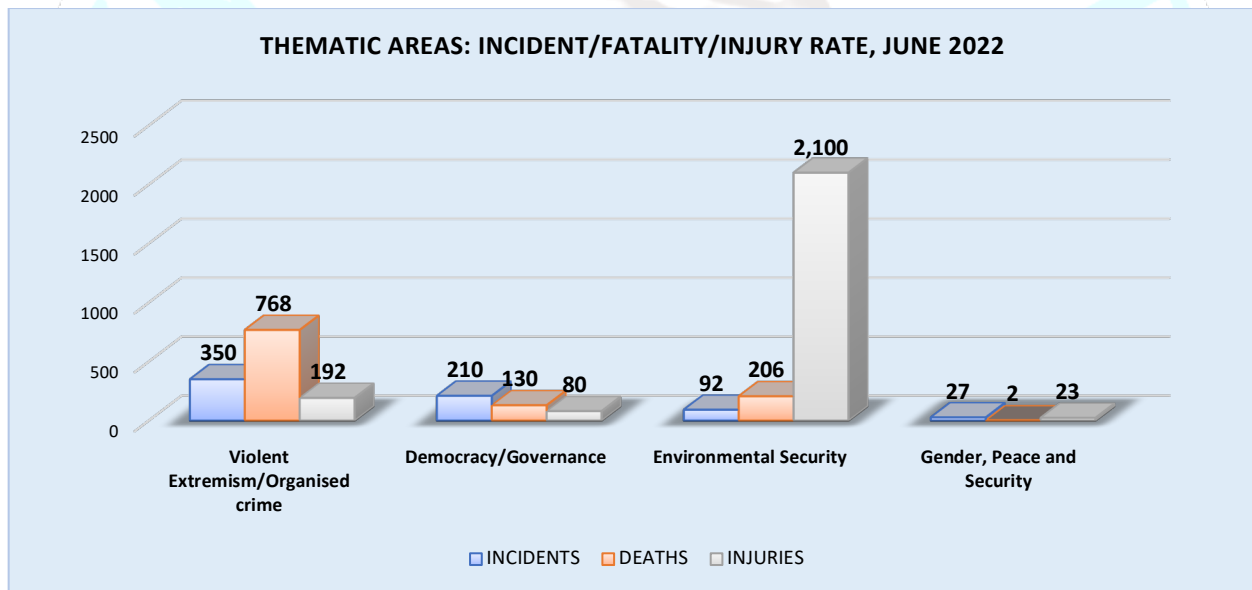


I. INTRODUCTION

As of June 2022, 679 incidents were recorded in the *Monthly Conflict Census* from the WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS).¹ A cumulative fatality of 1,106 and 2,395 injuries/infected cases emanating from criminal attacks, road accidents and incidents of environmental security including COVID-19, Lassa Fever, Cerebrospinal Meningitis (CSM) and Monkey Pox were recorded in June 2022².

As shown in the thematic graph below, Violent Extremism and Organised Crime recorded a total fatality of 768 people, accounting for the highest fatality of the total number of fatalities (1,106) in the reporting period, while Environmental Security theme recorded 206 deaths³. Also, Democracy and Governance theme recorded 130 deaths and Gender, Peace and Security thematic area recorded 2 (two) fatalities in the reporting period.⁴ (see annex for the monthly census).



Source: WANEP-NEWS⁵.

The *Monthly Bulletin* presents an analysis of the security challenges identified from monitoring trends of incidents through the WANEP NEWS and the mass media. It also offers recommendations for stakeholders' interventions and mitigation.

2. ORGANISED CRIME AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM

The recurrent terrorist attacks in the North-East of Nigeria continue to aggravate insecurity in rural communities of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe States. However, in addition to the ongoing

¹ Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

⁵ Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

counter-offensive operations by the Nigerian Military to mitigate the threat, the Borno State Government has sustained its efforts towards the relocation and resettlement of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) to their original abode. In the reporting period, the Borno State Government had registered and profiled 22,863 IDP households across Dalori 1, Dalori 2 and Gubio Road camps in Maiduguri LGA of the State for relocation/resettlement⁶. This notwithstanding, most IDPs and humanitarian agencies have raised concerns of terrorist attacks in some LGAs of the State.

In the reporting month, attacks by terrorist groups in Kaga, Dikwa, Bama, Konduga, Monguno, Mafa and Askira-Uba LGAs of Borno State resulted in the death of at least 83 people including 11 military personnel and 2 members of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) with 10 people abducted as recorded in the WANEP NEWS⁷. Also, among the recorded fatalities were scrap metal collectors in Dikwa and Bama LGAs of Borno State. The intensified rival clash between terrorist groups (Boko Haram and ISWAP), and the security clearance operations of the Nigeria Military in the North-East resulted in the displacement of over 4,770 terrorists and their families including 1,415 females, 2,490 children and 864 males surrendering in the month⁸. As recorded in WANEP NEWS, over 92 suspected Boko Haram/ISWAP terrorists were also killed, 12 abducted farmers rescued with arms and ammunition recovered during security clearance operations in Borno State.

Multiple threats emanating from **organised crimes** including kidnapping, human/drug/arms trafficking, farmer/herder crisis, armed banditry, amongst other crimes, contributes to the heightened insecurity in the country. An additional security concern is the reliance on mob justice by communities as an alternative to the interventions of security agencies and the judiciary. This concern has been attributed to the increasing levels of mistrust in security agencies and the perceived delay in the dispensation of justice for perpetrators of violence. In the reporting month, 593 deaths (34 females, 21 children and 72 security personnel) and 189 injuries were recorded in WANEP NEWS⁹. Out of the total casualties under **Organised Crime** theme, **shoot-outs between security operatives and criminal gangs** resulted in the death of 132 criminal suspects in Benue, Anambra, Delta, Kaduna, Osun, Zamfara, Katsina, Kogi, Edo, Plateau, Ebonyi and Niger States¹⁰.

Zamfara State Government has issued directives to community residents to obtain firearms for self-defence due to the heightened armed violence by bandits in communities¹¹. Compliance to this directive has the potential to create a demand that could fuel proliferation and availability of firearms in the communities. This could further compound the risk of violence escalation, increase casualties and internal displacement of the population. The directives to the State Police Command to issue firearms license to qualified residents in Zamfara State further contradicts the existing embargo on the issuance of firearms licenses put in place by President

⁶ <https://reliefweb.int/report/nigeria/nigeria-situation-report-borno-adamawa-and-yobe-states-no21-30-june-2022>

⁷ Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

⁸ <https://dailytrust.com/4770-terrorists-surrender-in-2-weeks-dhq>

⁹ Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

¹⁰ ibid

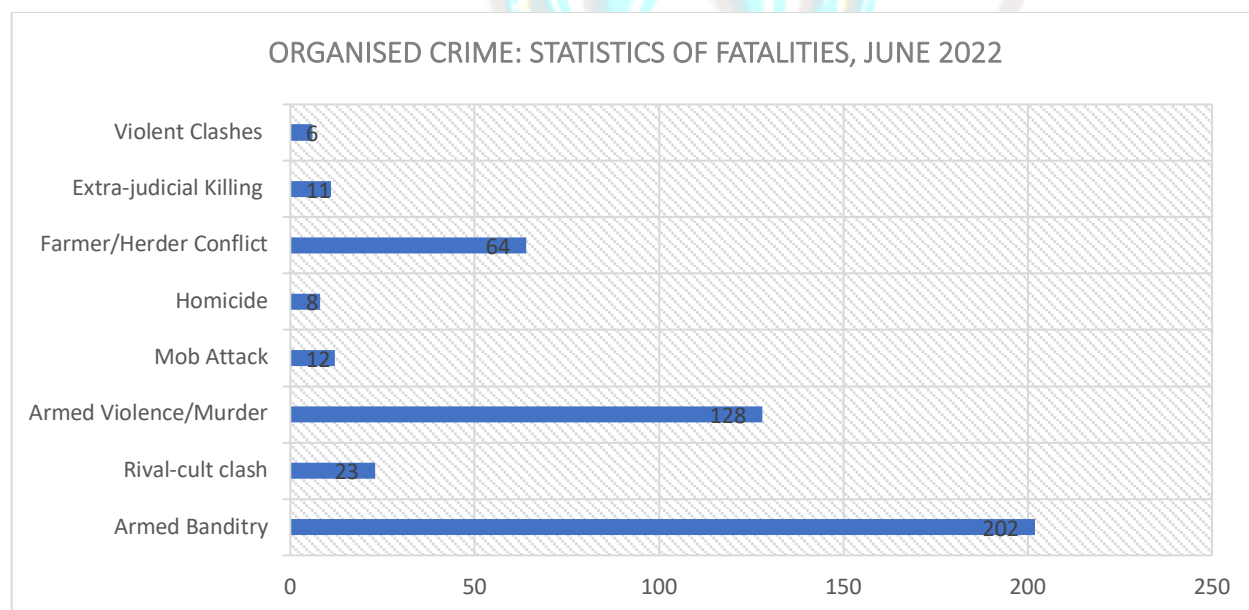
¹¹ <https://dailypost.ng/2022/06/26/zamfara-banditry-gov-matawalle-directs-residents-to-obtain-guns-for-self-defense/>

Muhammadu Buhari in May 2019¹². Moreover, the directive on the acquisition of weapons also reveals weak capacity of law enforcement agencies to provide local security in the communities, thus creating opportunities for non-state armed groups to gain control of affected communities, further exposing locals particularly youths to the risk of radicalization and recruitment by bandits and other criminal groups.

The protracted armed bandits' violence also led to the closure of 19 public primary schools in Kankara LGA of Katsina State, with atleast 9,113 pupils comprising of 4,819 boys and 4,294 girls and teachers affected¹³. According to the Katsina State Education Secretary, the ripple effect of the school closure has resulted in the congestion of classes in semi-urban areas in the LGA, thus affecting the quality of education available for the pupils¹⁴. Attacks by armed bandits in the month accounted for the highest fatality of 202 people in Sokoto, Kaduna, Zamfara, Katsina (North-West); Bauchi, Taraba (North-East), and Niger State in the North-Central.

Armed violence/murder ranked second with a fatality figure of 128¹⁵, while **farmers/ herders clash/premeditated attacks by armed herders** resulted in the death of 64 people with incidents of farmland encroachment recorded in Plateau and Abia States. Other internal recorded security challenges including **cult-related violence, mob attack, extrajudicial killing, culpable homicide and mob-attack** resulted in the death of 23, 12, 11 and 8 people respectively.

Below the graphical illustration of the statistics of fatalities recorded across incidents of organised crime in June 2022.



Source: WANEP-NEWS¹⁶.

¹² <https://guardian.ng/news/lawmakers-want-buhari-to-reverse-gun-ownership-ban/>

¹³ <https://leadership.ng/bandits-19-public-schools-shut-down-in-katsina-lga/>

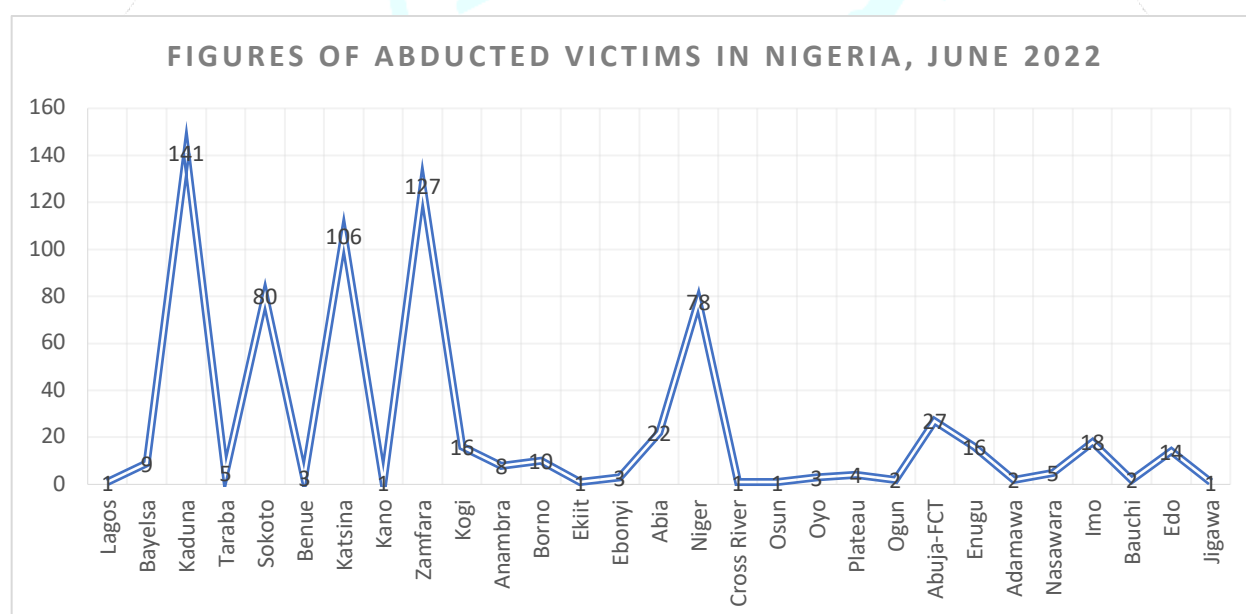
¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

Lingering disputes over resource control, particularly land, between communities has become worrisome considering the huge humanitarian consequences of fatalities, displacement and destruction of the source of socio-economic livelihoods. Moreover, the lack of justice following years of inter/intra communal violence in States may likely accentuate the cycle of violence and reprisal killings in the affected communities. The reporting period recorded 84 deaths in Gombe, Cross River, Adamawa, and Kogi States¹⁷.

Kidnapping for ransom and ritual killings also remains rampant across States in Nigeria. In the reporting period, WANEP NEWS recorded 90 incidents of kidnapping across 29 States with at least 707 persons abducted including 65 females, 6 children and 3 police officers¹⁸. The figure represents an increase compared to the 328 victims abducted in May 2022. The graph below highlights the statistics of kidnapped victims across the affected States in the reporting period.



Source: WANEP-NEWS¹⁹.

The month of June 2022 recorded 132 incidents of arrest across States according to WANEP NEWS.³⁰ The arrest cuts across incidents of armed violence, extrajudicial killings, homicide, sexual and gender based violence (SGBV), cyber-crime, armed robbery, kidnapping, human trafficking, drug trafficking, public demonstrations, riots, amongst others crimes.

3. DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE:

In preparation towards the 2023 general elections in the country, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has launched a reviewed version of the regulations and guidelines for the conduct of elections. This, in addition to the Nigerian Constitution and the amended Electoral Act, 2022, constitutes the electoral legal framework²⁰. Also, in a bid to ensure the

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news

¹⁹ Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

²⁰ <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/534667-2023-inec-releases-guidelines-for-conduct-of-elections.html>

safety of INEC officials, INEC shut down operations in Idemili North, Nnewi South, Ogbaru and Ayamelum Local Government Areas (LGA) of Anambra State,²¹ following incessant attacks by ‘unknown gunmen’ and secessionist agitators during the ongoing Continuous Voters Registration (CVR) exercise in the State. This may likely influence the turnout of voters during elections across the affected LGAs in the State.

As part of its institutional mandate, INEC, has continued to create awareness around voter education in the country. International Development Partners, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), religious/traditional institutions, media, as well as political parties also engaged in voter outreach activities targeted at increasing voter awareness and turnout ahead of the 2023 election. According to INEC on the Continuous Voters Registration (CVR) exercise, 10,487,972 million new registrations had been recorded, while 8,631,696 registrations have been completed as of June 27, 2022²². Thus, an estimated 11 million voters have been added to the country’s voters list which stood at 84 million in 2019²³. Another major factor attributed for the surge can be linked to increased citizen’s interest in the political process and the need to exercise their constitutional rights in changing the leadership narrative and ensuring good governance in the country through their votes.

The WANEP NEWS recorded 27 incidents of public demonstration, out of which 2 resulted in violence in Nasarawa and Enugu²⁴. In Enugu State, several houses were set ablaze by community youths in protest over the killing of a male resident by members of the local vigilante group, while 2 people were reported dead during a demolition exercise in Nasarawa State that deteriorated into violence²⁵.

Other recorded peaceful demonstrations were targetted against the rising cult-related killings in Ogun State; unpaid salaries of street sweepers engaged by the Gombe State Environmental Protection Agency (GOSEPA) in Gombe State²⁶; removal of Obingwa Council Chairman over alleged non-performance in Abia State; lack of water in school hostels and poor power supply at the Federal Polytechnic in Offa, Kwara State; and the delay in the payment of compensation promised to members of shop owners association in Osun State, amongst others²⁷.

The month recorded a number of institutions’ workforce crisis that led to strikes due to several months’ salaries owed, poor welfare and cases of assault on health workers. The perceived delay in interventions by the Federal and State Governments also played contributory roles to inciting internal crises in institutions as observed in the actions of the Colleges of Education Academic Staff Union (COEASU). The delay in Federal Governments’ implementation of agreements reached with COEASU including the non-release of 15 billion naira revitalization funds for the colleges resulted in the strike²⁸. Several other recorded industrial actions in the month include, that of the Parliamentary Staff Association of Nigeria (PASAN) over the non-

²¹ <https://dailytrust.com/insecurity-inec-shuts-operations-in-four-anambra-lgas>

²² <https://punchng.com/inec-registers-10-4-million-new-voters/>

²³ ibid

²⁴ Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

²⁵ ibid

²⁶ <https://dailytrust.com/street-sweepers-protest-non-payment-of-3-month-salaries-in-gombe>

²⁷ Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

²⁸ <https://tribuneonline.ng/coeasu-declares-four-week-nationwide-strike-over-ippis-n15bn-revitalisation-fund-others/>

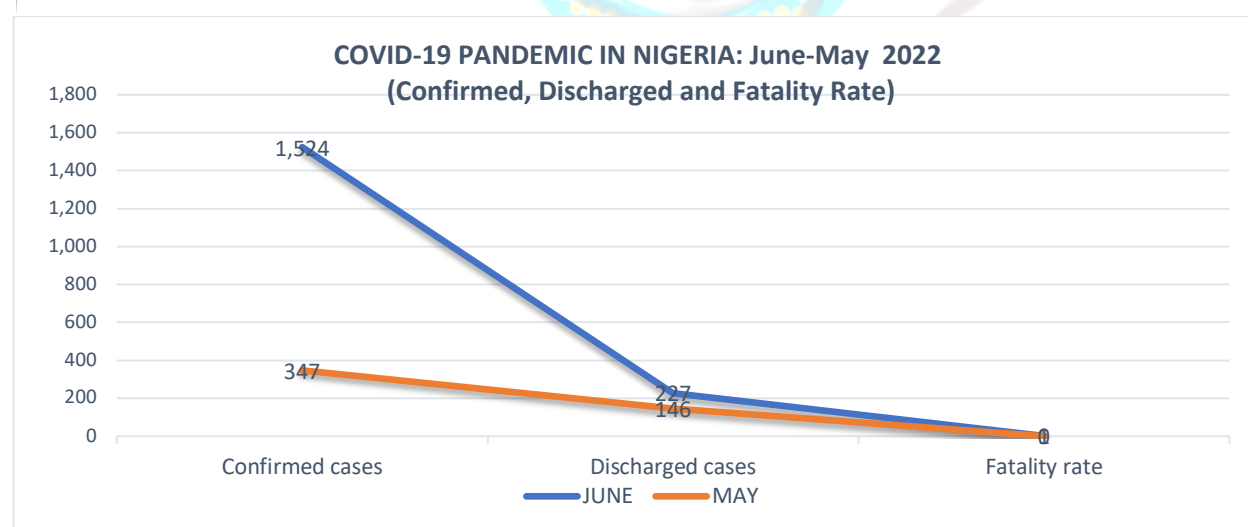
implementation of the revised condition of service by lawmakers²⁹; and the failure of the Ogun State Government to pay salary deductions for 21 months and the Statutory Leave Allowances of civil servants³⁰. Also, the Association of Resident Doctors of Obafemi Awolowo University Teaching Hospital in Osun State also embarked on a strike over an alleged assault involving a female doctor³¹.

The high rate of road accidents recorded in the month has been attributed to a number of factors including the deplorable condition of the roads, over speeding, fatigue, and failure to obey traffic signals, amongst others. The WANEP NEWS documented at least 118 deaths, while boat accidents resulted in the death of 8 people in Bayelsa State³².

4. ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY:

Incidents of flood/windstorm were recorded across States in the reporting period, however, its devastating impact led to 11 deaths and 24 injuries in Katsina, Jigawa, Imo, Ondo, Kano, Yobe and Anambra States. Several houses and farmlands were also affected in Delta, Cross-River, Enugu, Edo, Lagos and Yobe States as recorded in WANEP NEWS³³. As the rains persist, communities remain at risk of waterborne and water-related disease outbreaks.

Data compiled in the reporting month indicates an increase in the number of infected COVID-19 cases in June 2022 (1,524) compared to the 347 cases recorded in May 2022³⁴. Although no death was recorded in May 2022, the reporting month recorded 1 death. The graph below highlights the upward and downward trend of fatalities, infected, discharged COVID-19 cases in June 2022 compared to May 2022.



Source: WANEP-NEWS³⁵.

²⁹ <https://dailypost.ng/2022/06/06/national-assembly-shut-down-as-pasan-embarks-on-indefinite-strike/>

³⁰ <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/regional/south-west/539510-ogun-workers-declare-indefinite-strike.html>

³¹ <https://www.sunnewsonline.com/resident-doctors-at-oath-embark-on-two/>

³² Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

³³ ibid

³⁴ ncdc.gov.ng

³⁵ Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

The WANEP NEWS also recorded recurring cases of epidemics including Lassa Fever, Monkey Pox and Meningitis. Another major health concern emanated from cylinder chemical explosion at a scrap metal collection point in the Kano State in which 201 community residents were hospitalized after inhaling the toxic substance³⁶.

The table below highlights the statistics per health challenges in the month, as recorded in WANEP NEWS³⁷.

EPIDEMICS	Deaths	Confirmed Cases	Suspected Cases
Lassa Fever	5	27	333
Coronavirus (COVID-19)	1	1,524	227
Cerebrospinal Meningitis (CSM)	0	257	65
Monkey Pox³⁸	0	61	138

5. GENDER, PEACE AND SECURITY:

The WANEP NEWS recorded several cases of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), particularly rape in Jigawa, Lagos, Imo, Rivers, Borno, Akwa Ibom, Anambra, Abuja-FCT, Delta, Adamawa, Kwara and Ogun States. Out of the recorded incidents (19) in the States, 2 victims of rape were also murdered in Imo and Jigawa States³⁹.

The National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) has also expressed concerns over the rise in human trafficking cases in the country, however, the rate of internal trafficking (within communities and States) is higher than external trafficking (trans-border) with a ratio of 83/12 percent⁴⁰. In the reporting month, 46 victims of human trafficking were rescued in Kano, Anambra, Bayelsa and Delta States, as recorded in NEWS⁴¹.

Implications for Peace and Security in Nigeria

The increasing armed violence across the country has generated concerns among critical stakeholders, as President Muhammadu Buhari's administration is accused of incompetence with regards to mitigating criminality. Currently, some communities in the northern region are inaccessible due to the recurring threats of terrorists and armed bandits. Likewise, some communities in the South-East have encountered similar fate of insecurity from secessionist groups. Earlier in the year, INEC had expressed doubts about the conduct of free and fair elections in 2023 due to insecurity in many parts of the country. Although, the country has witnessed an increase in voters registration as indicated earlier under the 'Democracy and Governance theme', rising insecurity has potential to affect participation during the polls. The persisting insecurity could also pose a threat to INEC's preparedness to conduct credible elections. Additionally, the ongoing power tussle by major political parties to win the general

³⁶ <https://punchng.com/201-hospitalised-after-inhaling-chemical-from-cylinder-in-kano/>

³⁷ Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

³⁸ <https://dailytrust.com/ncdc-confirms-66-suspected-monkeypox-cases-1-death/>; Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

³⁹ www.ncdc.gov.ng

⁴⁰ www.wanep.org/news/

⁴¹ <https://dailypost.ng/2022/06/24/human-trafficking-in-nigeria-increasing-naptip/>

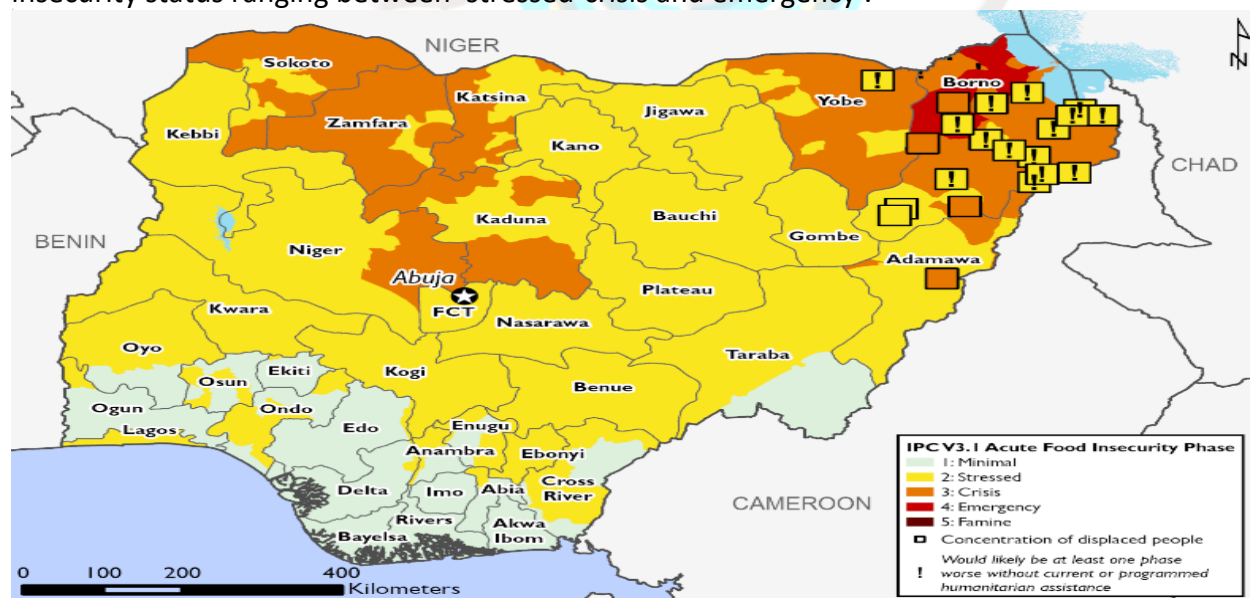
⁴¹ www.wanep.org/news/

election could potentially heighten tensions to further compound the state of insecurity in the country.

Furthermore, heightened insecurity in the country continues to have a negative impact on the education of young people in the affected communities and further exposes women and children to the risk of radicalization, sexual exploitations including early marriage, defilement and rape. In some instances, as reflected above, 9,113 pupils comprising of 4,819 boys and 4,294 girls and teachers were displaced from 19 public primary schools due to armed attacks in Katsina State.

Apart from the loss of lives and internal displacement, the protracted armed violence/conflict in the country continues to have adverse effects on the economy, further hampering delivery of humanitarian services and social services especially healthcare. The likelihood of attacks in vulnerable communities has further hampered agricultural activities due to fear of attacks. This in turn affects household income generated by populations. In addition, the continuous increase in fuel prices has also led to increased transportation costs with pressure on market prices. These economic pressures further exacerbates poverty and economic inequality, triggering significant tensions and potential conflicts in communities.

According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) on the current food security situation in June 2022, the prevalence of armed conflicts in States of the North-West, North-East and North-Central disrupted agricultural and trading activities with the food insecurity status ranging between 'stressed-crisis and emergency'.



CURRENT FOOD SECURITY OUTCOMES, JUNE 2022 (SOURCE:FEWS NET)⁴²

Besides, the security landscape also continues to deteriorate with the increasing flux of undocumented migrants through the country's porous borders from neighbouring West African

⁴² <https://reliefweb.int/report/nigeria/nigeria-food-security-outlook-june-2022-january-2023>

countries. Although security officials are alleged to be complicit of this crime, the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) has decried the inadequacy within its workforce to secure the nations' borderlines. Current statistics by the NIS reveal that Nigeria has an estimated 1,490 illegal entry points into the country covering 5,330 kilometers⁴³. The porosity of the borders remain a significant threat and may likely undermine the credibility of elections following allegations that foreigners are in possession of the Permanent Voters' Cards (PVC).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

In view of the human security threats and the analysis highlighted, the following recommendations are proposed for response and mitigation by stakeholders:

- The Federal and State Governments should continue to strengthen the capacity of security agencies and increase security presence in vulnerable communities. This should be linked to increased collaboration with Local Government authorities to strengthen community policing to support security in local communities;
- The State and Local Governments in collaboration with the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and other humanitarian agencies should increase support for flood/conflict affected victims, especially displaced persons in terms of access to health, psychosocial and livelihoods assistance to rebuild their lives.
- It is also imperative for the State and Local Governments in partnership with the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) to strengthen collaboration with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), mass media, traditional and faith-based organisations to increase public health, safety and hygiene awareness to mitigate the recurring outbreak of epidemics – Meningitis, Lassa Fever and Monkey Pox.

CONCLUSION:

As the country contends with increased insecurity amid preparation towards 2023 elections, the need to strengthn collaboration among critical stakeholders to enhance peace and security in the country is crucial. This is not only critical to ensure safety and protection of populations, but also create conducive climate for effective preparation to ensure credible and participatory elections that will contribute in enhancing democratic stability in Nigeria.

CENSUS OF INCIDENTS FOR JUNE 2022

THEMATIC AREA	NO of Attacks.	VICTIMS	
		DEATHS	INJURIES
VIOLENT EXTREMISM: Boko Haram/ISWAP attacks/ Counter-Terrorist Attacks	22	- 83 civilians/security officials	3

⁴³ <https://www.channelstv.com/2022/05/24/immigration-decries-inability-to-effectively-man-borderlines-1490-illegal-entry-points/>

		- 92 suspected ISWAP/Boko Haram members	
ORGANISED CRIME: (Armed-robbery, assassination, armed violence, armed bandits, mob attack, arson and cult/gang clash)	141	365	160
Armed Action/Shoot-out between security operatives and members of criminal gangs	24	132	1
Abduction (evident across 29 States)	90	-	-
Cybercrime/Fraud	10	-	-
Extra-Judicial killing/shooting/Accidental Discharge	11	11	2
Physical/Armed Assault	14	2	20
Farmer-Herder Conflict	9	64	2
Violent Clash			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Task Force and Commercial Motorcycle Riders in Lagos State Officials of the State Police Command and Commercial transporters in Lagos State. Members of IPOB and other criminal gangs in Anambra State. Operatives of the Nigerian Military and Police in Bayelsa State. 	4	6	2
Drug Trafficking	10	-	-
Homicide	10	8	2
Suicide	5	5	-
<u>DEMOCRACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE:</u>			
Demonstration (peaceful)	25	-	-
Demonstration (violent)	2	2	-
Intimidation and Threats	6	-	-
Industrial Strike Action	8	-	-
Arrest/Detention	132	-	-
Road Accident	32	112	75
Building Collapse in Lagos and Ebonyi States	3	1	1
Boat Accident in Bayelsa State	2	15	4
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY:</u>			
Communal conflict	9	84	4

Rainstorm/Flood	13	11	24
Drowning in Lagos State	1	3	-
Inhalation of expired chemical (Kano State)	1	-	201
<u>Pandemic/Epidemics:</u>			<u>Confirmed/Infected cases</u>
a. Coronavirus (COVID-19)	1	1	COVID: 1,524
b. Lassa Fever	1	5	Lassa Fever: 27
c. Monkey Pox	1	0	Monkey Pox: 61
d. Meningitis (Jigawa State)	1	65	Meningitis: 257
<u>Plant Disease:</u>			
a. Locusts/Swarm Birds in Sokoto, Kebbi and Zamfara State	3	-	-
Fire Outbreak	57	31	-
Tanker Explosion	4	6	2

Through its National Early Warning System (NEWS), the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP- Nigeria) develops and disseminates a monthly bulletin on Human Security at the end of each month to inform the different actors and / or partners and formulates recommendations to different decision-makers for targeted responses to the given alerts. This monthly monitoring is based on information gathered from the field by the WANEP-NIGERIA field monitors, and also information gathered from the various national and international media.

27, Adeniji Street, Adeniji Estate, off WEMPCO Road, Ogba Lagos State, Tel : +2348062072468 ; Website : www.wanepnigeria.org

<u>GENDER, PEACE AND SECURITY:</u>			
Sexual Assault/Rape	19	2	17
Child Abuse	4	-	6
Human Trafficking	4	-	-
Total	679	1,106	2,395