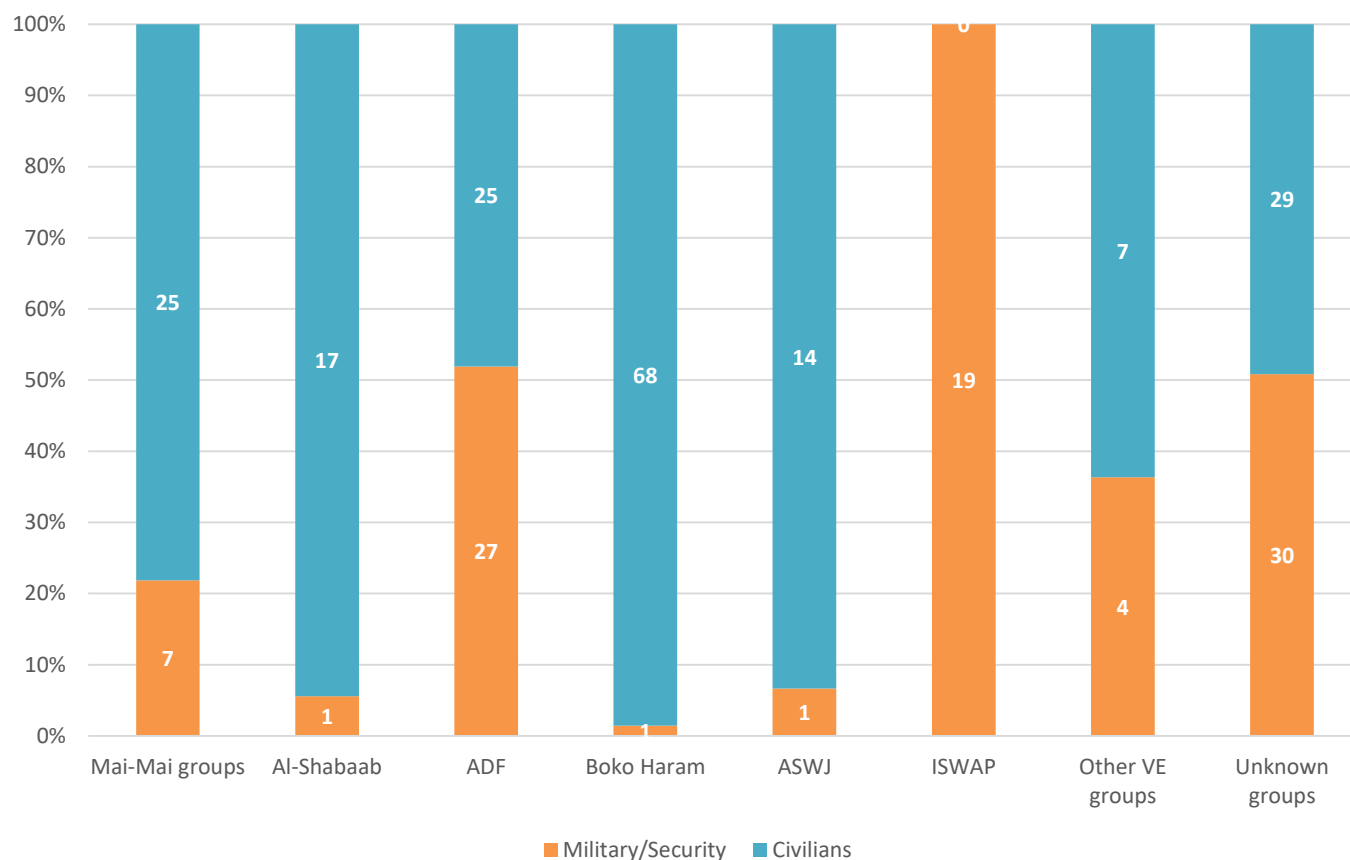
9. Attacks and Casualties Inflicted per Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups

Table 3: Attacks and Casualties by Terrorist and Violent Extremist Groups

| Terrorist Group | Number of Attacks | Number of Deaths | Comments |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|---|
| Mai-Mai groups | 47 | 32 | Mai-Mai groups carried out 47 attacks, killing 32 persons. |
| Al-Shabaab | 7 | 18 | Al-Shabaab carried out seven attacks, killing 18 persons. |
| ADF | 23 | 52 | ADF carried out 23 attacks, killing 52 persons. |
| Boko Haram | 9 | 69 | Boko Haram carried out nine attacks, killing 69 persons. |
| ASWJ | 2 | 15 | ASWJ carried out two attacks, killing 15 persons. |
| ISWAP | 2 | 19 | ISWAP carried out two attacks, killing 19 persons |
| Other VE groups | 15 | 11 | VE groups were responsible of 15 attacks, killing 11 persons. |
| Unknown groups | 45 | 59 | 45 attacks were carried out by groups from which nobody claim responsibilities. These attacks led to 59 deaths. |
| TOTAL | 150 | 275 | |

Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

Figure 10: Casualties Inflicted by Terrorist and Violent Extremist groups



Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

10. Members of Terrorist and Violent Extremist groups Killed (In Attacks and CT Operations)

Table 4: Details of Casualties Sustained by Terrorist and Violent Extremist groups

| Terrorist Group | Number Killed | Comments |
|-----------------|---------------|---|
| Al-Shabaab | 32 | 32 Al-Shabaab members were killed. |
| ADF | 17 | 17 ADF member was killed |
| ASWJ | 53 | 53 of ASWJ member were killed |
| Boko Haram | 9 | Nine terrorists killed were from Boko Haram group. |
| Mai-Mai groups | 33 | 33 members of Mai-Mai groups were killed |
| Other VE groups | 12 | 12 members of Other VE groups were killed. |
| Unknown groups | 45 | A total of 45 terrorists killed were from Unknown groups. |
| TOTAL | 201 | |

Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

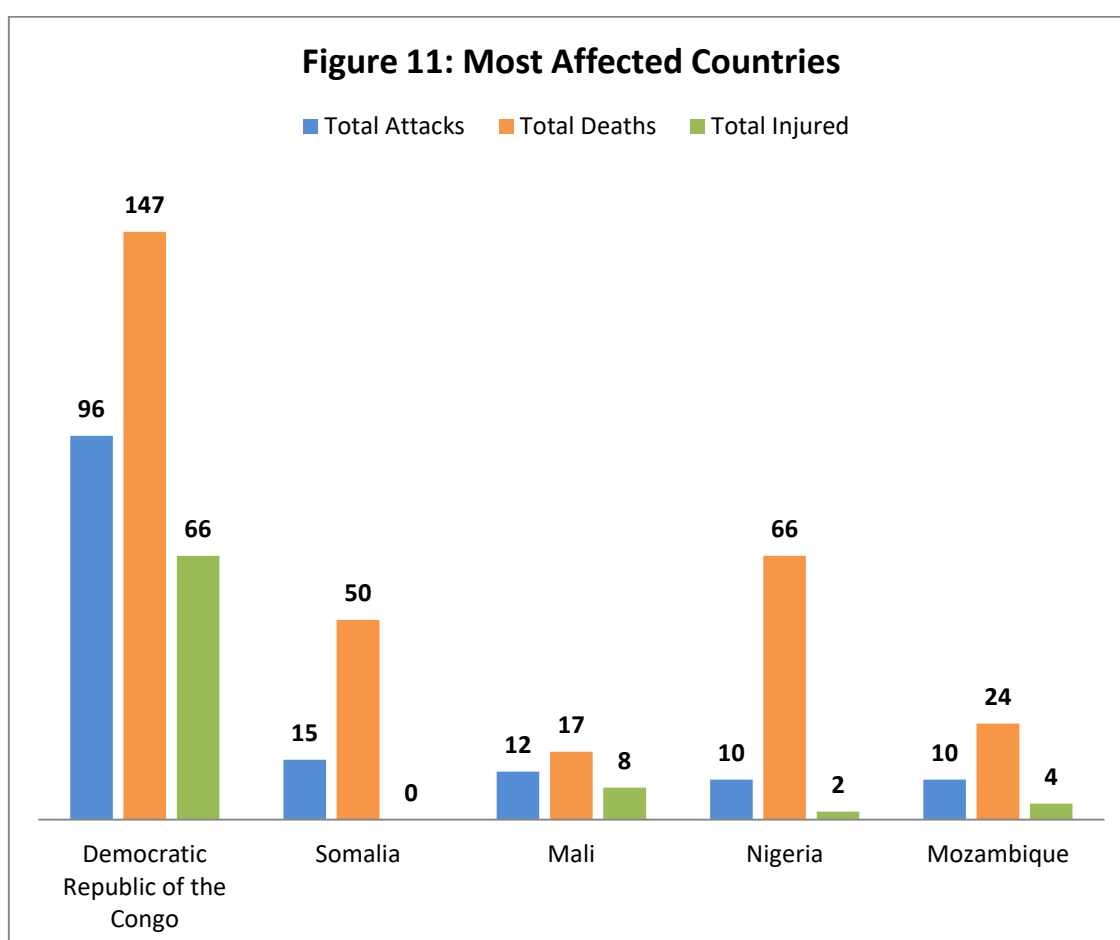
11. The Five Most Affected Countries

Table 5: Five Countries Most Affected

| Country | Total Attacks | Total Deaths | Total injured |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| DRC | 96 | 147 | 66 |
| Somalia | 15 | 50 | 0 |
| Mali | 12 | 27 | 8 |
| Nigeria | 10 | 66 | 2 |
| Mozambique | 10 | 24 | 4 |
| TOTAL | 143 | 314 | 80 |

Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

- **DRC** recorded the highest number of **attacks (96)** resulting in 147 deaths.
- **Somalia** recorded the second highest number of **attacks (15)** resulting in the **50** deaths.
- **Mali** recorded **12 attacks** resulting in the **27** deaths.
- **Nigeria** recorded the lowest number (**10**) attacks resulting in the **66** deaths.
- **Mozambique** recorded also the same number as Nigeria (**10**) resulting to the lowest deaths (**24**) among the five most affected countries in the period.



Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

12. High Profile Attacks

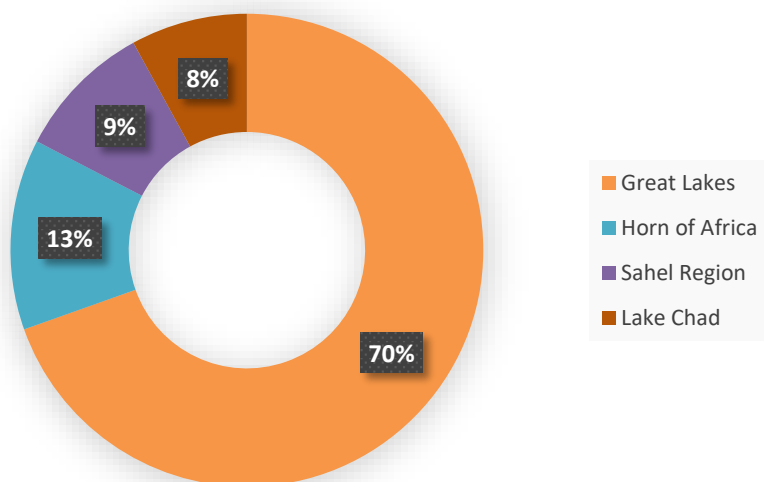
Table 6: List of high-Profile Attacks

| N o | Country | Place | Date | Group | Deaths | Description |
|--------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|--------|---|
| 1 | DRC | North Kivu | 18 December | ADF | 31 | An attack on FARDC positions by ADF / MTM rebels resulted in 31 deaths including 17 FARDC soldiers and 14 ADF / MTM, 12 soldiers wounded, 18 others missing. |
| 2 | Niger | Diffa Region | 12 December | Boko Haram | 28 | Boko Haram terrorists' attack led to the deaths of 28 people - 10 were shot dead, 14 others were victims of fire and 4 others died by drowning. They also destroyed 800 homes and workplaces along with vehicles during the attack. |
| 3 | Somalia | Galkayo | 18 December | Al Shabaab | 15 | Al Shabaab suicide bomber attacked a stadium killing 15 people. |
| 4 | Niger | Tillaberi | 21 December | Unknown | 14 | An attack by terrorists on a military patrol led to the deaths of seven soldiers and injury to three others. A counter attack by the military led to the deaths of seven terrorists. |
| 5 | Mozam- bique | Cabo Delgado | 12 December | ASWJ | 14 | Terrorists on motorbikes attacked the six villages killing 14 civilians and destroyed four vehicles. |

Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

Attacks in Epicentres

Figure 12: Attacks in Epicentres



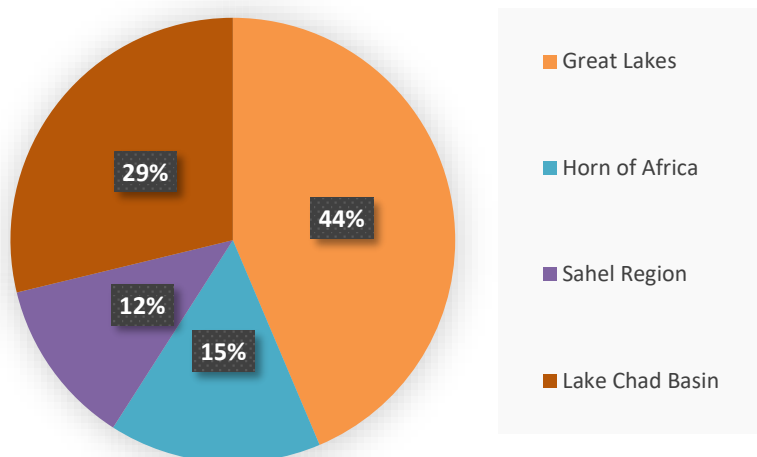
Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

Total Attacks in Epicentres: 138

- **Great Lakes: 96**
 - **Horn of Africa: 18**
 - **Sahel region: 13**
 - **Lake Chad basin: 11**
- Within the period under review, the **Great lakes** region accounted for **70%** of attacks.
 - **The Horn of Africa** accounted for **13%**.
 - **Sahel region** accounted for **09%**.
 - The **Lake Chad Basin** accounted for **08%** of all the attacks in the

13. Deaths Recorded in Epicentres

Figure 13: Deaths in Epicentres



Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

Total Deaths in Epicentres: 337

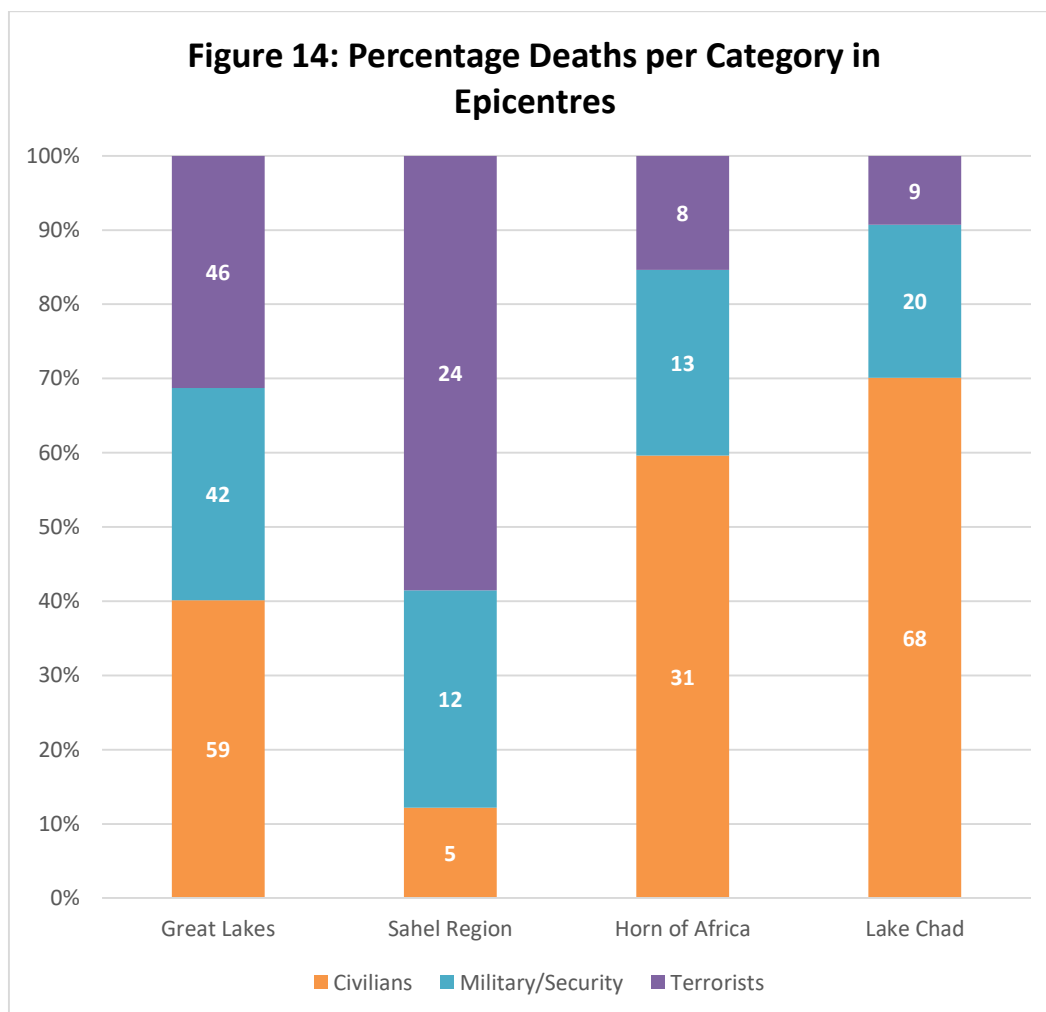
- **Great Lakes: 147**
 - **Lake Chad: 97**
 - **Horn of Africa: 52**
 - **Sahel Region: 41**
- **44%** of the deaths were recorded in the **Great Lake Region**.
 - **29%** of the deaths occurred in the **Lake Chad Basin**.
 - **15%** of the deaths were recorded in the **Horn of Africa**.
 - **12%** of the deaths recorded within the period under review occurred in the **Sahel Region**.

14. Deaths by Category in Epicentres

Table 7: Category of Deaths in Epicentres

| Epicentre | Civilian | Military | Terrorists /VE | Comments |
|----------------------------|------------|-----------|----------------|---|
| Great Lake Region | 59 | 42 | 46 | The Great Lakes region recorded the highest number of deaths among military/security within the epicentres and the highest number of terrorists killed. |
| The Lake Chad Basin | 68 | 20 | 9 | The Lake Chad Basin recorded the highest number of deaths among civilians within the epicentres. |
| The Horn of Africa | 31 | 13 | 8 | The Horn of Africa recorded the third highest number of civilians and military deaths among the epicentres. |
| Sahel Region | 5 | 12 | 24 | The Sahel region recorded the second highest number of deaths among terrorists. |
| TOTAL | 163 | 87 | 87 | |

Source: ACSRT Database, 2020



Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

CONCLUSION

As 2020 draws to a close, the terrorism and violent extremism in the continent remains the single most destabilizing factor. Although there was an overall reduction of terrorist attacks in December vis a vis November 2020, the general trend remains fluid and unpredictable. In certain months, the trends show positive signs while in other months the situation appears bleak. As we usher in 2021, there needs to be a new thinking and strategy to break the back of the terrorists across the continent by adopting tailored made strategies for each of the regions.

For the whole of the year, the Great Lakes particularly DRC has become the region with the highest number of incidents and deaths. This is as a result of the plethora of violent extremist groups operating in the North Kivu province. Apart from the ISCAP, all the other groups are not known to have links with internationally identified terrorist organizations. As a result, the Great Lakes and for that matter the DRC is not receiving the needed attention with respect to the fight against terrorism and violent extremism. As we usher in 2021, there is the need for attention to be paid to the activities of violent extremist groups that are wreaking havoc in that region.

The situation in Northern Mozambique is becoming protracted as the terrorists are extending their reach by capturing and occupying new territories. Their growing confidence needs to be curtailed by a regional effort to support the Mozambique lest it spills over into other countries and the wider region.

The Sahel region continues to witness a reduction in the number of attacks compared to other hot spot areas. It has the lowest number of deaths among the epicentre with no terrorist incident in Burkina Faso. It appears that the increase in defence spending in Burkina Faso from US\$205 million in 2017 to US\$373 million in 2019, representing an 80% rise and the implementation of the Volunteers for the Defence of the Homeland (VDP) mechanism, created in early 2020, are beginning to pay off. Other countries in the region and beyond needs to demonstrate similar commitment in investment in the security sector.

The ability of ISWAP to conduct successful attacks against military personnel while Boko Haram persists in attacks on civilians in villages in the Lake Chad Basin demonstrates the resilience of the groups in the region. A new strategy by the MNJTF is required as the insurgency does not appear to be showing signs of diminishing.

In East Africa, the political leadership in Somalia needs to put the interest and security of the state above everything and resolve the current political imbroglio that is affecting the country's ability to concentrate on tackling the Al Shabaab menace.

FORECAST FOR NEXT EDITION

The next edition of the Africa Terrorism Bulletin will cover terrorism incidents from 1st – 31st January 2021.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

RESEARCH TEAM: Mauna BAGWASI-NTWAETSILE, Joseph Kieba TINDANO, Thaddee BUTOYI, Stephen MAINA, Dr. Arinze UCHE.

REVIEW TEAM: Idriss Mounir LALLALI, Col. Christian Emmanuel MOUAYA POUYI, Inusah ZIBLIM, Adjewoda KUTOATI.

PROFILE OF ACSRT/CAERT

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



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

Address: CAERT, BP 141 El-Mohammadia, Algiers, Algeria.

Tel: +213 21 520 110; **Fax:** +213 21 520 378; **Email:** acsrt-sitroom@acsrt.org

www.caert-ua.org

Twitter: @AU_ACSRT **Facebook:** @AUACSRT

APPENDIX 1: SYNTHESIS TABLE of TERRORISM ATTACKS and CT OPERATIONS IN AFRICA

| No | Country/ Regions: | Type and total of attacks | | | | Total Dead | | | Total Wounded | | | Hostages | Hostages Released | Arrested Terrorists | Primary Targets | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------|-------------------|-----------|------------|-------------------|-----------|------------|----------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | Small Arms and light weapons (SALW) | Explosives (IED) | Mixed (IED and SALW) | Kidnapping | Security/Military | Civilians | Terrorists | Security/Military | Civilians | Terrorists | | | | Security/Military | Civilians | Government officials or institutions | International Organizations |
| Central Africa | Burundi | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Cameroon | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | CAR | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Chad | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | DRC | 77 | 1 | 0 | 18 | 46 | 59 | 62 | 34 | 31 | 12 | 105 | 0 | 323 | 32 | 64 | 0 | 0 |
| East Africa | Kenya | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | Rwanda | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Somalia | 8 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 12 | 30 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 0 |
| North Africa | Algeria | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Egypt | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Libya | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Tunisia | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Southern Africa | Mozambique | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 21 | 53 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| | South Africa | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| West Africa | Burkina Faso | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Mali | 7 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 17 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 4 |
| | Niger | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 31 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | Nigeria | 7 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 20 | 37 | 9 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 398 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Sub-Total | | 115 | 13 | 1 | 21 | 94 | 185 | 201 | 44 | 39 | 12 | 516 | 0 | 356 | 54 | 91 | 1 | 4 |
| General Total | | 150 | | | | 480 | | | 95 | | | 516 | 0 | 356 | 150 | | | |

Source: ACSRT Database, 2020

APPENDIX 2: KIDNAPPINGS

- 01 December, PK 36, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province, DRC.** An ambush by ADF / MTM rebels against a FARDC convoy resulted in two civilians kidnapped.
- 02 December, Bamba Town, Koro Circle, Mopti Region, Mali.** An attack by armed terrorists led to the abduction of 10 people including an Imam and his son
- 03 December, Kanana and Chochora localities, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province, DRC.** An attack on FARDC position by ADF / MTM rebels resulted in one FARDC soldier missing.
- 09 December, Kalungu district, Uvira city, South Kivu Province, DRC.** An incursion by unidentified gunmen resulted in one person kidnapped and 15 goats stolen.
- 11 December, Kasusu / Nzenga, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province, DRC.** An ADF / MTM rebel incursion resulted in three people missing.
- 11 December, Mapera, Lubero Territory, North Kivu Province, DRC.** An ambush by Mai-Mai UPDI / MAZEMBE militiamen on a minibus resulted in two civilians being kidnapped.
- 11 December, Kankara Town, Kankara LGA, Kastina State, Nigeria.** An attack by unknown gunmen on a Government Science Secondary School led to the abduction of 344 boys. Boko Haram later claimed responsibility for this attack. The students were released on Thursday 17 December in a forest in neighbouring Zamfara state.
- 12 December, Bambunya Group, Djugu Territory, Ituri Province, DRC.** An incursion by Mai Mai CODECO militiamen led to the kidnapping of the two persons.
- 12 December, Nzengayi-Kasuku village, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province, DRC.** An ADF / MTM rebel incursion resulted in 22 missing persons.
- 18 December, Ruwenzori sector, North Kivu Province, DRC.** An attack on FARDC positions by ADF / MTM rebels resulted in 18 missing FARDC soldiers.
- 21 December, Bulongo, North Kivu Province, DRC.** An incursion by militiamen from the YIRA-FORCE armed group resulted in one missing FARDC soldier.
- 22 December, Wajir, Somalia.** The decapitated head of an assistant chief who was kidnapped by Al-Shabaab militants was found on the roadside.
- 23 December, Kitisa / Mabugho village, Lubero Territory, North Kivu Province, DRC.** An incursion by Mai-Mai militiamen SIMBA resulted in four women being abducted.
- 24 December, Ndende locality, Territoire Fizi, South Kivu, Province, DRC.** An attack on FARDC position by Mai-Mai YAKUTUMBA militiamen resulted in

two missing FARDC.

24 December, Kanva locality, Kalemie Territory, Tanganyika Province, DRC. A raid by APA NA PALE militiamen resulted in four kidnapped.

25 December, Kibindi locality, Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province, DRC. ADF / MTM rebel incursion results in one person kidnapped.

28 December, Kazinga locality, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province, DRC. An incursion by militiamen from the BOHOZI armed group resulted in four men kidnapped.

28 December, Ruwenzori sector, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province, DRC. An ambush by ADF / MTM rebels against an FARDC convoy resulted in six FARDC soldiers missing.

29 December, Mutwanga Nzenga locality, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province, DRC. An attack on FARDC position by ADF / MTM rebels resulted in four civilians kidnapped.

30 December, Mwiyanika, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province, DRC. Unidentified gunmen abducted three people after an incursion.

CENTRAL AFRICA

DRC

01 December, PK 36, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An ambush by ADF / MTM rebels against a FARDC convoy resulted in three FARDC soldiers wounded, two civilians kidnapped and three motorcycles burnt.

02 December, Mulibia locality, Mwenga Territory, South Kivu Province. An incursion by unidentified gunmen resulted in one Chinese civilian killed and a large amount of gold carried away.

03 December, Kanana and Chochora localities, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An attack on FARDC position by ADF / MTM rebels resulted in one FARDC soldier injured and one missing.

04 December, Babokela, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An incursion by FPIC militiamen resulted in six civilians killed and seven others wounded.

04 December, Bali village, Djugu Territory, Ituri Province. A fight between two factions CODECO Mai-Mai URDPC and ARDPC resulted in two ARDPC militiamen killed.

04 December, district, Goma city, North Kivu Province. An incursion by FDLR rebels resulted in seven civilians killed and five others wounded.

05 December, Sciete village, Djugu Territory, Ituri Province. An incursion by CODECO Mai-Mai militiamen on the URDPC wing resulted in a movement of displacement of the population.

06 December, Ngotsi village, Djugu Territory, Ituri Province. A fight between the CODECO Mai-Mai URDPC militiamen and those of the ZAIRE armed group resulted in four ZAIRE militiamen killed.

06 December, Mabanga locality, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An attack by ADF / MTM rebels on FARDC position with homemade bombs resulted in three FARDC soldiers and one civilian injured.

07 December, Bunake village, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An ambush by ADF / MTM rebels on a moto-taxis convoy resulted in two civilians killed and one motorcycle set on fire.

07 December, Bakombe-Bwanga locality, Djugu Territory, Ituri Province. An incursion by Mai-Mai CODECO / URDPC militiamen resulted in five civilians killed and property looted.

09 December, Tambi village, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. An incursion by Mai-Mai NYATURA resulted in the injury of one person.

10 December, Mahila village, Kalemie Territory, Tanganyika Province. An incursion by PYGMEES militiamen resulted in the looting of the property of the population.

11 December, Maitatu village, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An attack by ADF / MTM rebels on FARDC position resulted in one FARDC killed and another injured.

11 December, Kasusu / Nzenga, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An ADF / MTM rebel incursion resulted in two civilians killed, two wounded and three others missing as well as four shops looted and set on fire.

11 December, Tumungu locality, Fizi Territory, South Kivu Province. A battle between the Mai-Mai KIBUKILA militiamen and those of the ZELA MBULA group resulted in five militiamen killed.

11 December, ALA village, Djugu Territory, Ituri Province. A battle between Mai-Mai CODECO / URDPC militiamen and those of the ARDPC resulted in two militiamen dead and three others wounded.

11 December, Bushovu village, Idjwi Territory, South Kivu Province. An incursion by unidentified gunmen resulted in one person killed and another injured.

11 December, Mapera, Lubero Territory, North Kivu Province. An ambush by Mai-Mai UPDI / MAZEMBE militiamen on a minibus resulted in a civilian injured.

12 December, Bambote, Fizi Territory, South Kivu Province. Unidentified armed men looted property of residents during an incursion.

12 December, Nzungayi-Kasuku village, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An ADF / MTM rebel incursion resulted in 13 people killed.

12 December, Misisi, Fizi Territory, South Kivu Province. Unidentified armed men looted property during an incursion.

13 December, Rugetsi locality, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An ADF / MTM rebel incursion resulted in the death of two people.

14 December, The villages Mitido and Evero, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An incursion by ADF / MTM rebels resulted in the deaths of two women.

14 December, Kitchanga locality, Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province. An incursion by NYATURA militiamen resulted in the looting of the property of residents.

14 December, The Buaro and Kibaki groups, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. An incursion by NYATURA militiamen resulted in the looting of the property.

16 December, Tindo village, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An incursion by FPIC militiamen resulted in 80 cows stolen and several houses burned down.

16 December, Kamatsi and Kagaba localities, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An attack by FRPI militiamen against an FARDC position resulted in one

FARDC soldier killed, his weapon and uniform taken.

16 December, Mbarara locality, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An attack on a FARDC position by FPIC militiamen resulted in 10 deaths including two FARDC soldiers and eight militiamen, one militiaman captured and two FARDC soldiers injured.

16 December, Banyabwisha, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. Mai-Mai militiamen incursion into the fields resulted in a civilian death.

16 December, Bibizi locality, Territoire Fizi, South Kivu Province. Incursion by unidentified gunmen resulted in the looting of property.

16 December, Mulimbi and Kanaba localities, Rusthuru Territory, North Kivu Province. An ambush by unidentified armed men against FARDC resulted in three FARDC soldiers killed and three weapons taken

16 December, Kiputa locality, Province Tanganyika, Province South Kivu. An ambush by militiamen of the armed group APA NA PALE against passengers on motorcycles resulted in the looting of the passengers' property.

16 December, Tongo group, Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province. An incursion by unidentified armed men against FARDC position resulted in three FARDC soldiers killed.

16 December, Kagaba and Karatsi localities, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. Ambush by FRPI militiamen against the FARDC resulted in one soldier killed and one AK47 weapon carried away.

17 December, Bwiza locality, Shabunda territory, South Kivu Province. A battle between the militiamen RAÏA MUTOMBOKI DONAT and RAÏA MUTOMBOKI BAKAZIMIYA resulted in six militiamen killed.

17 December, Bideka locality, South Kivu Province. An ambush by unidentified gunmen against a minibus resulted in looting.

17 December, Mayangose Valley, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An ambush by ADF / MTM rebels against FARDC elements resulted in a militiaman killed.

18 December, Adda locality, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An incursion by FRPI militiamen resulted in looting.

18 December, Ruwenzori Sector, North Kivu Province. An attack on FARDC positions by ADF / MTM rebels resulted in 31 deaths including 17 FARDC soldiers and 14 ADF / MTM, 12 soldiers wounded, 18 others missing.

19 December, Kilembwe locality, Fizi Territory, South Kivu Province. An incursion by YAKUTUMBA militiamen resulted in 85 stolen cows.

20 December, Lagalo locality, Irumu territory, Ituri Province. An incursion by FRPI militiamen resulted in the looting of cows and other property.

20 December, Kinyumba village, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. An attack on FARDC position by APCLS militiamen resulted in two FARDC soldiers killed.

21 December, Bulonza, Ruwenzori sector, Beni-Oïcha territory, North Kivu Province. An attack on FARDC position by ADF / MTM rebels results in one

FARDC soldier killed, two others wounded and three shops looted.

21 December, Badikoma locality, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An incursion by militiamen of FRPIC armed group in the fields resulted in one person injured.

21 December, Chulove Kibandamangobo and Mitimangi villages, Shabunda and Kabare Territories, South Kivu Province. An incursion by militiamen of the armed group RAÏA MUTOMBOKI KAGANYAMBIO and NDARUMANGA resulted in the looting of undetermined quantity of goods and money of the population.

21 December, Nyarukangara, Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province. An incursion by FDLR / FPPH rebels resulted in the theft of 24 goats and undetermined quantity of pharmaceuticals.

21 December, Bulongo, North Kivu Province. An incursion by militiamen from the YIRA-FORCE armed group resulted in one FARDC soldier killed, two wounded including one soldier and a civilian and an undetermined number of shops looted.

21 December, Beni-Kasindi, North Kivu Province. An attack on the FARDC position by the Mai-Mai militiamen resulted in five dead including one FARDC soldier and four civilians as well as two soldiers and three civilians wounded.

21 December, Shabunda Territory, South Kivu Province. An incursion by RAÏA MUTOMBOKI militiamen resulted in the looting of undetermined quantity of property and of money.

21 December, Badikoma village, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An incursion by FPIC militiamen resulted in the theft of undetermined number of cattle.

21 December, Kintu village, Nyunzu Territory, Tanganyika Province. An APA NA PALE Mai-Mai incursion resulted in one civilian killed, six others injured and undetermined number of houses burned down.

23 December, Bambunya locality, Ituri Province. An incursion by the militiamen of the FPIC coalition against Mai Mai CODECO / BON TEMPS resulted in two FPIC militiamen killed, an AK47 weapon with a loaded magazine recovered.

23 December, Kitisa / Mabugho village, Lubero Territory, North Kivu Province. An incursion by Mai Mai SIMBA militiamen resulted in two people injured.

23 December, Tambi locality, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. An incursion by militiamen from the Mai-Mai NYATURA CMC resulted in one civilian killed and an unknown quantity of valuables taken away.

24 December, Sodu locality, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An incursion by FRPI militiamen resulted in one person injured and property looted.

24 December, Pont Avida, Djugu Territory, Ituri Province. An ambush by the Mai-Mai CODECO / URDPC militiamen on four cars resulted in the looting of property.

25 December, Babokela locality, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An ambush by FPIC militiamen during FARDC patrol operation resulted in one FARDC

soldier injured.

25 December, Borasi locality, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An incursion by FRPI militiamen resulted in the theft of 126 cows.

25 December, Babokela locality, Irumu region, Ituri province. An ambush by FPIC militiamen against FARDC resulted in one FARDC soldier injured.

27 December, Muhete, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. An attack by NYATURA Militiamen on FARDC position resulted in militiaman killed and two AK47 weapons recovered.

27 December, CBCA Health Center, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An incursion by Mai-Mai YIRA militiamen resulted in the looting of pharmaceutical products.

27 December, Buki locality, Djugu Territory, Ituri Province. A raid by Mai-Mai CODECO / AURDP militiamen resulted in looted shop and unknown number of goats swept away.

27 December, Kiaghala locality, Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province. A raid by NYATURA / CMC militiamen resulted in a woman being killed.

27 December, Dhedja locality, Territoire Djugu, Ituri Province. An incursion by Mai-Mai CODECO / UDPC militiamen resulted in the looting and theft of an unknown number of livestock.

28 December, Kibiri locality, Lubero Territory, North Kivu Province. An incursion by UPLC / MAYANI Mai-Mai resulted in two civilians killed.

28 December, Bafamiyo locality, Bombo Chiefdom, Mambasa Territory, Ituri Province. An attack on FARDC position by Mai-Mai militiamen resulted in two FARDC soldiers killed and five AK47 weapons carried away.

28 December, Kyaghala village, Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province. An incursion by unidentified gunmen resulted in over 50 goats and other valuables stolen.

28 December, Fataki group, Djugu Territory, Ituri Province. Mai-Mai CODECO militiamen incursion resulted in one person dead and an unknown number of cattle looted.

28 December, Ruwenzori sector, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An ambush by ADF / MTM rebels against a FARDC convoy resulted in one FARDC soldier killed and six others wounded.

29 December, Mutwanga Nzenga locality, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An attack on FARDC position by ADF / MTM rebels resulted in five dead including one soldier and four civilians, four civilians kidnapped, four houses burned down and a shop looted.

29 December, Mutsora locality, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An attack on FARDC position by ADF / MTM rebels resulted in three FARDC soldiers killed.

29 December, Likida locality, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An ambush by Mai-Mai CODECO militiamen against FARDC resulted in one soldiers killed.

30 December, Tchai locality, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An incursion by FPIC militiamen resulted in four dead including a PNC, two FARDC soldiers and a migration agent. One person was also injured and several offices and shops destroyed.

EAST AFRICA

KENYA

02 December, Fafi, Garissa County. One police officer was killed and another injured after suspected heavily armed Al Shabaab militants attacked Amuma police patrol base.

29 December, Mandera, Northern Kenya. Al Shabaab terrorists ambushed an ambulance carrying a pregnant woman and killed her husband before setting the vehicle on fire.

29 December, Mandera, Northern. Al Shabaab militants destroyed a telecommunications mast along the Somalia border using bombs.

SOMALIA

04 December, Abdalla Birole, Dhobley, Janale, and Elasha towns, Southern Somalia. Unidentified militants attacked four military bases where AMISOM bases manned by Kenyan and Ugandan soldiers were stationed. There were no reports on casualty. The attacks took place just a few hours after US President Donald Trump ordered the withdrawal of nearly all US troops and military assets from Somalia by early 2021.

09 December, Guri-El town, Central Somalia. A military convoy carrying military personnel, who were returning from a training workshop, was attacked by unknown gunmen killing seven soldiers.

09 December, Wanlaweyn town, Lower Shabelle region. Four soldiers were been killed and several others injured after clashes at a security checkpoint outside Mogadishu.

12 December, Abdikasim street, Mogadishu. A military convoy transporting Government forces came under a bomb attack. No casualties reported.

13 December, Wajid town, Bakol region. Eight Al Shabaab fighters were killed when they tried to ambush Somali National Army (SNA) troops.

14 December, Yaqshid, Mogadishu. Unidentified gunmen attacked the locality. No casualties reported.

18 December, Galkayo. A suicide bomber attacked a stadium killing 15 people. Al Shabaab claimed responsibility.

18 December, Galkayo. In a suicide bomb attack, senior military officers and civilians were killed and an unknown number of others were injured.

22 December, Mogadishu. A former minister's hotel was damaged in a bomb attack by Al-Shabaab.

26 December, Lower Juba region. Nine people, including an infant and a woman, were killed when a landmine hit a vehicle.

26 December, Dhobley, Lower Juba region. Five people were killed and two others injured in a blast.

NORTH AFRICA

TUNISIA

21 December, Kasserine governorate, Al-Soltanya Region. An attack by suspected terrorists led to the decapitation of a young man.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

MOZAMBIQUE

06 December, near Muambula, Muidumbe district, Cabo Delgado. Attackers beheaded an elderly man.

07 December, Mute village, Palma district, Cabo Delgado. ASWJ attacked and occupied the village torching houses. They also targeted government soldiers. One soldier was killed and others were injured.

08 December, Ngueo, Palma District, Cabo Delgado. Attackers destroyed several houses, and residents fled north to Palma. The attacks at Mute and Ngueo caused Total Petroleum to pause work on its nearby LNG facility.

08 December, Mandimba, Nkongo and Ntamba villages, Nangade District. Insurgents attacked the three villages. In Mandimba, they ambushed a car carrying civilians killing one person and injuring three others. Two women were also kidnapped. They also took away motorbikes.

09 December, Chai, Macomia district, Cabo Delgado. Insurgents attacked a grocery store stealing food. No one was hurt.

10 December, Mucojo town, Macomia district, Cabo Delgado. Attackers waylaid fishermen and took away portion of their fish. No casualties were reported.

12 December, Namiune, Naleke, Chicuaia Nova, Litingina, and Lukuamba villages, Nangade district, Cabo Delgado. ASWJ militants on motorbike attacked the six villages killing 14 civilians and destroyed four vehicles.

29 December, Olumbe and Monjane villages, Cabo Delgado. Gunmen killed five people not far away from an LNG site.

29 December, Monjane-Patacua axis, Cabo Delgado. Two soldiers were killed in ambush on Monjane-Patacua axis on edge of Afungi peninsula.

30 December, Metekel, Benishangul-Gumuz region. Insurgents staged attack near LNG plantations. No casualties reported.

WEST AFRICA

MALI

03 December, Kidal City, Kidal Region. An attack on a military patrol by unknown gunmen using small arms was repelled by the soldiers. No casualties were recorded.

04 December, Boulkessi Town, Douentza Circle, Mopti Region. An attack by Armed Terrorist Groups (GAT) on the FAMa was repelled, leading to the deaths of six terrorists.

09 December, Kidal City, Kidal Circle, Kidal Region. A United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) Force mine-protected vehicle (MPV) hit an Improvised Explosive Device (IED). The explosion damaged the vehicle but no casualties were reported.

11 December, Fafa Village, Ansongo Circle, Gao Region. A suspected terrorists attack on a patrol of the FAMa was repelled. No casualties were recorded.

12 December, Ansongo Circle, Gao Region. An attack on a MINUSMA peacekeepers' patrol was repelled. No casualties were recorded.

13 December, Deguere Village, Koro Circle, Mopti Region. Suspected terrorists attack on the camp of Dogon Militia (DNA) led to the deaths of five militias and injury to three others.

14 December, Balaguina-Baboye Village, Bandiagara Circle, Mopti Region. Suspected extremists attack was repelled by the self-defense group of the village. An IED was discovered and destroyed. No human casualties were recorded.

15 December, Hombori Town, Douentza Circle, Mopti Region. A FAMa military pick-up hit an IED, leading to the deaths of two soldiers and injury to five others.

15 December, Ansongo Circle, Gao Region. An attack on a MINUSMA Force patrol by suspected terrorists was repelled. No casualties were recorded.

24 December, Mondoro Village, Douentza Circle, Mopti Region. A FAMa convoy was attacked by terrorists. The attack was repelled, which led to the deaths of 11 terrorists.

28 December, Hombori Region. Three French Barkhane soldiers were killed when their vehicle hit an IED.

NIGER

11 December, Diffa Region. An attack by Boko Haram terrorists led to the deaths of two people.

12-13 December, Toumour Village, Diffa Region. Boko Haram terrorists' attack led to the deaths of 28 people. 10 people were shot, 14 others were victims of fire and 4 others died by drowning. They also destroyed 800 homes and workplaces along with vehicles.

21 December, Taroun Town, Tillaberi Region. An attack by terrorists on a military patrol led to the deaths of seven soldiers and injury to three others. A counter attack by the military led to the deaths of seven terrorists.

NIGERIA

01 December, Takulashe Village, Chibok LGA, Borno State. An attack by Boko Haram terrorists led to the deaths of 11 people.

02 December, Malam Fatori Town, Abadam LGA, Borno State. Nine soldiers were killed when a military truck hit a landmine laid by the Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP).

07 December, Alagarno Village, Gubio LGA, Borno State. An attack by ISWAP terrorists led to the deaths of 10 soldiers. A soldier was also taken hostage while four vehicles, including a truck and an armoured vehicle, were seized.

16 December, Gamboru Town, Ngala LGA, Borno State. An attack on a military camp by Boko Haram terrorists was repelled by the military. Five terrorists were killed, one gun truck was destroyed, one anti-aircraft and three AK 47 Rifles were captured by the military.

17 December, Borno State. An attack by Boko Haram was repelled by the military. Four terrorists were killed while two gun trucks, one anti-aircraft gun and assorted ammunitions were captured by the military.

18 December, Maiduguri Town, Maiduguri LGA, Borno State. Suspected Boko Haram terrorists attack led to the deaths of five people and the abduction of 35 others.

19 December, Konduga Town, Konduga LGA, Borno State. A teenage female suicide bomber killed three people and injured two others when she blew herself up.

24 December, Pemi Village, Chibok LGA, Borno State. Boko Haram terrorists attack led to the deaths of 11 people and abduction of seven others, including a priest. They also burnt houses and looted foodstuffs.

25 December, Garkida Town, Gombi LGA, Adamawa State. An attack by suspected Boko Haram terrorists led to the deaths of eight people, including a policeman, and the abduction of 11 others. They also burnt houses and cars and stole cattle and camels.

CENTRAL AFRICA

DRC

04 December, Mushake locality, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. 33 militiamen surrendered including 27 NDCR / BWIRA, five APCLS and one FDLR, with 10 AK47, two PKM and one RPG7 weapons.

04 December, Pinga, Walikale territory, North Kivu Province. Two NDCR / GUIDON militiamen surrendered to the FARDC with two AK47 weapons.

05 December, Kikuku locality, North Kivu Province. FARDC offensive against NYATURA militiamen resulted in the recovery of an AK47 weapon.

08 December, Mitume village, Mambasa Territory, Ituri Province. The FARDC arrested one member of the Mai-Mai group.

09 December, Buhoyi and Bogamanda villages, Kalehe Territory, South Kivu Province. A FARDC offensive against the PYGMEES militiamen resulted in the capture of four militiamen.

11 December, Luhindi, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. An offensive by the FARDC against NYATURA-CMC / GUZARA militiamen resulted in one militiaman killed.

11 December, Kitchanga, Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province. A FARDC offensive against militiamen from the FDLR group resulted in five militiamen arrested.

11 December, Nyabiondo, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. A militiaman from the APCLS armed group surrendered to FARDC soldiers with an AK47 weapon.

11 December, Faradje territory, Haut-Uélé Province. A militiaman from NASFA rebel group surrendered to the FARDC with one AK47 weapon and one loaded magazine.

13 December, Plateau district, Kasumbalesa, Haut Katanga Province. The FARDC discovered one AK47 and 57 ammunition abandoned by unidentified men.

13 December, Cité Luvungi, Uvira Territory, South Kivu Province. FARDC offensive against militiamen of the CNRD armed group resulted in the arrest of six militiamen.

15 December, Catholic Church in the city of Ndalia, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. The FARDC discovered lifeless bodies inside the church. The

testimonies collected suspect the rebels ADF / MTM.

15 December, Mosque locality, Virunga National Park, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. FARDC offensive against ADF / MTM rebel position resulted in one FARDC soldier killed and three others wounded

15 December, Lubero Territory, North Kivu Province. Three Mai-Mai UPDI / MAZEMBE militiamen surrendered to the FARDC soldiers.

15 December, Kiata Village, Nyuzu Territory, Tanganyika Province. 250 TWA militiamen from the APA NA PALE group surrendered to the FARDC with their arrows.

16 December, the Semuliki and Taliya rivers, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An offensive by FARDC against ADF/MTM rebels resulted in one rebel killed. The FARDC recovered his AK47 weapon and a loaded magazine.

16 December, Mwalika valley, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An offensive by the FARDC against the ADF/MTM rebels resulted in three deaths including two FARDC soldiers and a rebel, three wounded FARDC, an AK47 weapon and a solar panel recovered.

17 December, Localities Mafuo, Biholo, Kishonja, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. FARDC offensive against the APCLS BUHOZI and UPDC militiamen resulted in two militiamen killed and an AK47 weapon recovered.

17 December, Kantine locality, Beni Territory, North Kivu Province. An offensive by FARDC against YIRA militiamen resulted in one militiaman killed.

18 December, Bambu locality, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. An offensive by the FARDC against the militiamen of the APCLS-BOHOZI and UPDC coalition resulted in seven militiamen wounded.

19 December, Kinyandonyi locality, Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province. FARDC offensive against FDLR/FOCA rebels resulted in one rebel killed.

19 December, Kazinga locality, Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province. FARDC offensive against the militiamen of the APCLS-NYATURA CMC coalition resulted in two militiamen killed and two AK47 weapons recovered.

20 December, Kazinga locality, Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province. An offensive by FARDC against the militiamen of the APCLS-NYATURA CMC coalition resulted in two militiamen killed and two AK47 weapons recovered.

20 December, Kango and Movaramo localities, Djugu Territory, Ituri Province. FARDC dislodged the CODECO/URDPC militiamen from the said localities after an offensive by the armed forces.

22 December, Kirea, Rama and Kiwanja, Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province. Three Mai-Mai militiamen surrendered to the FARDC.

23 December, Kunda locality, Irumu Territory, Ituri Province. An offensive by the FARDC against the Mai-Mai CODECO/BON TEMPS militiamen resulted in two militiamen killed, an AK47 weapon and ammunition recovered.

24 December, Uvira-Fizi highlands, South Kivu Province. FARDC arrested a fighter from the FNL rebel group.

24 December, Bombo Chiefdom, Mambasa Territory, Ituri Province. FARDC offensive against a Mai-Mai group resulted in one captured militiaman carrying an AK47 weapon.

24 December, Luofu locality, Lubero Territory, North Kivu Province. FARDC arrested two militiamen from the MAZEMBE group.

24 December, Butembo, Lubero Territory, North Kivu Province. Three militiamen of the armed groups FPP-AP and UPDI/MAZEMBE (two from the FPP-AP group and one from the UPDI/MAZEMBE group) surrendered to the FARDC.

26 December, Pinga, Masisi territory, North Kivu Province. An offensive by the FARDC against the APCLS militiamen, led to capture of a militiaman and a recovery of RPG7 weapon.

26 December, Pinga, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. Three NDCR/GUIDON militiamen surrendered to the FARDC.

27 December, Mount Sabinyo, Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province. FARDC soldiers arrested an M23 fighter.

27 December, Showa locality, Masisi Territory, North Kivu Province. FARDC offensive against militiamen of the APCLS / NYATURA-CMC coalition resulted in a militiaman killed.

28 December, Buhavu Chiefdom, Kalehe Territory, South Kivu Province. FARDC offensive against the CNRD militiamen resulted in one militiaman killed and another captured.

30 December, Binza group, Rutshuru Territory, North Kivu Province. FARDC offensive against FDLR / FPPH rebels resulted in three deaths including two militiamen and one FARDC soldier.

30 December, Mushoshi locality, Fizi Territory, South Kivu Province. An offensive by FARDC against YAKUTUMBA militiamen resulted in one militiaman killed and an AK47 weapon recovered.

EAST AFRICA

Somalia

05 December, Lower Shabelle. The SNA killed Al Shabaab fighters in an operation.

12 December, Lower Shabelle. The Special Forces squad, Danab, killed 17 Al Shabaab militants including two foreigners.

22 December, southern region of Lower Juba. SNA backed by Jubaland state forces arrested two senior Al Shabaab militants in a security operation in the southern region of Lower Juba.

26 December, Garbaharey, Gedo. Somali security forces killed seven members of Al Shabaab militants during an operation.

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

01 December, Jijel Province. The National People's Army (ANP) on an anti-terror mission killed three terrorists. They also confiscated three Kalashnikov-type submachine guns, five loaded magazines, one grenade, one photovoltaic panel, seven communication devices, 12 backpacks, clothing effects, drugs and other objects.

16 December, Tamendjar Village, Jijel Province. The ANP on an anti-terror mission captured a terrorist named Rezkane Ahcène. They also recovered a Kalashnikov-type submachine gun, three ammunition magazines, a grenade and a pair of binoculars.

29 December, Jijel Province. The ANP seized \$100,000 and said it might have been part of ransom money paid to the terrorist group JNIM for the release of Malian opposition leader Soumaila Cisse and other European captives in October 2020.

EGYPT

09 December, Matrouh Governorate. The Egyptian Armed Forces on a counter-terror operation destroyed 21 4x4 vehicles carrying terrorists, arms, and ammunition. The number of terrorists killed were unknown.

08, December, Sinai Governorate. The Egyptian Armed Forces on a counter-terror operation in the Sinai region killed 15 terrorist insurgents.

MOROCCO

04 December, Tetouan City, Tetouan Province. The Moroccan authorities on a counter-terror mission dismantled a terrorist cell and arrested three individuals in connection with Islamic State (IS).

SOUTHERN AFRICA

MOZAMBIQUE

21 December, Cabo Delgado. The Mozambican Defense and Security Forces (FDS) killed 16 of a gang of about 20 terrorists who attacked the district of Nangade.

26 December, Macomia, Maputo, Cabo Delgado. FDS killed a total of 37 terrorists and seized 21 weapons.

WEST AFRICA

MALI

24 December, Mondoro Village, Douentza Circle, Mopti Region. A FAMa convoy was attacked by terrorists. The attack was repelled, which led to the deaths of 11 terrorists.

28 December, Hombori Region. Three French Barkhane soldiers were killed when their vehicle hit an IED.