



Horizon West Africa – Mali 150 Metres Route de Koulikoro Sotuba ACI Route 3EME Pont, Bamako
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DATE: 30 June 2021
MONTHLY SITUATION REPORT

HIGHLIGHTS

09

Boko Haram Activity

○ **Highlight of week 1 & 2**

- The number of incidents recorded during the first two weeks was 156 and the most recorded incidents were kidnapping and killing.
- COVID-19 cases increased in the first two weeks with 561 new cases and 18 deaths.
- Attacks on police officers and police stations remained a threat in the SE and spread to the SS region.
- Nationwide protests as the country celebrated Democracy Day.
- Kidnappings were recorded in all the six-geopolitical zones but there was a general decline in reports of incidents.
- The Federal Government banned the operations of Twitter in Nigeria causing citizens to rely on VPN to access the app.

46

Banditry Activity

○ **Highlight of the week 3 & 4**

26

Civil Unrest

- The number of incidents increased in the last weeks of the month with 145 incidents.
- COVID-19 numbers in the last two weeks slightly decreased to 523 new cases and three deaths.
- General decline in terrorist activities since the announcement on the death of Abubakar Shekau last month. Nevertheless, there was an increase in attacks of military positions.
- Attacks in the South East region against police officers declined.
- Secondary school girls were kidnapped from their hostel in the north west region.
- Upsurge in robbery incidents, specifically in the south west region.
- The government announced the arrest of Nnamdi Kanu, the leader of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB).

29

Kidnapping Activity

44

Killings

09

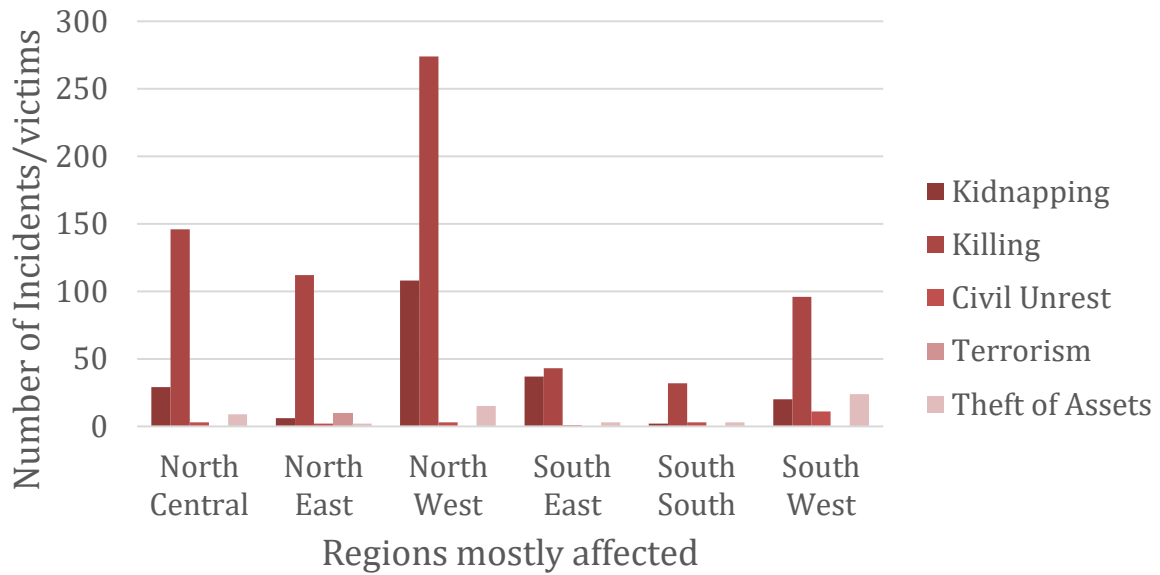
Fire

25

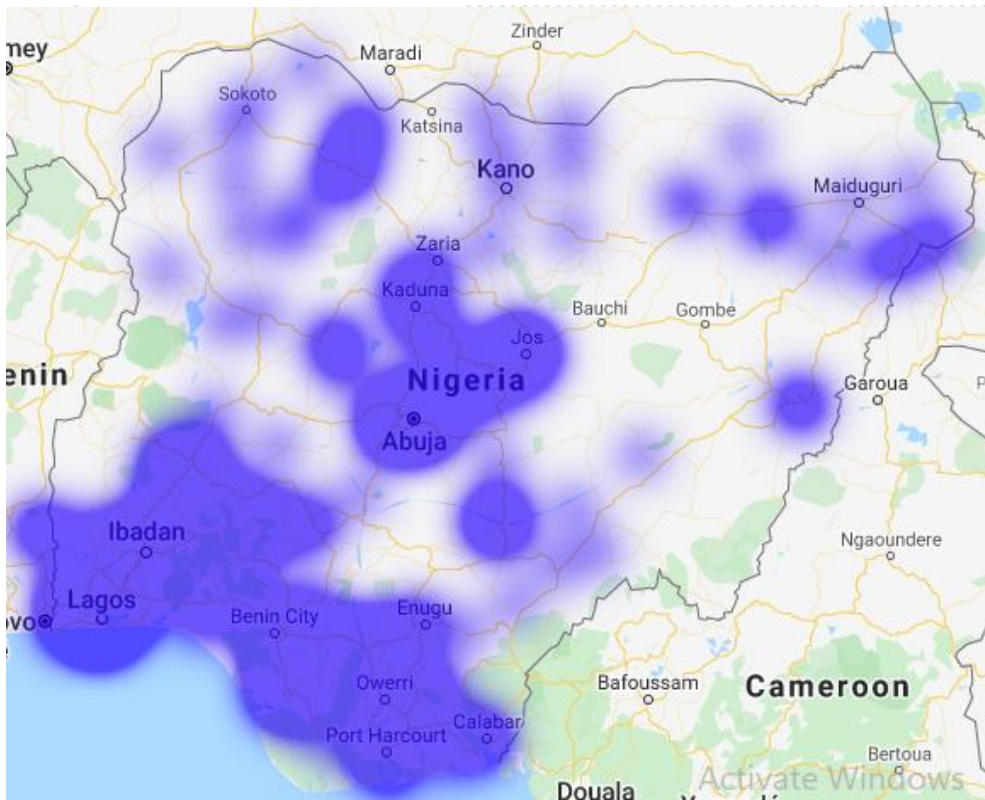
Theft of Asset

MAPS AND CHARTS

Threat Chart for the Month of June



Heat Map for Nigeria - June 2021

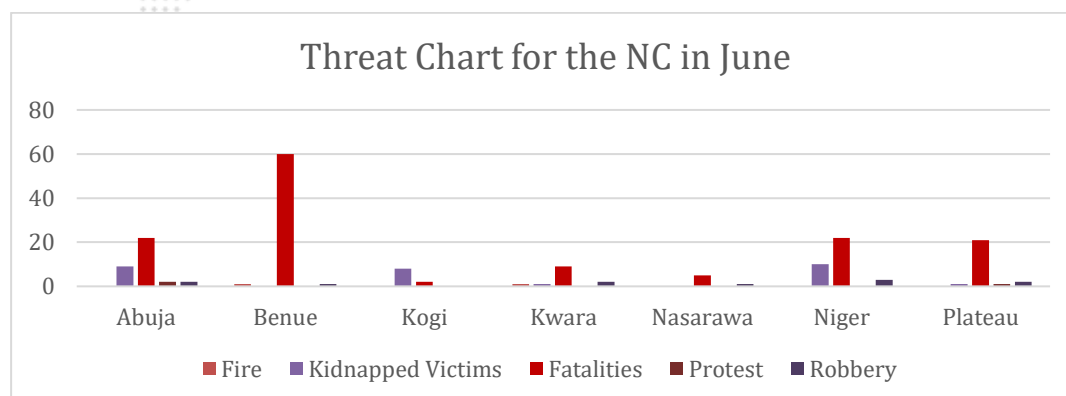


General threat level for the month of June is **High** due to criminal activities and another mass kidnapping of school children during the month. The highlight of the month was the ban on Twitter operations on 1 June which galvanised youths to organise protests on Democracy Day celebrated on 12 June to mark the continuous transition from one democratic rule to another for over 20 years. All ministries and parastatals adhered to the ban leading to a withdrawal of services from Twitter users. Also, businesses were affected, and users relied on VPN to remain connected on the app. The Federal Government selected some ministers to negotiate new terms with Twitter board as conditions to continue their operations in the country. This approach has been highly criticised.

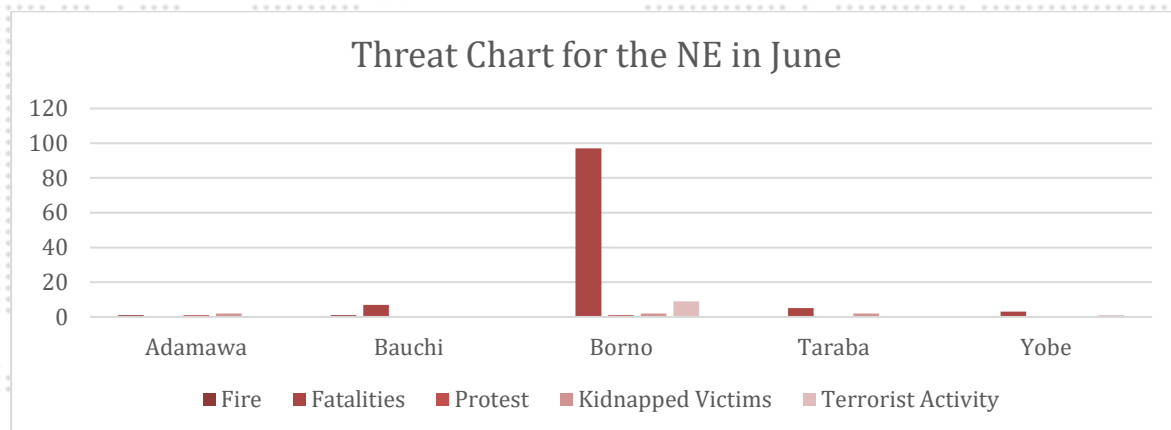
States in the North Central region recorded a decline in killings during the reporting period nevertheless, the capital Abuja FCT recorded an uptick in criminal activities specifically in Gwagwalada area. A kidnapping incident involving several persons including two Kogi State personalities was reported at an hotel on 21 June. This incident occurred six days after a man who was jogging in Maitama was kidnapped. The police did not however confirm the incident and claimed it did not occur.

Attacks by armed Fulani herdsmen declined during the month but this can also be attributed to underreporting. A cease fire between Fulani and Tiv tribesmen may have also been the reason doe reduced armed herdsmen activities in the area. However, Agatu LGA, Benue State recorded a high fatality following attacks by armed men where 30 persons were killed in an around 1900 hours on 6 June.

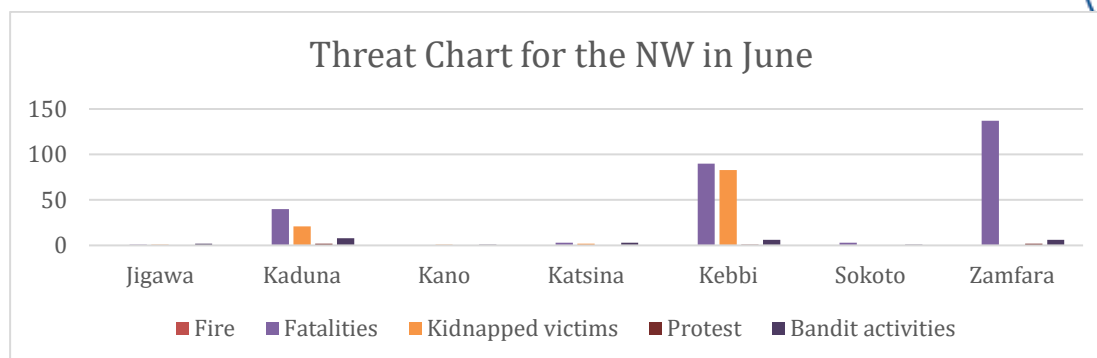
Niger State on the other hand continued to record activities by armed groups as incidents were recorded in Rafi and Magama LGAs. As reported last month, Kontagora LGA which has reportedly been overrun by bandits recorded a clash with soldiers on 19 June when assailants were sighted aboard motorcycles possibly moving utilities. The soldiers engaged and killed 15 of the bandits. Sadly, the students who were kidnapped from Islamiyya School at Teginia in Rafi LGA on 30 May remain hostages despite the Niger State government claiming that they know where the children are being held.



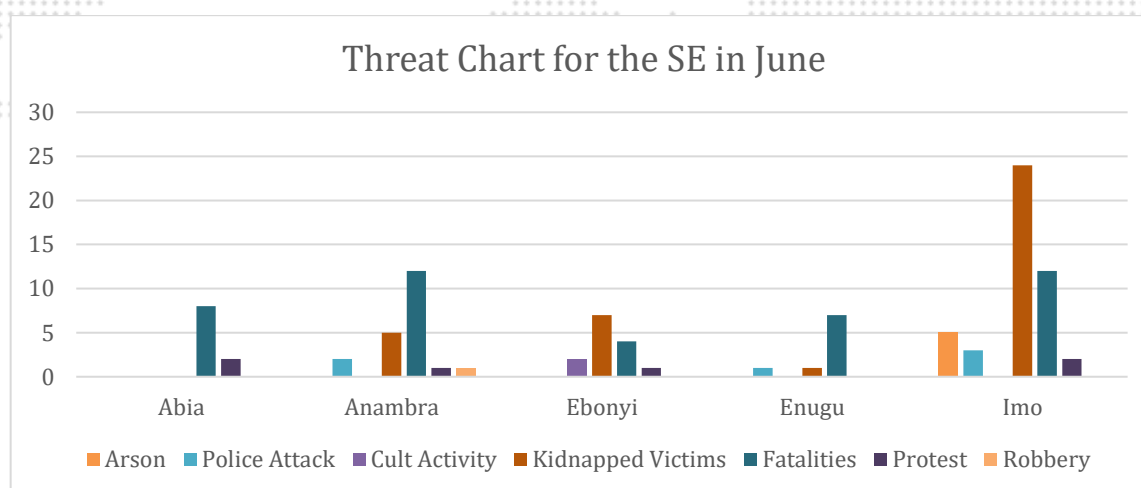
In the North East, counter terrorism measures continued as ISWAP seems to have taken over terrorist activities after the death of Shekau last month. Bakura Modu aka Shaba has become the new Boko Haram leader who might have pledged allegiance to ISWAP. Activities therefore slightly increased during the latter part of the month as attacks were recorded in Bama, Dikwa and Damboa LGAs all targeting military camps. The highlight was the attack on Maimalari Barracks on the outskirts of Maiduguri on 23 June where ISWAP terrorists stole several arms and ammunition while one of the new reconnaissance vehicles was also taken. This incident shows the possibility of an attack on the capital soon. Noteworthy, the terrorists have attempted in the last two months to infiltrate Maidugiri from all angles but have thus far been unsuccessful. Also, a 14-minute video was released by Daesh, ISWAP in which at least seven armed men spoke. Although their messaging was mostly about some JAS fighters joining ISWAP after announcing the group has been dismantled, the killing of JAS leader, Shekau was not clearly stated. Notably, this is the first video by the Daesh since 2020. This video could incite an upsurge in activities next month.



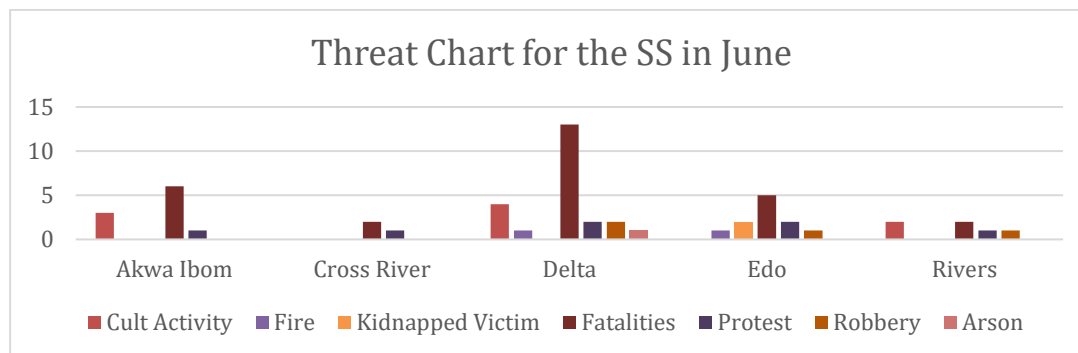
Bandit activities during the month escalated as an estimated 284 persons were killed during attacks recorded majorly in Kaduna, Kebbi and Zamfara states. Number of kidnapped persons is estimated at 107 which does not account for incidents in which the number of kidnapped remain unascertained. Zamfara recorded high number of attacks compared to the last reporting period and most incidents were recorded in Zurmi, Bugundu, Maradun and Bakura. These locations are far apart showing that the bandits have a far reach into the state possibly due to the ineffectiveness on the state government’s security policy. Apart from Kaduna State which remain volatile recording high fatalities in the southern part of the state, Kebbi seem to be new bandit haven. After the emergence of the information that the state has a high presence of bandits, more incidents were recorded during the month including the abduction of over 80 secondary school girls of Federal Government Girls College (FGGC) on 17 June. The incident prompted the Chairman of Nigerian Union of Teachers (NUT) to shut seven schools indefinitely further adding to the crisis of out of school children in the northern part of the country.



There was a general decline in attacks on police stations during the latter part month in the SE region. This corroborates human intelligence that claimed the region was not as porous as indicated in the media. The incident which however interested the populace was the arrest of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) leader, Nnamdi Kanu. The details of how he was brought into the country remains sketchy but the Nigerians who are currently on asylum status have raised concerns about how he was extradited opening the possibility of them also facing the same fate. Imo State recorded the most incidents and an estimated 23 persons were kidnapped by armed men including 20 passengers kidnapped along the infamous Okigwe road. Also, armed men targeted homes belonging to state officials during the month as simultaneous attacks were recorded on 16 June. Arson has been the go-to method of destruction for these armed groups who attack the Police and residents of state officials.



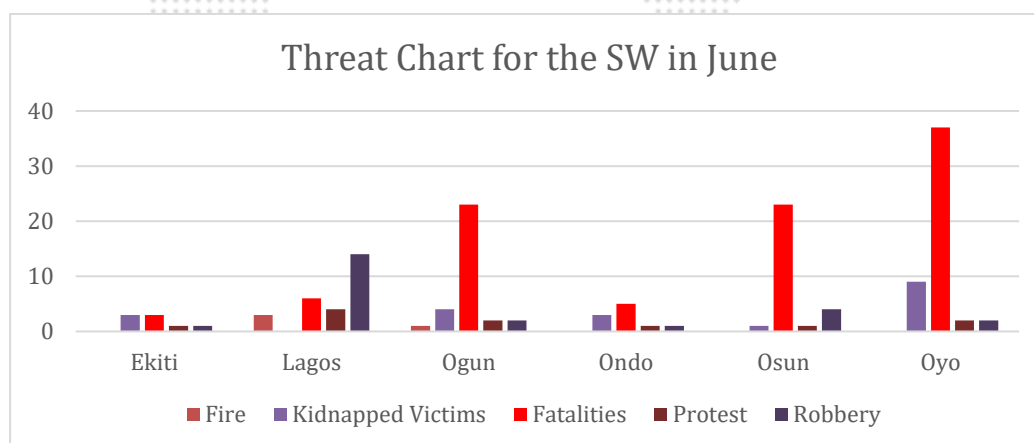
The South South region during the reporting month recorded a general decline in criminal activities nevertheless, there was an upsurge in cult activities specifically in Akwa Ibom. Some secondary schools had to be closed to prevent attacks on teachers and students. Interestingly, at least four persons escaped being kidnapped in Edo, Delta, and River states. One who was a foreign national was rescued by police officers on 15 June while the other victims saved themselves.



Criminal incidents and road accidents were rampant in the SW region during the month. There was a general surge in daylight and traffic robberies in Lagos State, and the absence of police officers at strategic points have been blamed for these incidents. An estimated 34 persons were killed in road accidents that mostly occurred along highways. This sudden surge in accidents can be linked to the increase in movement after COVID-19 lockdown.

At least 20 persons were killed by suspected Fulani tribesmen who attacked Igangan at about 2300 hours on 5th June. It was reported that the Chairman of Amotekun Corps in Oyo State, Ajibola Togun had announced six days prior, that some foreign herders were about to attack the states in the South West. A day before this incident, a farmer was shot by Fulani herdsmen in the same area. These attacks might therefore result into another bout of ethnic clashes in the LGA as recorded in February and March. Targeted killings also increased in Oyo State as two persons; a journalist and the wife of a former state official were killed in Ibadan. Although details of the incidents are unclear, they were both killed at night one at her resident and the other outside a night club on 25 and 19 June respectively.

A major robbery incident occurred in Osun State when an estimated 35 armed men attacked two banks in Apomu/Ikire and simultaneously attacked the Ikire Divisional Police HQ and the Armoured Personnel Carrier (APC) firing sporadically to perhaps stop a rescue mission on the bank robbery. The attacks were repelled by reinforcements. Seven persons including four police officers were killed during the firefight. This is the second major robbery incident in Osun State this year with other occurrences recorded along routes within the state.



Threat Chart for March

- ◆ **Low (1)** - Incident did not occur in the reporting period. Nevertheless, will to conduct attacks and opportunity to target project assets and/or personnel remains a threat.
- ◆ **Medium (2)** – Incident occurred but minimal. Nevertheless, will to conduct attacks and opportunity to target project assets and/or personnel remains a threat.
- ◆ **High (3)** – Incident occurred at increased proportion and active with demonstrated will to conduct attacks that would target project assets and/or personnel.

Threats for the Month						
Region	Kidnapping	Terrorism	Theft of Assets	Civil Unrest	Killing	Road Accidents
North Central	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	Low
North East	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Medium	Low
North West	Medium	Low	High	Medium	Medium	Low
South East	Medium	Low	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium
South West	Medium	Low	High	High	Medium	High
South South	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium



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