

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الإفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

ACSRT/CAERT

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

AFRICA TERRORISM BULLETIN

1st-15th January 2019

Edition No: 001

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 in Africa, 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 analysis allow the ACSRT to provide Member States and P/CVE Practitioners with relevant information on trends and development of terrorism in Africa. The ACSRT disseminates its trend analysis through various productions. The Africa Terrorism Bulletin, a fortnightly compilation and analysis is to form the basis for an African Terrorism Trend Analysis to be published by the Centre quarterly.

THE BULLETIN IS PRODUCED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF

H.E. Larry GBEVLO-LARTEY Esq., AU Special Representative for Counter Terrorism Cooperation /
Director ACSRT

RESEARCHERS

Mr. Richard APAU, ACSRT

Mr. Aristide IGIRANEZA, ACSRT

REVIEWERS

Dr. Festus Kofi AUBYN, KAIPTC

Dr. Fiifi EDU-AFFUL, KAIPTC

Brig. Gen. (Dr.) Emmanuel KOTIA, GAF

Mr. Idriss Mounir LALLALI, ACSRT

Mr. Inusah ZIBLIM, ACSRT

Mr. Adjewoda KUTOATI, ACSRT

© African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT) 2019

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without full attribution.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	CONTENTS	PAGE
1	Table of content	2
2	Executive Summary	3
3	Terrorism in Africa: Issue of Definition	4
4	Introduction	4
5	General Trend: Terrorism Incidents/CT Response	5
6	Total Number of Terrorist Attacks	5
7	Attacks by Region	5
8	Means of Attacks	5
9	Primary Targets	6
10	Total Terrorism Related Deaths	6
11	Deaths by Region	8
12	Deaths by Means of Attack	8
13	Attacks/Victims by Terrorist Groups	9
14	Members of Terrorist Groups Killed	10
15	Total Terrorism Related Injuries	11
16	Five Most Affected Countries	11
17	Most Fatal Terrorism Incidents	13
18	In Focus: The Sahel Region	13
19	Total Attacks in the Sahel	14
20	Total Deaths in the Sahel	14
21	Means of Attacks in The Sahel	15
22	Deaths By Category in The Sahel	16
23	Synthesis Table of Terrorism Incidents	17
24	Record of Terrorism Incidents by Regions	18
25	Central Africa	18
26	East Africa	19
27	North Africa	21
28	West Africa	23
29	Terrorism Related News	25
30	Conclusion	25
31	About the ACSRT	26

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

QUICK HIGHLIGHTS

- The period under review recorded a total of 19 terrorists' attacks, and a total of 614 terrorism related deaths.
- Out of the 614 terrorism related death, 190 resulted directly from terrorist attacks, whereas 424 were deaths recorded during counter terrorism operation by security forces.
- 70% (425) of the casualties were members of terrorists/insurgent groups. Civilians and Security forces casualties were 26% and 4% respectively.
- In 12 out of the 19 attacks, the terrorists used Small Arms and Light Weapons. 10 of the attacks targeted civilians.
- Boko Haram lost 395 members during CT operations, whereas the group killed a total of 38 persons in their attacks. Al-Shabaab on the other hand, lost 18 members to CT operations and killed 22 persons in their attacks.
- Five countries most affected by terrorism during the period are Burkina Faso, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria and Somalia (**in no particular order**).
- The Sahel region recorded 8 incidents of terrorist attacks, and a total deaths of 551 representing 90% of the terrorism related deaths for the period. Out of the 551, 405 terrorists, 133 civilians and 20 Military/Security personnel died in the Sahel Region.

THREAT UPDATE

The incidences of terrorist attacks across Africa at the end of 2018 especially in December and in January 2019 have become a source of worry to many stakeholders. The Horn of Africa, the Lake Chad Basin, the Maghreb, the Sahelo-Sahara regions and the Central Africa region are currently the most affected. The situation in these regions has evolved into one of asymmetric warfare in which, in some cases, terrorist groups occupy portions of national territories, recruit members from local communities and run criminal economies for their benefit and that of local communities sympathetic to their cause.

Recent high profile attacks include:

- The 15th January 2019 al-Shabaab attack on the DusitD2 hotel complex of Nairobi with a reported deaths toll of 21 civilians and 6 al-Shabaab militants.
- The 14th January 2019 Boko Haram attack on Rann local community, Borno State Nigeria killing of 21 civilians.
- The 1st January 2019 killing of 37 Fulani civilians in Koulogon near Bankass in the Mopti Region of Mali by armed men dressed like traditional Dozo hunters allied to the Dogon ethnic group.

Security forces have remained responsive to the situation. Counter Terrorism Operations have been significant in January 2019. 395 members of Boko Haram have been killed in CT Operations. These include 287 killed in Niger between 28th December 2018 and 2nd January 2019. In Nigeria, 100 Boko Haram members were killed in Borno and Yobe States on 7th January 2019. Similarly, the security forces in Kenya successfully eliminated all the al-Shabaab militants who attacked the DusitD2 hotel and rescued over 700 civilians.

TERRORISM IN AFRICA: ISSUE OF DEFINITION

- Notwithstanding the lack of a universal definition of terrorism, article 1 paragraph 3, (a) and (b) of the African Union in its 1999 [OAU 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 and analysis of terrorism situation and trends on the continent. This is aimed at providing African Union Member States up to date information and understanding of 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 retrieve real time information on terrorist incidents in four 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.

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 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 (MS) on terrorism regarding the numbers 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.

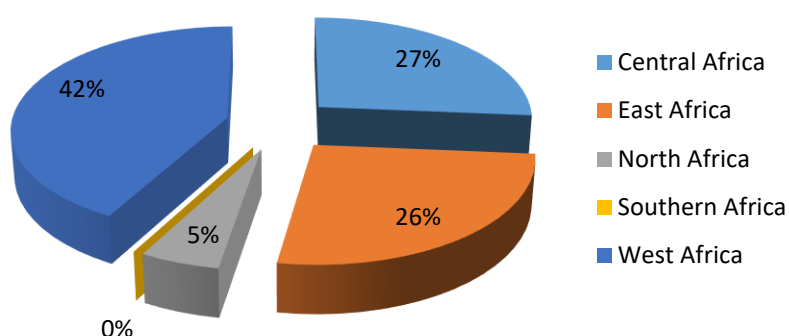
GENERAL TREND: TERRORISM ATTACKS/COUNTER-TERRORISM RESPONSE

1. Total Terrorist Attacks: 19

A Total of 19 terrorist incidents recorded from 1st January to 15th January 2019. Abduction of 36 civilians in Anglophone Region of Cameroon included.

2. Attacks by Region

Figure 1: Attacks by Region



By Regions:

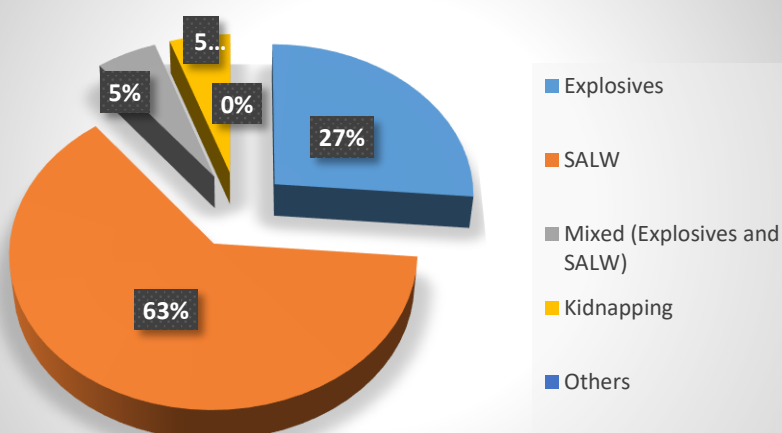
- Central Africa: **5**
- East Africa: **5 (4 in Somalia)**
- North Africa: **1**
- Southern Africa: **0**
- West Africa: **8 (4 in Nigeria)**

- West Africa, in which Boko Haram operates recorded a total of 8 attacks representing 42% of all attacks recorded within the period. Southern Africa recorded no attack

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

3. Means of Attack

Figure 2: Means of Attacks



Means of Attacks:

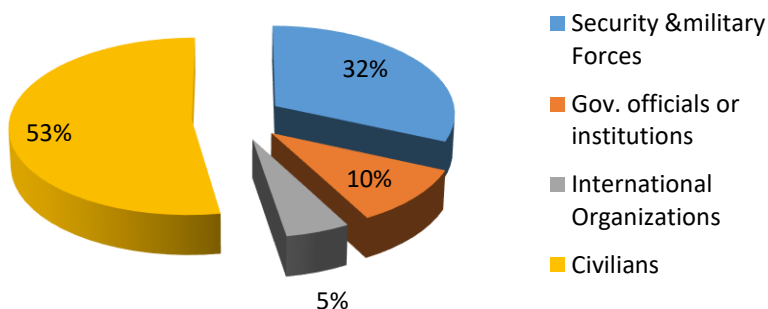
- Explosives: **5**
- Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW): **12**
- Mixed (Explosives and SALW): **1**
- Kidnapping: **1**
- Others: **0**

- Small Arms and Light Weapons (63%) recorded the highest means by which terrorist groups attack their targets

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

4. Primary Targets

Figure 3: Primary Targets



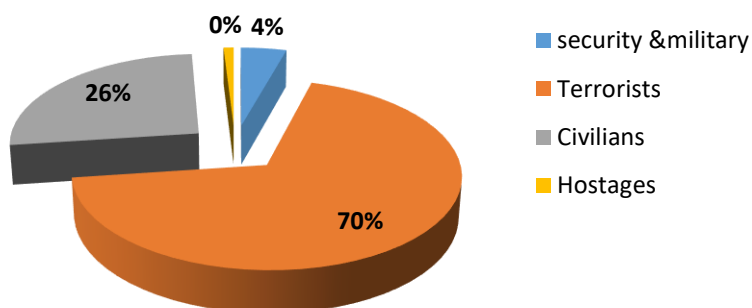
Primary Targets

- Security/military Forces : **6**
 - Gov. officials or institutions: **2**
 - International Organizations: **1**
 - Civilians: **10**
-
- Civilians were the most targeted by terrorist groups. With a total of 19 attacks, 53% were targeted at civilians with international organizations being the least targeted (5%)

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

5. Total Terrorism Related Deaths

Figure 4: Total Terrorism Related Deaths



Total Terrorism Related Deaths: 614

- Security incl. Military: **27**
 - Terrorists: **425**
 - Civilians: **162**
 - Hostages: **0**
-
- Out of a total of 614 terrorism related deaths recorded within the period, 70% were members of terrorist groups whereas 26% and 4% were civilians and Security/Military Officers respectively.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Total Deaths Related to Terrorist Attacks: 190

- Security incl. Military: 12
- Terrorists: 16
- Civilians: 162
- Hostages: 0

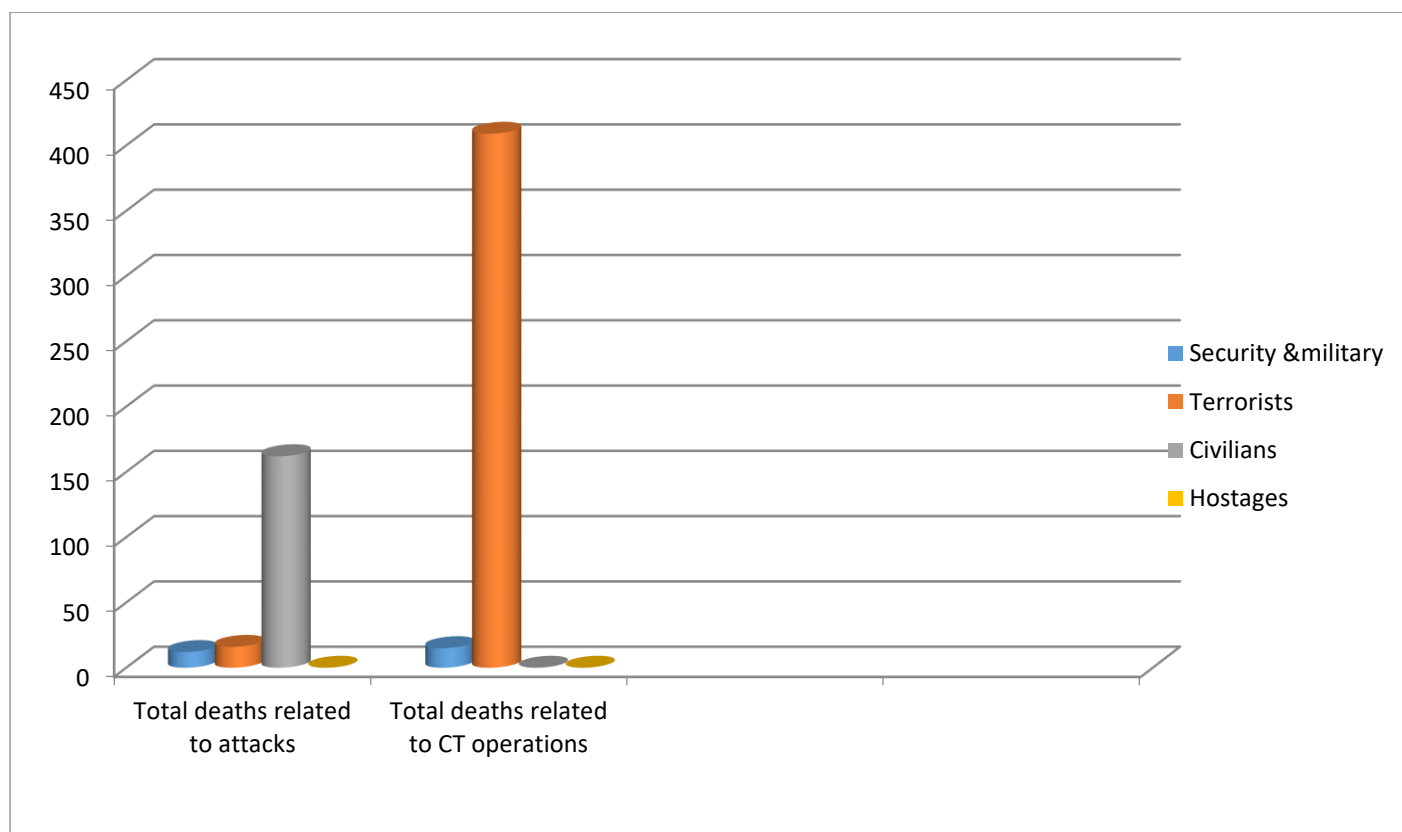
- 190 out of the 614 terrorism related deaths resulted from terrorist attacks.
- Civilians were the major casualties of attacks perpetrated by terrorist groups accounting for 162 out of 190 deaths

Total Deaths Related to Deliberate CT Operations: 424

- Security incl. Military: 15
- Terrorists: 409
- Civilians: 0
- Hostages: 0

- Deliberate Counter Terrorism Operations recorded 424 deaths, out of which 409 were members of terrorist and insurgent groups. There was no civilian casualty in counter terrorism operations conducted by the Military within the period.

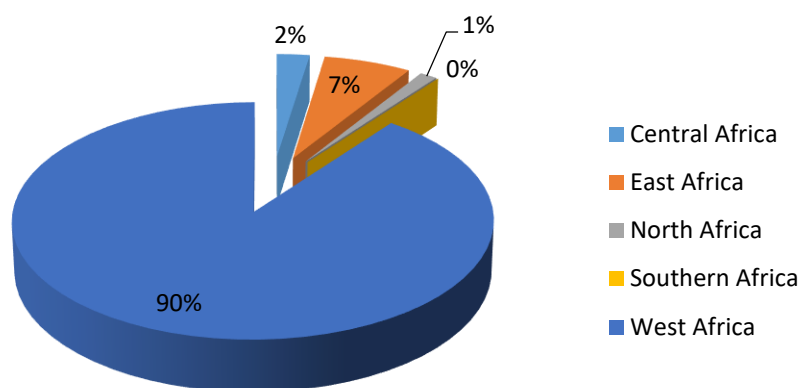
Figure 5: Deaths Related to Terrorist Attacks and Deliberate CT Operations



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

6. Deaths by Region

Figure 6: Deaths by Regions



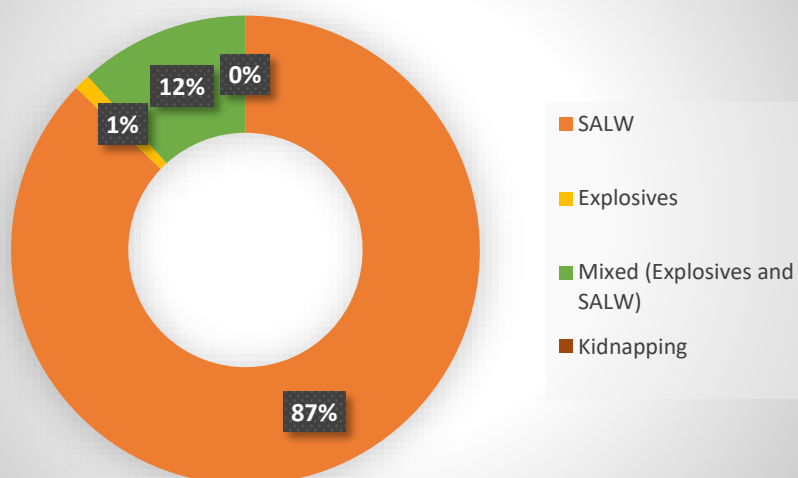
Deaths by Regions:

- Central Africa: 15
 - East Africa: 40
 - North Africa: 8
 - Southern Africa: 0
 - West Africa: 551
- 90% of all terrorism related deaths were recorded in the West African region where Boko Haram is active, whereas 7% (40) terrorism related deaths were recorded in the East African region where al-Shabaab Operates.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

7. Deaths by Means of Attack

Figure 7: Deaths by Means of Attack



Deaths by Means of Attack

- Explosives: 2
 - Small Arms and Light Weapons: 156
 - Mixed (Explosives and SALW): 21
 - Kidnapping: 0
- SALW accounted for 87% of terrorists attack related deaths. Only 1 % of the terrorists attack related deaths were as a result of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

8. Attacks/Victims by Terrorist Groups

Attacks by Terrorist Groups

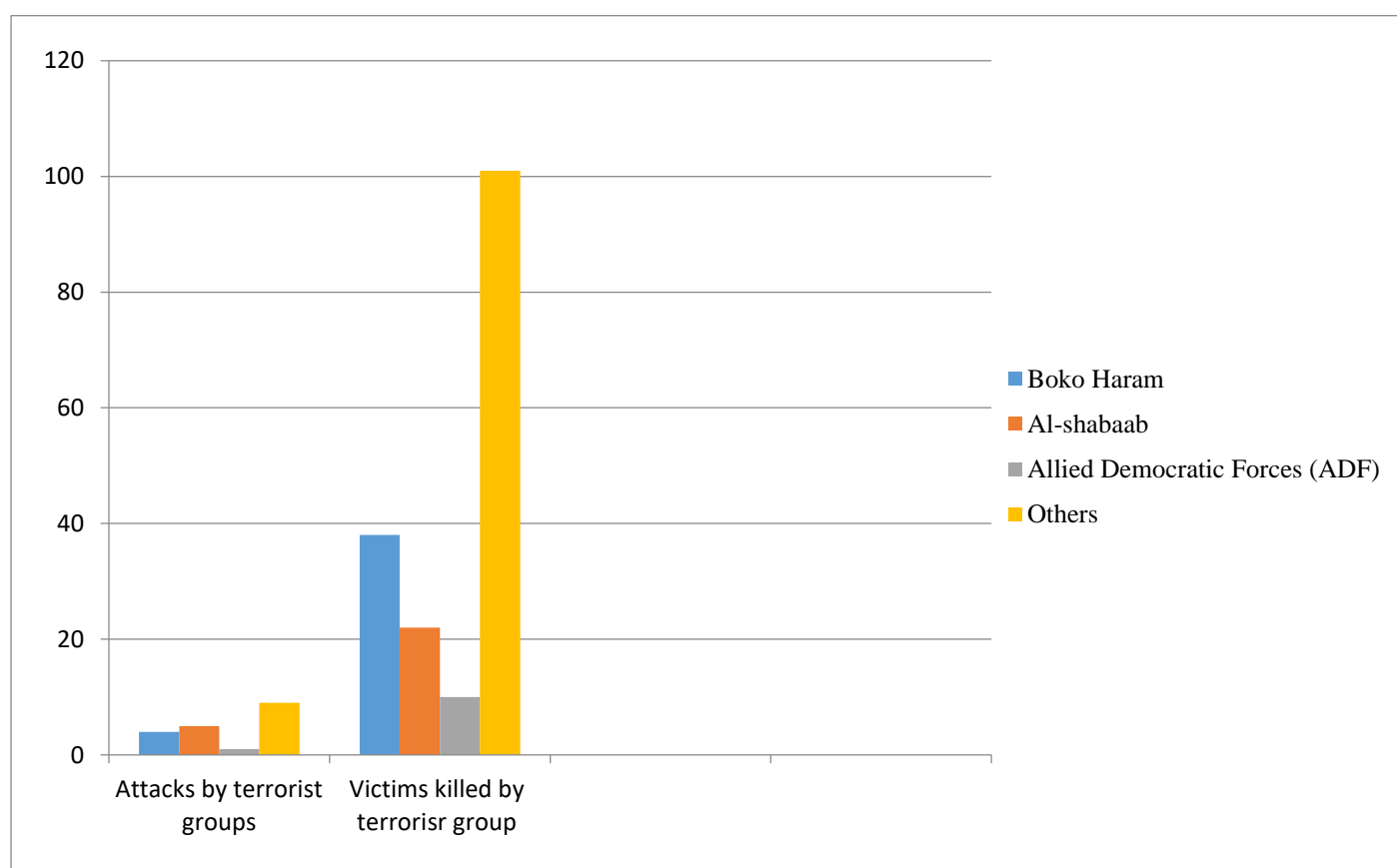
- Boko Haram: **4**
- Al-shabaab: **5**
- Allied Democratic Forces (ADF): **1**
- Others: **9**

Victims Killed by Terrorist Groups

- Boko Haram: **38**
- Al-shabaab: **22**
- Allied Democratic Forces (ADF): **10**
- Others: **101**

- The highest number of terrorist attacks was perpetrated by al-Shabaab with a total of 5 incidents killing 22 persons.
- Boko Haram operating in the North Eastern part of Nigeria, the Sahel and the Lake Chad Basin area conducted 4 attacks killing 38 persons.
- A single attack by the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) operating in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) resulted in the killing of 10 persons.
- 9 attacks were also conducted by insurgent groups, including Ansar ul Islam, GSIM, AQIM and their affiliates. These groups account for 101 deaths.

Figure 8: Attacks/Victims by Terrorist groups



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

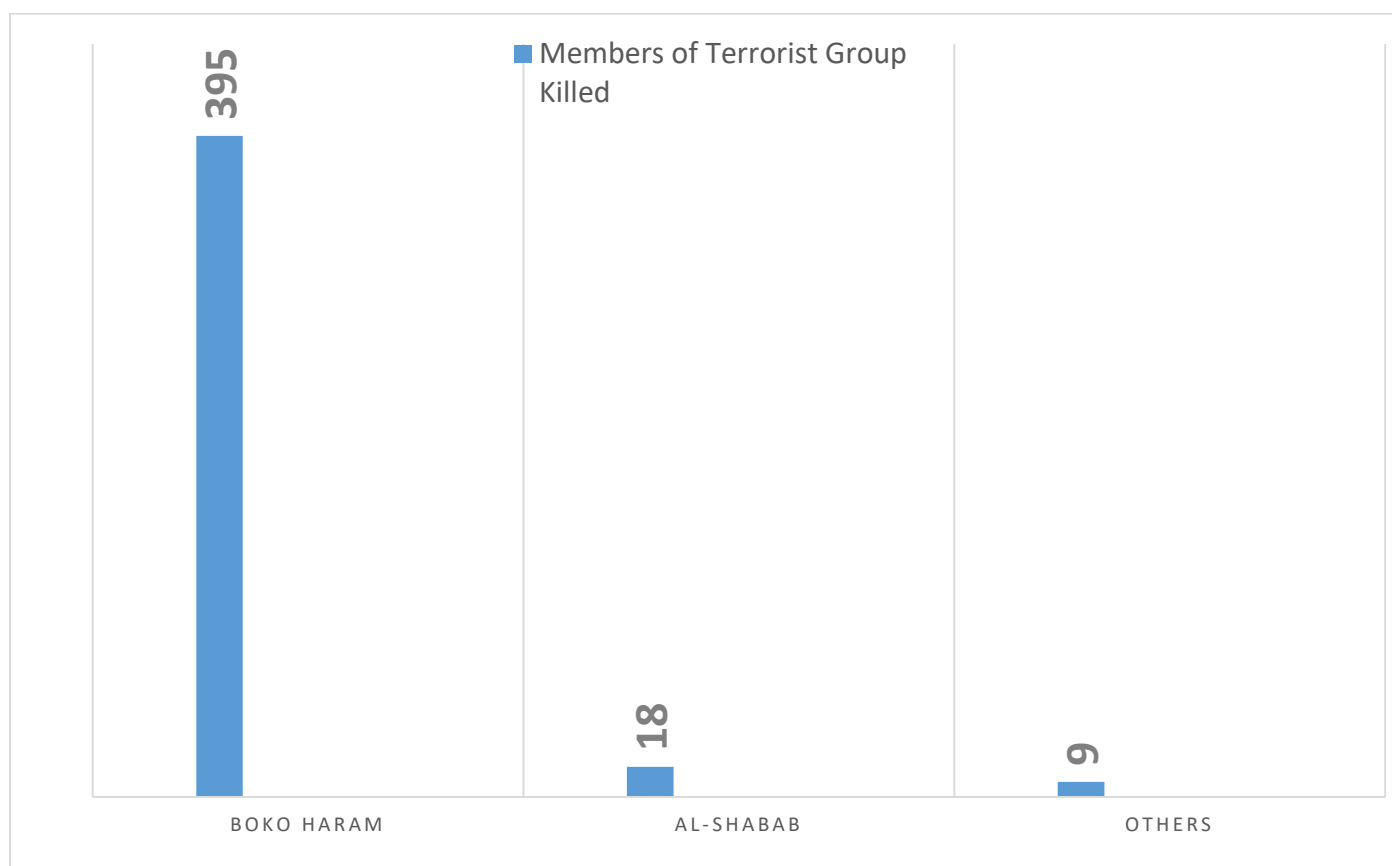
9. Members of Terrorist Groups Killed

Members of Terrorists Groups Killed

- Boko Haram: **395**
- Al-shabab: **18**
- Allied Democratic Forces (ADF): **0**
- Others: **9**

- Among the members of terrorist groups killed in counter terrorism operations and combat missions, Boko Haram suffered the highest number of casualties.
- The insurgent group lost 395 members of their members through military counter terrorism operations, whereas al-Shabaab operating in the Horn of Africa region lost 18 of their members to CT operations.
- The Nigerien military killed 287 members of Boko Haram in air and land CT operations between December 28, 2018 and 2nd January 2019, while the Nigerian military killed 100 members of the Boko Haram sect on 7th January 2019 in a combat operation.

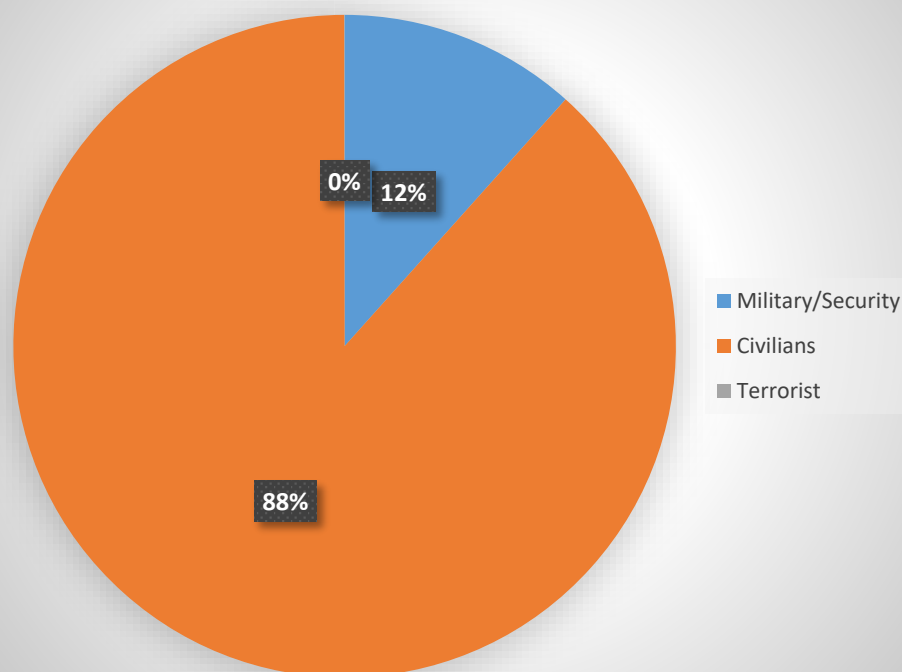
Figure 9: Members of Terrorist Groups Killed



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

10. Total Terrorism Related Injuries

Figure 10: Total Terrorism Related Injuries



Total Number of Injuries: 43

- Military/Security: 5
- Civilians: 38
- Terrorists: 0

- Civilians accounted for 88 % of injuries resulted from terrorist attacks.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

11. Five Most Affected Countries

Table 1: Countries Most Affected

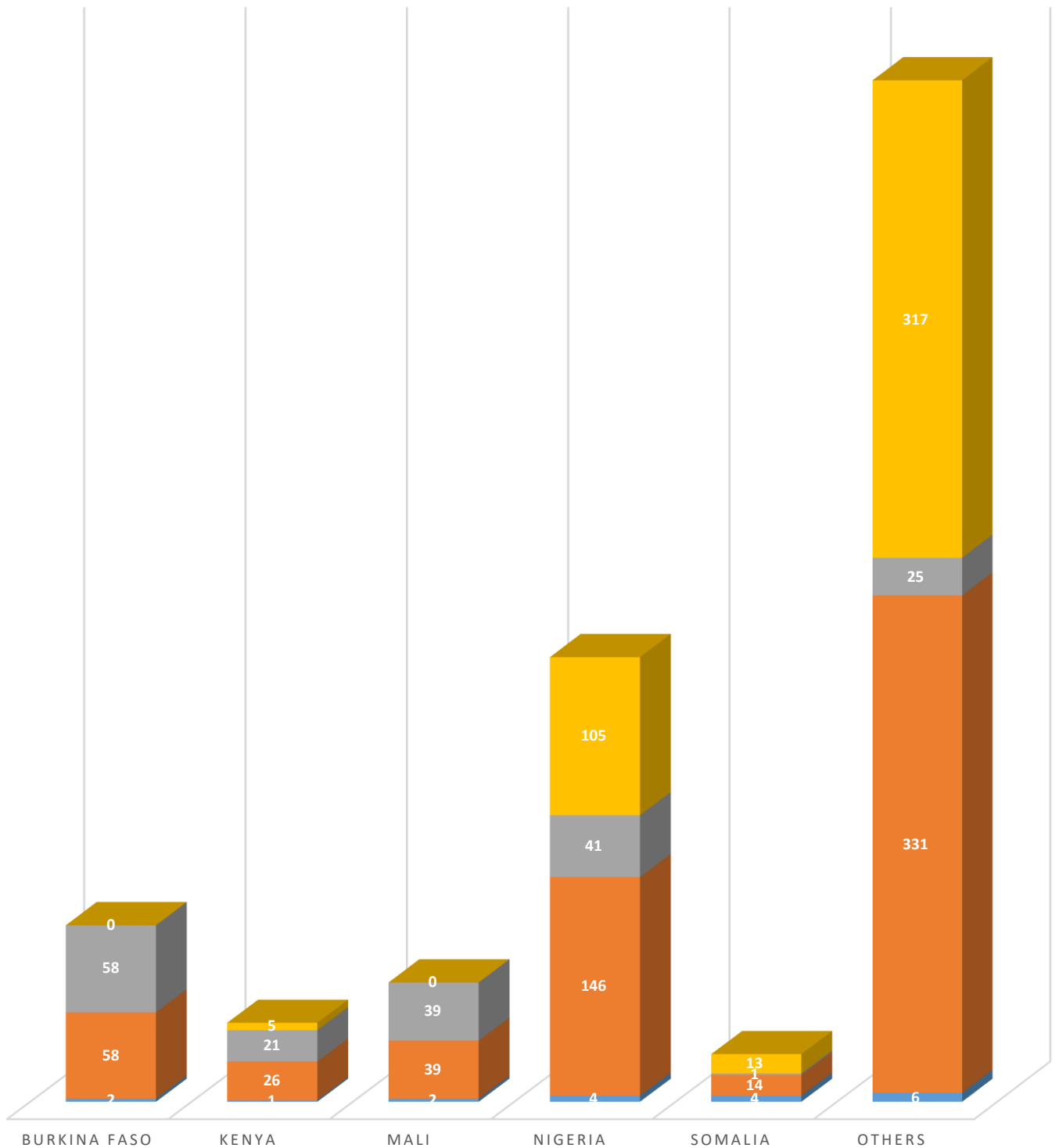
Country	Total Attacks	Total Deaths	Total Deaths related to attacks	Total Deaths related to deliberate CT operations
Burkina Faso	2	58	58	0
Kenya	1	26	21	5
Mali	2	39	39	0
Nigeria	4	146	41	105
Somalia	4	14	1	13
Others	6	331	25	217

- Nigeria and Somalia recorded 4 attacks each resulting in 41 and 1 attack related deaths respectively.
- The highest number of terrorists attack related deaths were recorded in Burkina Faso, follow by Nigeria, and Mali.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

Figure 11: Five most affected countries

■ Total Attacks ■ Total Deaths ■ Attacks Related deaths ■ CT Operations related Deaths



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

12. Most Fatal Terrorism Incidents

Table 2: List of Most Fatal Terrorism Incidents

No	Country	City	Date	Group	Deaths	Description
1	Mali	Mopti	01/01/19	Dozo	37	Armed men attacked the village of Koulogon in the Central Mopti Region of Mali
2	Nigeria	Sokoto	13/01/19	N.G.C.R*	26	Armed bandits attacked Warwana, Tabkin Kwasa and Dutsi villages in Gandhi District of Rabah Local Government Area of Sokoto State of Nigeria
3	Kenya	Nairobi	15/01/19	al-Shabaab	21	Assailants attacked DusitD2 Hotel Complex in Nairobi, Kenya
4	Nigeria	Borno	14/01/19	Boko Haram	21	Assailants attacked and burnt down several houses in Rann, Kala-Balge local government area of Borno State, Nigeria.
5	DRC	Beni	09/01/19	ADF	10	Armed Militia attacked a military post in the restive east of Beni region of the Democratic Republic of Congo

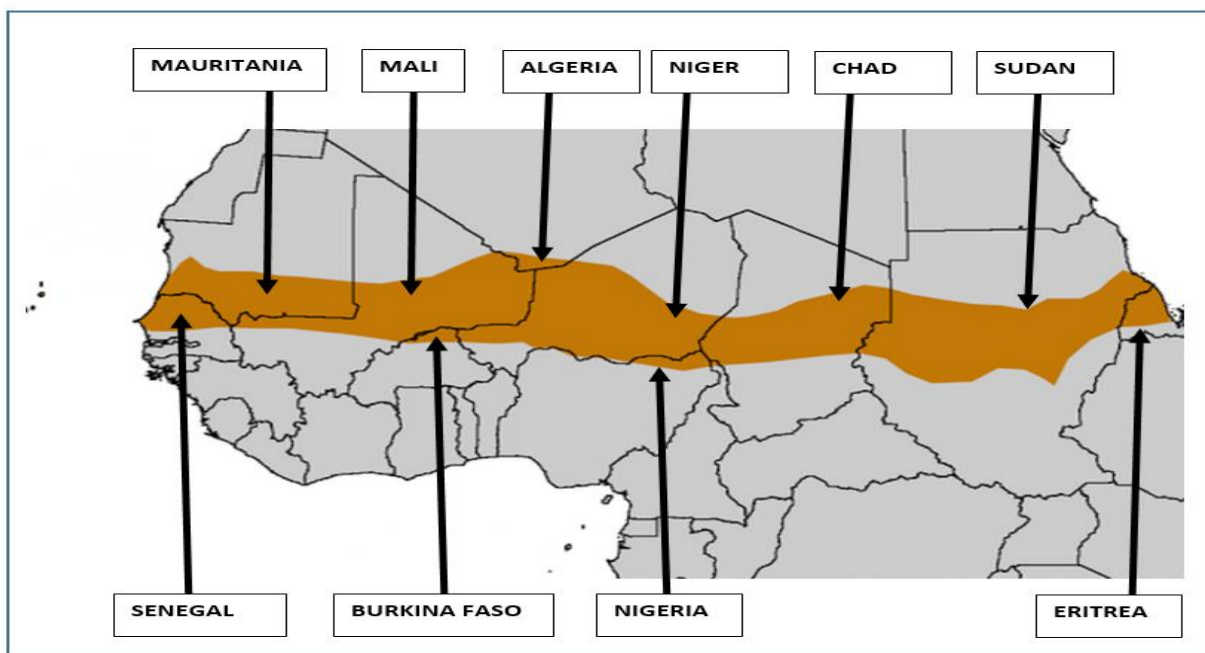
Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

*No Group Claimed Responsibility

IN FOCUS

THE SAHEL REGION

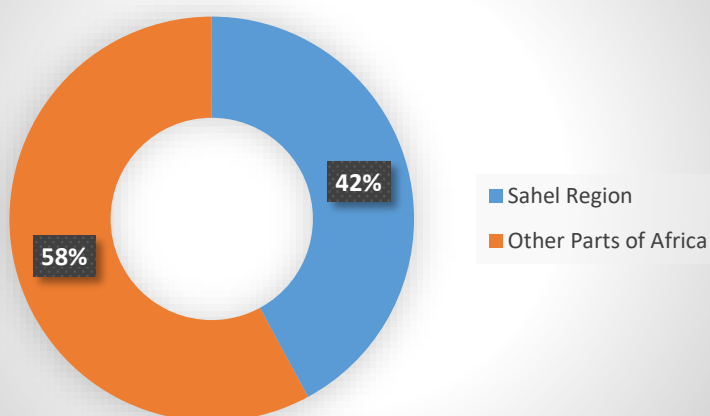
Figure 12: Map Showing the Sahel Region



Source: Adapted from World Atlas, 2017

13. Total Attacks in the Sahel Region

Figure 13: Attacks in the Sahel



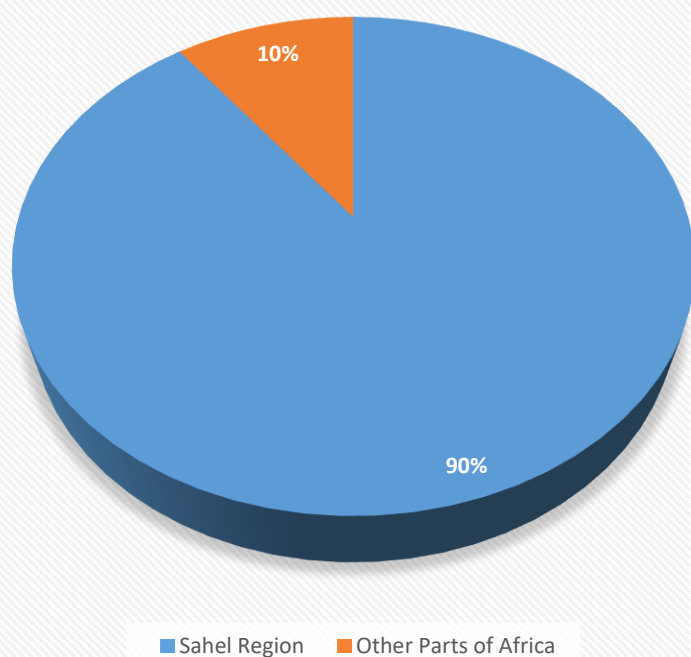
Total Attacks in the Sahel= 8 out of 19

- **Sahel Region: 8**
- **Other Part of Africa: 11**
- The Sahel Region recorded a total number of 8 attacks as against 11 in other parts of Africa within the period under review representing 42% of all the attacks in Africa.
- The countries that recorded attacks were Nigeria, Mali and Burkina Faso. 4 attacks occurred in Nigeria with Burkina Faso and Mali recording 2 attacks each.

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

14. Total Deaths in the Sahel Region

Figure 14: Deaths in the Sahel



Total Deaths in Sahel= 551 out of 614

- **Sahel Region: 551**
- **Other Part of Africa: 63**
- 90% of the terrorism related deaths recorded within the period under review occurred in the Sahel region whereas 10% occurred in other parts of Africa.
- The countries in the Sahel where these deaths occurred were Algeria, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Nigeria

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

15. Means of Attack in the Sahel Region

SALW: 8

- Sahel Region: 8
- Other Part of Africa: 4

Explosive: 5

- Sahel Region: 0
- Other Part of Africa: 5

Mixed: 1

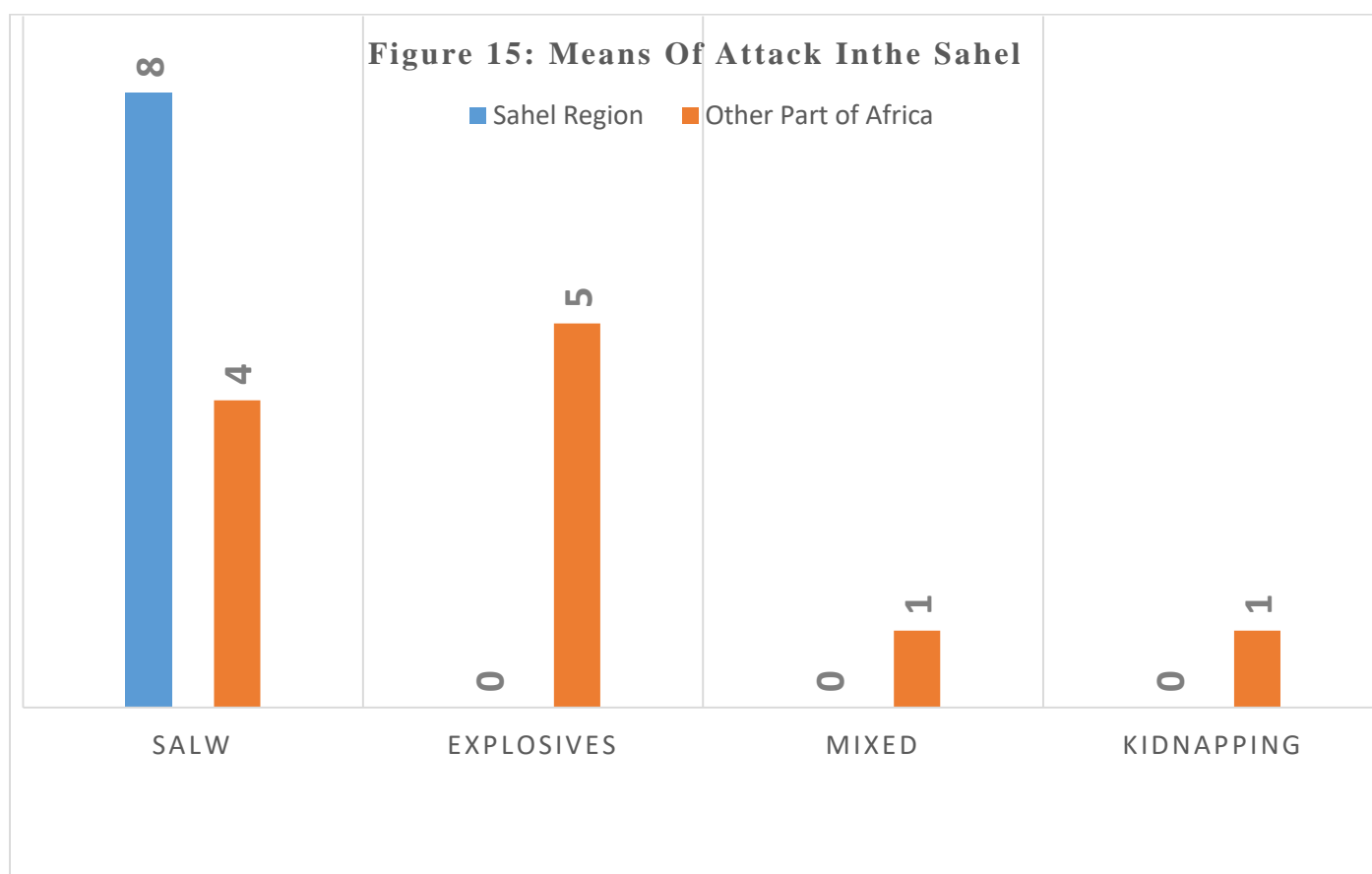
- Sahel Region: 0
- Other Part of Africa: 1

Kidnapping: 1

- Sahel Region: 0
- Other Part of Africa: 1

- Out of a total of 12 attacks using Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), the Sahel recorded 8.

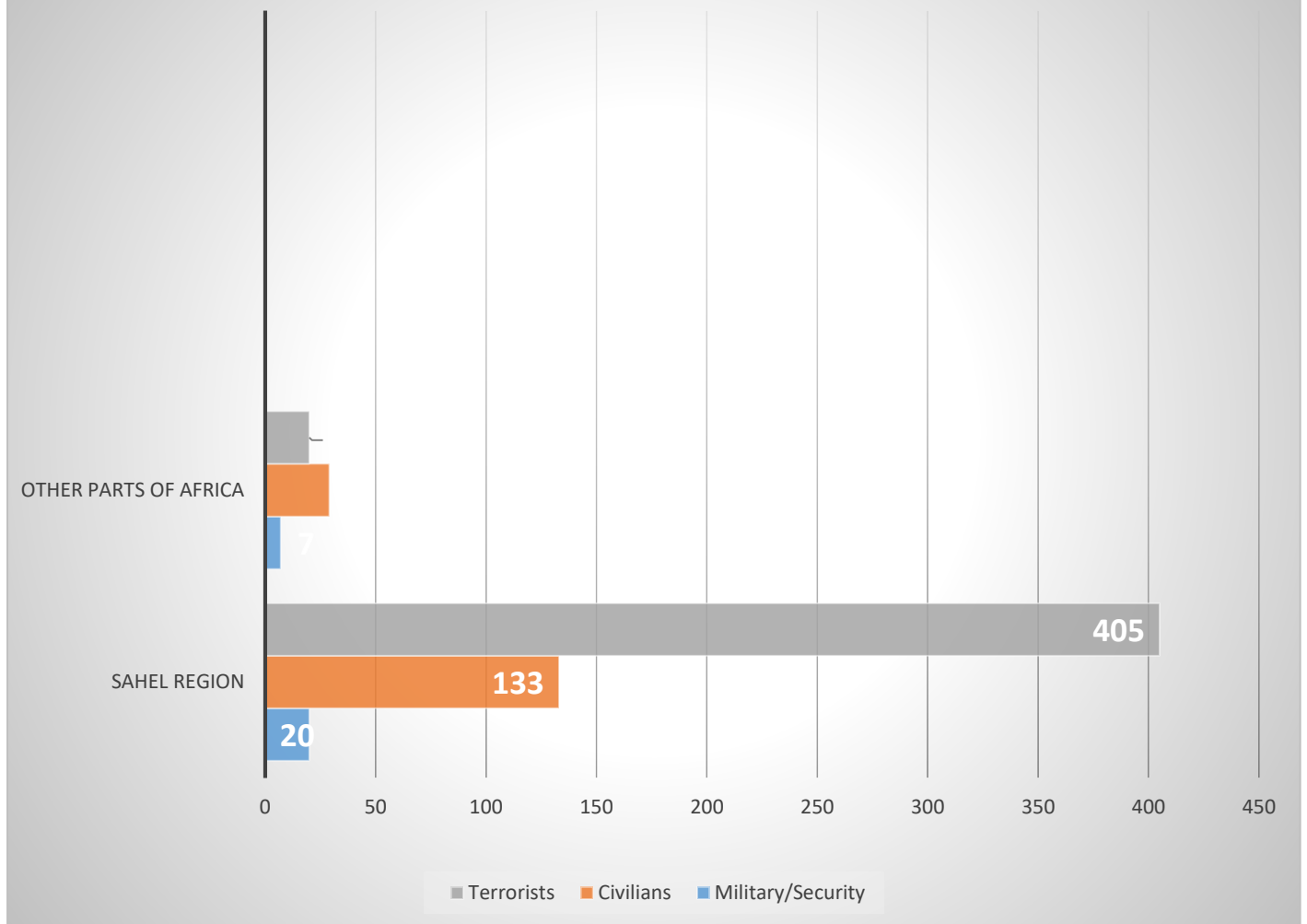
- This means that, in all the attacks occurring in the Sahel region, terrorists used SALW as a means of attack.



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

14. Deaths by Category in the Sahel

Figure 16: Deaths by Category in the Sahel



Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

133 Civilians
were killed in
the Sahel region
as against 29 in
the rest of Africa

20 Military/Security
Officers were killed in
the Sahel whereas 7
were killed in the rest
of Africa

405 members of
terrorist groups were
eliminated in the
Sahel region as
against 20 in the rest
of Africa

15. Synthesis of Terrorism Incidents in Africa

Table 3: Synthesis of Terrorism Incidents in Africa

No	Country/ Regions:	Type and total of attacks				Total Dead				Total Wounded				Primary Targets			
		Explosives	Small Arms and light weapons (SALW)	Mixed (explosives and SALW)	Kidnapping	Security/Military	Terrorists	Civilians	Hostages	Security/Military	Terrorists	Civilians	Hostages	Security/Military	Government officials or institutions	International Organizations	Civilians
	Central Africa																
	East Africa																
	North Africa																
	West Africa																
1	Cameroun	-	1	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	Nd	36	-	1	-	1
2	CAR	-	2	-	-	2	-	Nd	-	-	-	Nd	-	1	-	-	1
3	DRC	-	1	-	-	3	-	7	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
4	Kenya	-	-	1	-	-	5	21	-	-	-	28	-	-	-	-	1
5	Somalia	4	-	-	-	-	13	1	-	2	Nd	10	-	1	1	1	1
6	Algeria	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Egypt	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
8	Libya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Tunisia	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Burkina Faso	-	2	-	-	-	-	58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
11	Mali	-	2	-	-	2	-	37		Nd	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
12	Niger	-	-	-	-	10	298	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Nigeria	-	4	-	-	8	100	38	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Sub-Total		5	12	1	1	27	425	162	-	5	Nd	38	36	6	2	1	10
General Total		19				614				43				36	19		

Source: ACSRT Database, 2019

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

CAR: Central African Republic

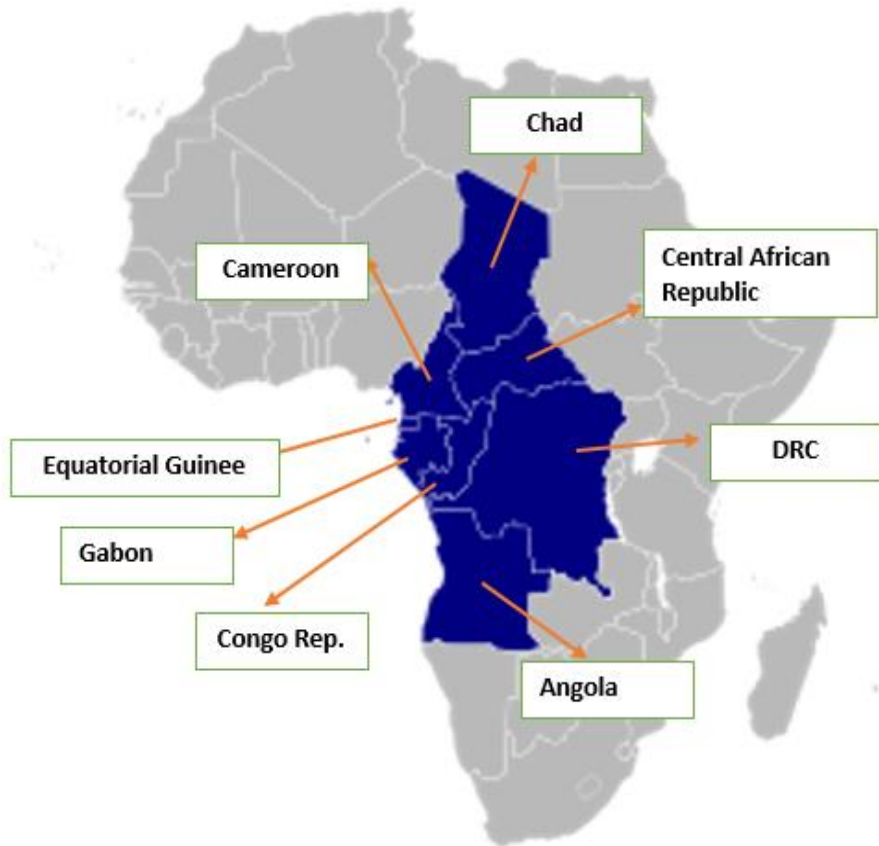
DRC: Democratic Republic of Congo

Nd: Not determined

RECORD OF INCIDENTS BY REGIONS

CENTRAL AFRICA

Figure 17: Map showing the Central Africa Region



Source: Adapted from World Atlas, n.d

CAMEROON

On 1st January 2019, Armed Separatists ambushed convoy of Governor of North-West, at Foncha (Bamenda). Attackers blocked road and opened fire at police vehicle leading the convoy. A quick response from the security forces repelled attackers. One Cameroonian security personnel killed.

On 6th January 2019, Two persons reported to be leaders of Cameroonian separatists group were killed by Cameroonian task force at their hideouts. Their camps were destroyed and some weapons recovered.

On 13th January 2019, 4 Cameroon nationals abducted by CAR rebels in 2018 were freed after payment of \$40,000 by the families. Central African Republic rebels released three men and a woman on Sunday, 13th January 2019. The detainees were abducted late last year. The four were among more than 300 Cameroonians being held by the rebels.

On 15th January 2019, Thirty-six (36) passengers were abducted by gunmen on Tuesday along the Buea-Kumba highway in the South-West Region. Two buses travelling between Kumba and Buea were stopped by gunmen at Ediki village. All passengers were disembarked, their identity cards seized and the bus drivers ordered to return to Kumba empty.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

On 1st January 2019, Two Militia group, the Union for Peace in the Central African Republic (UPC) and the Popular Front for the Renaissance of the Central African Republic (FPRC), took control of Bakouma, in the south-east of the country. Large-scale killings and the burning of residential and commercial houses reported.

On 9th to 10th January 2019, Bambari township was attacked by Shabaab armed elements of the Union for Peace in Central Africa (UPC) led by Ali Ndarassa. Two police officers were killed. The all night attack prevented World Food Day celebrations on the 10th January, which the President was scheduled to attend.

CHAD

On 12th January 2019, In the extreme north of Chad, on the Kouri Bougoudi gold site. Chadian rebels of the Military Command Council for the Salvation of the Republic (CCMSR) and Sudanese rebels of the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) clashed Saturday January 12th 2019 on the Chadian side of the gold site resulting in several casualties.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

On 9th January 2019, A military post located in the Beni region of eastern DRC was attacked by the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), an Islamist-rooted militia operating near the border with Uganda. Seven civilians and three soldiers were killed two soldiers wounded.

EAST AFRICA

Figure 18: Map showing the East Africa Region



Source: Adopted from Maps of World, 2012

KENYA

On 14th January 2019, In Nairobi Chief magistrate Francis Andayi acquitted Abdikadir Adan alias Adan Dheq, a westgate mall attack suspect for lack of evidence. Three others, Mohamed Abdi, Liban Omar and Hussein Mustafah are to answer charges.

On 15th January 2019, In Nairobi 101-room DusitD2 hotel was attacked by elements of al-shabaab killing 21 persons. Response by Kenyan Security forces resulted in the rescue of over 700 people. Kenyan security forces killed all five militants and coiled the attack.

SOMALIA

On 1st January 2019, in the southern town of Tabdain, Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) deployed as part of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), killed 7 al-Shabaab militants and wounded several. The military seized 9 AK-47 rifles, 10 magazines, two RPG launchers and three grenades from the militants. Two KDF soldiers were injured during the operation.

On 1st January 2019, at 2pm, in Mogadishu, UN basecamp was attacked by al-Shabaab militants. The terrorists fired seven mortar shells, which targeted the basecamp. Three people, including two UN personnel and a contractor were injured.

On 5th January 2019, in Dugulle, an al-Shabaab Somali security forces conducted a covert operation. The National Intelligence and Security Agency [NISA] destroyed a base belonging to al-Shabaab and several militants were seized during the night-time operation on their camp.

On 6th January 2019, in Mogadishu Somali military executed, by firing squad, two al-Shabaab militants convicted for the murder of a traditional elder.

On 6th January 2019, in the Shabelle region. A U.S. military airstrike killed Six Islamist militants. The air strike was conducted to diminish al-Shabaab's freedom of movement and to increase pressure on the terrorist network in the area.

On 12th January 2019, in Mogadishu the residence of Deynile district commissioner, Mohamed Abukar Ja'far, was attacked. Assailants hurled a hand grenade at the residence, at least one person was killed and five others were wounded. No group claimed responsibility for the attack, but, al-Shabaab has often claimed responsibility for the bombings in Mogadishu, targeting Somali government officials.

On 12th January 2019, in Huriwa, Mogadishu a convoy carrying AMISOM forces was hit by a roadside bomb explosion (IED). No casualties were reported. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the bomb attack however, al Shabaab often carried out such IED assaults.

On 14th January 2019, in Hodan District, Banadir region, Mogadishu the Village Hotel and a popular Restaurant was attacked. A huge explosion went off after a bomb exploded from a private car which was parked near the hotel. Two people were injured. No group claimed responsibility.

Figure 19: Map showing the North Africa Region



Source: Adapted from Maps of World, 2012

ALGERIA

On 2nd January 2019, in the wilaya of SidiBel-Abbes the National People's Army killed two terrorists. Two Kalashnikov-type machine guns and a quantity of ammunition were recovered. The group the terrorists belong to was not mentioned, but AQIM has operated in the area in the past.

On 2nd January 2019, in Tamanrasset and BordjBadji-Mokhtar the National People's Army intercepted eighteen miners and seized a Kalashnikov-type machine gun, five ammunition loaders, 400 bullets, 30 generators, 22 jackhammers and various detonation tools.

On 14th January 2019, in the province of Tamanrasset Army forces in the operation seized two Kalashnikov rifles, four ammunition magazines and 908 bullets of 14.5 millimeter caliber in their possession. Also, two "terrorists" known as Othman al-Touji and Ahmed Malouki who had joined "terrorist" groups in 2017, surrendered to the Army.

EGYPT

On 5th January 2019, in Cairo a police officer was killed as he was trying to defuse a homemade explosive device near a church. The blast also wounded the commander of the bomb squad. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the blast.

On 14th January 2019, in the southern part of the city of Sheikh Zuweid in northern Sinai the Egyptian air force carried out a number of attacks in an extensive operation against terrorist groups in the Sinai Peninsula.

LYBIA

On 2nd January 2019, in Ghadwua village, 70 kilometers (43 miles) from the southern city of Sabha the Libyan National Army (LNA) led by Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar clashed with militants of the Islamic State (IS). The LNA forces freed 20 people who were kidnapped by Islamic State group militants during attacks in central Libya. Two of the abductees fled and reported the locations.

On 4th January 2019, in Tripoli, Libyan authorities issued an international arrest warrant against several Chadian rebel leaders accused of participating in the various conflicts between the Libyan government recognized by the international community and the Libyan militias. The Attorney General of Libya issued an arrest warrant against 31 Chadian and 6 Libyan opponents including Abdel Hakim Belhadj, Shaaban, "Abu ObeidaZawi" and Ibrahim Aljdran. They are accused of being linked to the attack on the Libyan oil crescent, Brak al-Shati Air Base and Tamenhant Air Base.

On 5th January 2019, in the city of Sirte, the Libyan Joint Chamber for Disposition of War Remnants announced the disposal of a ton of war remnants and ammunition collected from different parts of the city. The explosives were collected from residential areas near the city's hospital.

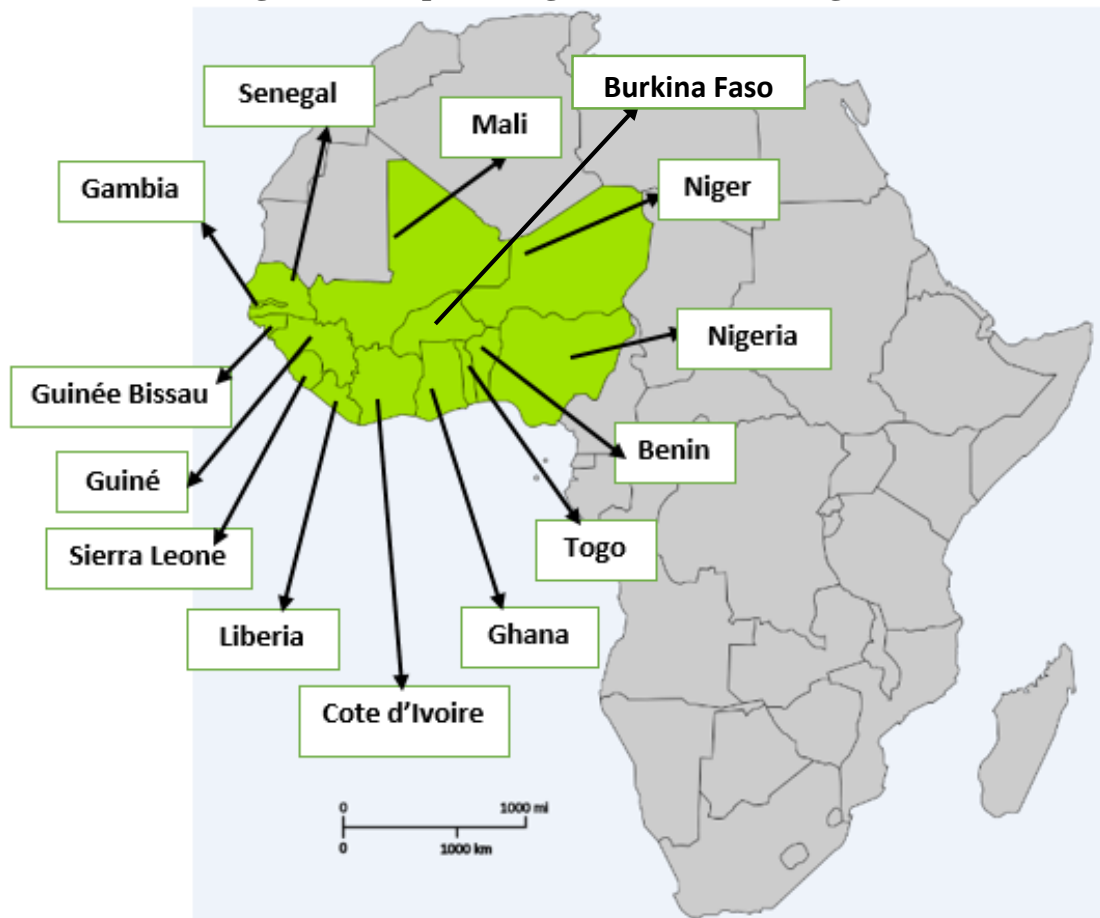
TUNISIA

On 3rd January 2019, in Jelma, the province of Sidi Bouzid. Tunisian Special Forces killed five terrorists in an anti-terror operation. Two of the suspected terrorists killed themselves detonating explosive belts during a shootout with security forces. The security forces launched an operation inside a home used by the suspected terrorists as a hiding place and had ambushed their hideout, located in Jelma.

On 4th January, at dawn, in Jelma, governorate of Sidi Bouzid. The Tunisian authorities intercepted and placed in custody three individuals suspected of having a link with the five terrorists who were eliminated during an anticipatory operation. The individuals were suspected of providing logistical and material support to a terrorist cell planning to carry out terrorist operations against vital institutions in the country.

On 9th January 2019, Four Jihadists were sentenced to death for beheading a shepherd. A Tunisian court has convicted jihadists over the 2015 murder of a teenage shepherd, but the vast majority remain on the run. Mabrouk Soltani, 17, was beheaded as his sheep grazed on Mount Mghilla in Central West Tunisia.

Figure 20: Map showing the West Africa Region



Source: Adapted from World Atlas, 2012

BURKINA FASO

On 1st January 2019, In Yirgou armed men suspected to be member of jihadist group attacked the community killing 7 persons. Yirgou residents killed 39 people in Fulani herding communities in retaliation on suspension that, they were part of the attackers.

On 9th January 2019, In Kiembara, in Sourou province, Boucle du Mouhoun region, secondary schools closed down following terrorist threats. Posters suspected of being from terrorists appeared, instructing teachers and students to close schools if they valued their lives.

On 10th January 2019, Gasseliki, a village in the northern Sahel region was attacked by armed men. The group of terrorists ransacked shops and fired at people who had gathered for the weekly market. Twelve (12) civilians were killed. No group claimed responsibility.

MALI

On 1st January 2019, In Koulogon, central Mopti region, armed men traditional Dozo hunters killed 37 Fulani civilians. Children were among those killed. No group claimed responsibility for the attack.

On 1st January 2019, In the Banamba ring (230 km north-east of Bamako) terrorist ambushed soldiers on mission. The Malian armed forces were on a mission to secure a region where several schools had closed under the threat of Islamist groups. Two soldiers were killed.

On 2nd January 2019, Seven (7) people were arrested in central Mali, the day after 37 civilians were killed when armed men attacked a village in the region in the latest clash. Following the killing in the village of Koulogon, in the central Mopti region, Security forces rushed to the scene and arrested seven suspects.

NIGER

On 1st January 2019, In Maradi (south-central) of Niger close to the borders of Nigeria, armed men attacked joint army operation team. Ten soldiers comprising of five Nigerians and five Nigeriens were killed. Eleven of the armed men were also killed.

On 2nd January 2019, Niger's army killed 287 Boko Haram militants near the southeast border with Nigeria. More than 200 jihadists were killed in air strikes and a further 87 by ground troops between 28th December 2018 and 2nd January 2019.

NIGERIA

On 1st January 2019, In Borno State IS-affiliated Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) attacked three military posts. ISWAP gunmen attacked the posts in reprisals over the killing of fellow jihadists in the village in December 2018. No casualties were recorded.

On 2nd January 2019, Nigerian air force helicopter fighting Boko Haram militants crashed. Five crew members died. The victims included two pilots, two gunners and a flight technician.

On 5th January 2019, In Damasak, a town in northern part of Borno State, the Nigerian Army repelled Boko Haram members attack. The assailants belonging to the Abu Musab AlBarnawi camp of the Boko Haram, drove to Damasak in convoy of vehicles mounted with RPGs. The militants were ambushed by the military.

On 7th January 2019, In the Northeastern states of Borno and Yobe 100 Boko Haram fighters were killed by the military. A high caliber of arms and ammunition were recovered from the terrorists. The Nigerian Air Force (NAF) destroyed several gun trucks and facilities belonging to the Boko Haram group.

On 13th January 2019, Warwana, Tabkin Kwasa and Dutsi villages in Gandhi District of Rabah Local Government Area of Sokoto State was attacked by armed men. 26 persons were killed, including a one-year-old girl. No group claimed responsibility for the attack.

On 13th January 2019, Magumeri, a local government headquarters in Borno State was attacked by Boko Haram. The insurgents attacked the community around 6pm Sunday. No casualty was reported.

On 14th January 2019, In Rann, Kala-Balge local government area of Borno state, a military post was attacked by Boko Haram insurgents. The insurgents entered the area at 6pm on Monday, 14th January 2019 attacked the military post and burnt down several houses. 21 civilians 3 security were killed.

On 15th January 2019, Nigeria's military recaptured the northeastern town of Rann after it was attacked by ISWAP insurgents a day earlier. Residents fled during the ISWAP attack as the militants set buildings ablaze, but troops have fought back and regained control of Rann.

TERRORISM RELATED NEWS

On 3rd January 2019, Algeria barred all Syrians from entering the country through its southern border to prevent infiltration by Syrian opposition groups suspected of being Islamist militants. About 100 people had arrived at the southern border with the help of local armed escorts in the past few weeks but had been spotted and expelled shortly after infiltrating into Algeria.

On 3rd January 2019, A UN report revealed that CAR rebels buy weapons from Sudan traffickers. The Union for Peace (UPC) in CAR and Popular Front for the Renaissance of CAR, two renamed groups from the Seleka rebel alliance, received a shipment of assault rifles, machine guns and ammunition in April 2008 and a new deal was struck in September 2018 with Sudanese traffickers worth about \$165,000. According to the report, leaders of the former Seleka alliance were re-arming to counter the deployment of newly-trained government troops to their areas of influence.

On 9th January 2019, The UN's Humanitarian Coordinator in Nigeria indicated that, in northeastern Nigeria, tens of thousands of people have fled their homes after an increase in violence of the Boko Haram conflict. More than 30,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) arrived in Maiduguri, mainly from Baga, in recent weeks. Baga, on the shores of Lake Chad, has been repeatedly hit in the nine-year conflict, which has killed more than 27,000, left 1.8 million people homeless and triggered a humanitarian crisis.

CONCLUSION

The results obtained for this edition of the bulletin demonstrate that, activities of terrorist groups are far from abating. The various terrorist and insurgent groups operating in Africa scaled up their activities within the first half of January, 2019.

Contrary to opinion that Boko Haram has been defeated, the group has demonstrated enough capability and presence as the group continue to carry out attacks against civilians and military in Northeastern part of Nigeria, particularly Borno State.

Al-Shabaab, an Al-Qaeda affiliate group operating in Somalia and the Sahel respectively carried out series of attacks targeted at civilians, military and international organizations. Al-Shabaab carried out one of the deadliest attack for the first half of January 2019 at the DusitD2 Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya in which 21 persons were killed and 28 persons injured.

Counter terrorism efforts, intelligence sharing and collaboration among neighboring countries are therefore necessary to completely defeat terrorist and insurgent groups.

FORECAST FOR NEXT EDITION

The next edition of the Africa Terrorism Bulletin will cover terrorism incidents from 16th January to 31st January, 2019.

ABOUT 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'Etude et de Recherche sur le Terrorisme (CAERT)

**Adress : 1 CAERT, Rue Chahid Boughzara Abdella, 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