# **NEW\$ MONTHLY BULLETIN- (WANEP-NIGERIA)**

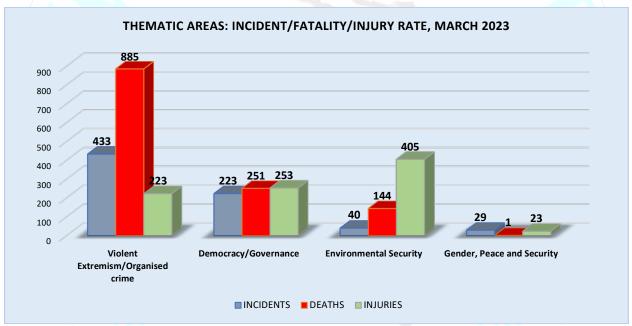


(MARCH, 2023)

#### I. INTRODUCTION

As of March 2023, 725 incidents were recorded in the *Monthly Conflict Census* from the WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS). <sup>1</sup> A cumulative fatality of 1,281 and 904 injuries/infected cases emanating from criminal attacks including election-related violence, road accidents; and environmental security related incidents such as Lassa Fever, Cerebrospinal Meningitis (CSM), Diptheria and COVID-19 were recorded in March 2023<sup>2</sup>.

As shown in the thematic graph below, Violent Extremism and Organised Crime recorded a total fatality of 885, accounting for the highest of the total number of fatalities (1,281) recorded in the reporting period, while Democracy and Governance theme recorded 251 deaths<sup>3</sup>. Also, Environmental Security theme recorded 144 deaths while the Gender, Peace and Security thematic area recorded one fatality in the reporting period.<sup>4</sup> (see annex for the monthly census).



Source: WANEP-NEWS<sup>5</sup>.

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 continued violence of Boko Haram and ISWAP terrorists remain pervasive in Nigeria's North-East region, with Borno State largely prone to violent attacks. In the reporting month, the

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 1}\,{\rm Source}\colon{\rm WANEP}$  National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

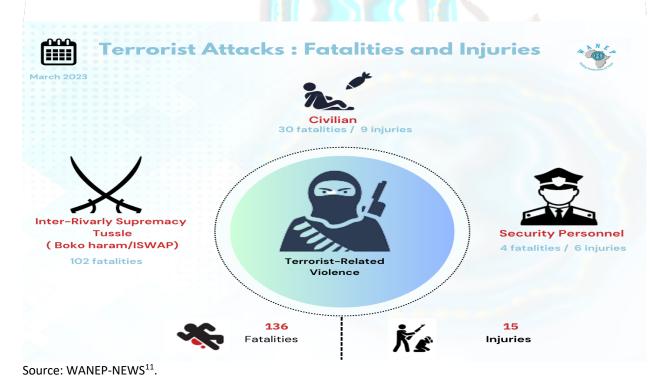
<sup>5</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

WANEP NEWS recorded 24 incidents of terrorist-related violence in Ngala, Magumeri, Mafa, Dikwa, Biu, Bama and Konduga Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Borno State<sup>6</sup>. These incidents resulted in the fatality of 136. Out of the 136 deaths, 34 people including 30 fishermen and 4 security personnel were murdered, while the supremacy tussle between Boko Haram and ISWAP terrorists resulted in the cumulative fatality of 102 terrorists<sup>7</sup>.

Also, the threat and subsequent attacks on the fishermen by terrorists in Ngala LGA is similar to that meted on farmers and wood loggers in the North-East, whom terrorists have continuously labelled as spies for security agencies.

In the first quarter of 2023, terrorist insurgencies accounted for the fatality of 36 civilians and security personnel as recorded in WANEP NEWS. 8 As the year progresses, there may likely be a further reduction in the frequency of terrorist attacks and civilian fatalities. This projection of decline is attributed to the ongoing counter-offensive security operations of the Nigerian Army and the internal rivalry between Boko Haram and ISWAP, amongst others, which has consistently resulted in the surrender of terrorists in the North-East.

Moreover, there has been a considerable decline in the frequency of terrorist insurgencies and related fatalites between 2021 to 2022. As stated by the Institute of Economic and Peace (IEP), in its 'Terrorism Index', Nigeria recorded a decrease in fatality rate per annum from 497 in year 2021 to 385 in 20229. Also, there has been a steady decline in the frequency rate from 214 incidents recorded in 2021 to 120 in 2022<sup>10</sup>.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

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

<sup>7</sup> ibid

https://www.vanguardngr.com/2023/04/terror-decline-not-yet-uhuru/; https://areteafrica.com/2023/04/05/terrorism-in-nigeria/

phttps://www.vanguardngr.com/2023/04/terror-decline-not-yet-uhuru/; https://areteafrica.com/2023/04/05/terrorism-in-nigeria/

<sup>11</sup> Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

The successes attained in the ongoing security clearance operations in the North-East, include the commitments of the Nigerian Government in rebuilding communities devastated by terrorism and the repatriation of displaced Nigerians in neighbouring countries of Chad, Cameroon and Niger Republic to their ancestral homes<sup>12</sup>. The WANEP NEWS documented 194 terrorist fatalities with 190 abducted civilians rescued during security operations in Borno and Yobe States. 13 Also, over 1,506 terrrorists and their families (154 males/, 514 females, /838 children) surrendered to the Nigerian Army with several terrorists and their logistics suppliers arrested in the reporting period<sup>14</sup>.

The prevailing internal security threats caused by the activities of armed banditry, kidnapping, herder-farmer conflicts, separarist agitation, proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs) and other forms of Organised Crimes by non-state armed groups, constitutes a major risk to human and food security across the country. The WANEP NEWS recorded incidents of election-related violence, assassination, cult violence, banditry, farmer-herder violence, kidnapping, homicide, drug trafficking, mob violence, armed assaults, and extrajudicial killings, amongst other crimes in the month<sup>15</sup>. These armed violence incidents resulted in the death of 573 people<sup>16</sup>. Out of the total recorded fatalities (573), 22 were females, 11 children and 21 security personnel. Also, out of the 573 fatalities, 64 were members of the local vigilante group providing local security in the rural communities of Kaduna, Niger and Zamfara States. 17

Armed banditry accounted for the highest fatality of 178 out of the total recorded fatalities (573) in Kaduna, Zamfara, Katsina, Sokoto, Zamfara and Niger States 18 while farmer-herder violence/attacks by militia armed herders resulted in the second highest fatality of 108 in the month<sup>19</sup>. Additionally, armed violence (including assassination, robbery) emanating from criminal gangs recorded the third highest fatality of 68 with election-related violence accounting for 62 deaths. Other recorded armed violence incidents including extrajudicial killings and accidental airstrikes perpetrated by security personnel, cult violence, homicide and mob attacks led to the death of 25, 24, 16 and 6 people respectively<sup>20</sup>. More so, the ongoing counter offensive operations against non-state armed groups resulted in 64 fatalities and several injuries in Katsina, Kaduna, Bauchi, Ebonyi, Delta, Zamfara, Delta, Enugu, Sokoto, Niger and Edo States, amongst others.

Below the graphical representation of armed violence incidents and fatalities recorded by WANEP NEWS in March 2023.

<sup>12</sup> https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2023/04/01/fg-moves-to-bring-home-displaced-nigerians-in-chad-niger-cameroon/

<sup>13</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/; https://punchng.com/1506-terrorists-surrendered-in-two-weeks-dhq/

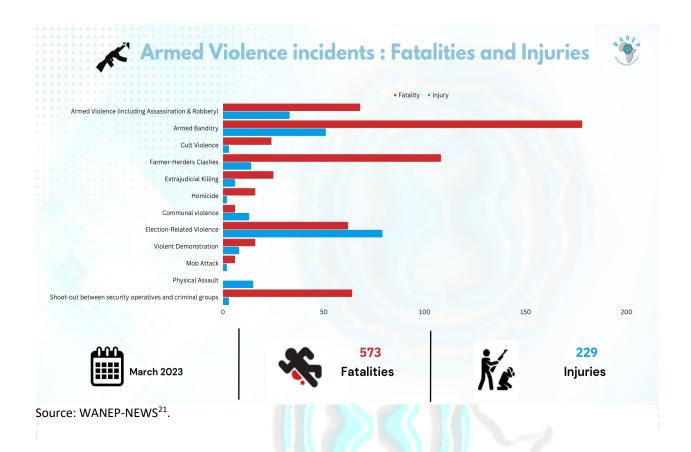
<sup>14</sup> https://punchng.com/1506-terrorists-surrendered-in-two-weeks-dhq/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/



The recurrent violence embedded in rivalry over land and other irreconcilable communal differences has overtime strained inter-group relations, destroyed sources of social and economic livelihoods with records of casualties. The WANEP NEWS recorded incidents of violent clashes between community youths of Obi and Otukpo LGAs of Benue State over electricity supply resulting in 3 deaths<sup>22</sup>; while skirmishes over land in Ebonyi LGA of Ebonyi State led to the injury of 11 people with over 300 community residents internally displaced<sup>23</sup>. Other recorded violent clashes between suspected hoodlums, traders and police operatives in Lagos, Kwara and Plateau States led to the death of 3 people with several people injured in the reporting period<sup>24</sup>.

The menace of kidnapping remains significantly evident across the States of Nigeria, further creating social tension among the citizenry and heightening insecurity. The reporting period recorded a total of 70 kidnapping incidents across 21 States in Nigeria<sup>25</sup>. This accounted for the kidnap of 478 people including over 34 females and 15 children, as recorded in the WANEP NEWS<sup>26</sup>.

The graph below illustrates the statistics of kidnapped victims per affected State in March 2023.

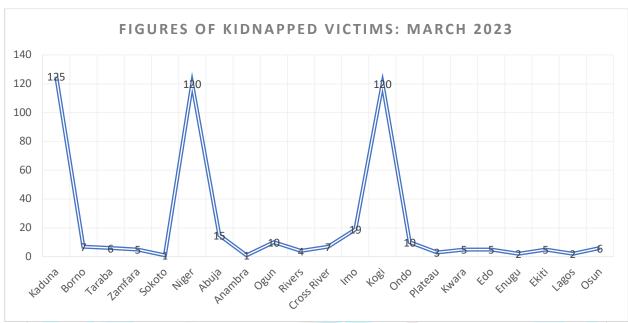
 $<sup>^{21}\,\</sup>mbox{Source}$  : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> https://www.vanguardngr.com/2023/03/deploy-security-to-stop-carnage-in-obi-otukpo-communities-benue-govt-urged/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> https://www.vanguardngr.com/2023/04/land-dispute-over-43-houses-destroyed-300-displaced-as-over-50-thugs-invade-ebonyi-community/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

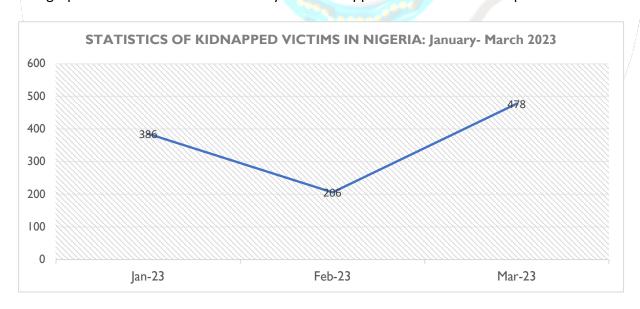
 $<sup>^{26}</sup>$  Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/  $\,$ 



Source: WANEP-NEWS<sup>27</sup>

However, the first quarter of 2023 recorded an upward and downward trend in the statistics of kidnapped victims. A total of 187 kidnapping incidents were recorded between January and March 2023 accounting for a total of 1,070 kidnapped victims<sup>28</sup>. Out of the 1,070 documented kidnapped victims by WANEP NEWS in the quarter, over 145 were females and 61 children.

The graph below reveals the trend analysis of kidnapped victims in the first quarter of 2023.



Source: WANEP-NEWS<sup>29</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

The NEWS also recorded over 114 incidents of arrest across the States of Nigeria in the period<sup>30</sup>. The arrest cuts across several cases of election-related violence, fraud, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), robbery, kidnapping, human/drug trafficking, cult/gang violence, violent demonstration, armed banditry, cattle rustling, homicide, communal clashes, terrorism, amongst other crime.

#### 3. DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE:

The integrity of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in the conduct of the 2023 general elections has constantly been called to scrutiny with public demonstrations and press conferences organized by political parties, Civil Society Organisations (CSO) and other critical stakeholders over issues of electoral anomalies. These recurrent demonstrations as evidenced in the month has the potential to undermine the political legitimacy of elected officials with potential consequences on the peace and political stability of Nigeria.

Although the conduct of the 2023 general elections at the State-levels (Governorship and State Assembly), was relatively peaceful, there were incidents of organized violence, voters' intimidation, physical assaults, vote-buying, hijack/destruction of electoral materials and kidnapping, aimed at influencing the outcome of the elections. In the reporting month, the WANEP NEWS recorded 101 incidents of election-related violence, which accounted for the fatality of 62 people with over 79 injuries in Anambra, Osun, Bauchi, Plateau, Kaduna, Delta, Oyo, Lagos, Benue, Ondo, Ebonyi, Rivers, Cross River, Ogun, Kano, Enugu, Kogi, Zamfara, Nasarawa, Akwa-Ibom, Niger, Katsina, Sokoto and Gombe States.

Additionally, out of the 478 kidnapped victims recorded above by WANEP NEWS, 136 were politically motivated in Rivers, Cross River, Kaduna, Zamfara, Imo and Kogi States during the electioneering period<sup>31</sup>. Again, out of the 136 kidnapped victims, 127 INEC staffs and ad-hoc personnel were either declared missing and/or kidnapped in Imo, Kaduna, Kogi and Zamfara States during the Governorship and State Assembly elections<sup>32</sup>.

The continued demonstrations by members of the Islamic Movement of Nigeria (IMN) and the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) constitute a critical human security concern. The latter (IPOB) has constantly protested against the continued detention of the IPOB leader, Nnamdi Kanu, by the Nigerian Government<sup>33</sup>, while the former (IMN) demands for the release of the travel documents/passport of their leader, Sheikh Ibraheem El-Zakzaky<sup>34</sup>. However, the demonstrations deteriorated into violent clashes with security operatives resulting in the death of 16 people and 8 injuries in Kaduna, FCT-Abuja and Abia States. The IMN accounted for 6 deaths and 8 injured victims in Kaduna and FCT-Abuja, while IPOB recorded 10 fatalities in Abia State.<sup>35</sup>

In reaction, the IPOB issued a contrary report of mass extrajudicial killings by security operatives in Abia State with 50 protesters killed and their bodies unaccounted for, while over 100 people have been declared missing with about 30 others sustaining gunshot injuries<sup>36</sup>.

<sup>30</sup> Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>31</sup> ibid

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

<sup>33</sup> https://saharareporters.com/2023/04/02/ipob-condemns-killing-protesting-members-abia-threatens-retaliation-against-nigerian

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/ <sup>35</sup>Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

 <sup>35</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/
 36 https://saharareporters.com/2023/04/02/ipob-condemns-killing-protesting-members-abia-threatens-retaliation-against-nigerian

Amid these allegations of human rights abuses perpetrated by security agencies, the continuous protest by the IMN and IPOB has the capacity to heighten tension, create chaos and public disorder, which may further strain social cohesion.

The WANEP NEWS recorded 44 public demonstrations, out of which three (3) degenerated into violence as highlighted above in FCT-Abuja, Kaduna and Abia States<sup>37</sup>. Moreover, out of the 41 recorded peaceful demonstrations, 24 were election-related in Edo, Sokoto, FCT-Abuja, Lagos, Rivers, Bauchi, Ogun, Kaduna, Kano and Nasarawa States<sup>38</sup>.

Other recorded peaceful demonstrations in the month include; protest over the murder and kidnap of community residents by unidentified armed gangs in Oyo, Ebonyi and Anambra States<sup>39</sup>; extrajudicial killings by local vigilantes and members of the State Task Force in Anambra and Rivers States; non-payment of six-month allowances to Niger-Delta ex-militants in FCT-Abuja; and protest by communities over the frequent pipeline leakages in Delta State.<sup>40</sup> The increased levies for commercial drivers by State Governments also generated series of demonstrations in Edo and Lagos States. 41

Road Accidents are commonplace due to a number of factors ranging from distracted driving, over-speeding, violation of traffic signals, brake failures and bad roads, amongst others. The month of March 2023 recorded over 234 deaths and 245 injuries<sup>42</sup>.

The recurrence in building collapses poses a serious concern to public safety and urban development. Albeit the inadequacies of regulatory bodies to effectively monitor compliance with construction principles and prosecution of violators has been attributed to the persistent breach in building standards by contractors in the country. In the reporting period, 2 incidents of building collapse were recorded with no human casualty in Imo State. 43

## 4. ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY:

The WANEP NEWS continues to monitor outbreaks of epidemics in the country, as the reporting month of March recorded cases of Lassa Fever, Cholera, Diptheria and Cerebro Spinal Meningitis (CSM) across States. Although no COVID-19 related deaths in the period, 5 confirmed COVID-19 cases were reported in Rivers and Lagos States. 44 Moreover, as of March 29, 2023, a total of 71,183,637 people have been fully vaccinated<sup>45</sup>. According to the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC), Cerebro Spinal Meningitis (CSM) was recorded across 79 LGAs in 22 States mainly in the North-West and North-East with records of fatalities (23) reported in Yobe and Jigawa States in the month<sup>46</sup>.

The table below highlights the statistics of epidemic-related deaths in Nigeria.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>39</sup> https://www.vanguardngr.com/2023/03/over-100-women-protest-murder-of-traditional-ruler-in-ebonyi-2/; https://leadership.ng/anambra-women-protest-rape-murder-of-72-year-old-woman/

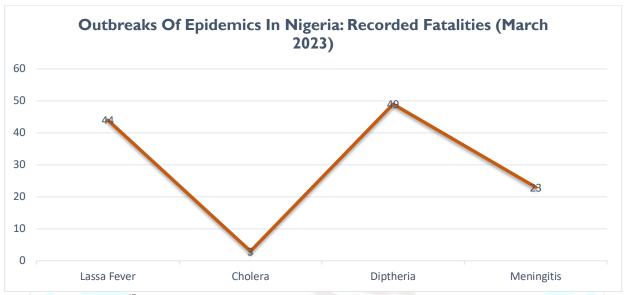
https://punchng.com/delta-communities-protest-pipeline-leakages-pollution-give-ultimatum/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Source : WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS) : www.wanep.org/news,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>44</sup> https://covid19.ncdc.gov.ng/

<sup>46</sup> https://www.premiumtimesng.com/health/594658-meningitis-nigeria-records-235-cases-118-deaths-in-six-months.html



Source: WANEP-NEWS<sup>47</sup>

While low vaccination coverage in some rural communities have been attributed to the increasing levels of disease transmission, particularly diptheria and meningitis, others including Cholera and Lassa Fever have been linked to poor environmental sanitation. To mitigate the spread of the epidemics, the NCDC and State health agencies have commenced efforts to improve surveillance and response to the outbreak.

In addition to the aforementioned environmental security threats in the month, the WANEP NEWS recorded rainstorm incidents in Ekiti, Kwara, Ondo, Kogi and Lagos States with several structures damaged and several persons injured in Kogi State<sup>48</sup>.

## **5. GENDER, PEACE AND SECURITY:**

The reporting month recorded 25 incidents of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), particularly rape in Adamawa, Nasarawa, Osun, Ondo, Gombe, Lagos, Oyo, Ogun, Anambra, FCT-Abuja, Benue, Kogi and Kaduna States<sup>49</sup>. Out of the 25 documented incidents, one (1) female was raped and murdered in Ondo State with an undisclosed number of women raped during an armed violence in Benue State<sup>50</sup>. Meanwhile, the outcome of a survey conducted by a Civil Society Organisation (CSO) between January and November 2022 on state-level mechanisms for prevention and response of SGBV cases in Nigeria, revealed that Zamfara, Niger, Ogun, Ondo and Taraba States ranked lowest in the prosecution of SGBV cases in the country<sup>51</sup>. The low ranking was attributed to several factors including the delay in the execution of justice for SGBV survivors, inadequate budgetary allocation and poor investment infrastructures for SGBV prevention and response by State Governents. Nevertheless, across

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/ <sup>48</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>49</sup> ibid

 $<sup>^{51}\,</sup>https://www.thecable.ng/report-zamfara-niger-ogun-five-states-with-lowest-criminal-prosecution-of-sgbv-cases and the control of the c$ 

the 36 States of Nigeria including the FCT-Abuja, the States of Adamawa, Ekiti, Kogi, Kwara and Lagos ranked topmost with the higest rate of prosecution of SGBV perpetrators<sup>52</sup>.

The commitments of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) in stemming human trafficking in the country in collaboration with security agencies led to the arrest of suspected human traffickers and rescue of underaged children in Imo, Sokoto, FCT-Abuja and Enugu States as documented in WANEP NEWS in the month<sup>53</sup>.

## Implications for Peace and Security in Nigeria

The 2023 general elections was replete with a decline in voters' turnout as observed during the presidential, governorship and legislative elections with about 24.9 million voters out of the 93.47 million people who registered to vote.<sup>54</sup> The statistics represents a decline compared to the 28,614,190 million voters' out of the 84,004,084 million people who registered to vote in the 2019 general election. 55 A broad reflection on the factors attributed to the low voters' turnout included INEC's poor performance in the use of technology, violence and intimidation<sup>56</sup>. The perceived citizens' dissatisfaction in the conduct of the 2023 election may likely hamper voters' confidence in future electoral processes, and impede on the significant progress made in democractic consolidation in Nigeria.

Added to the fragile socio-political landscape is the protracted violence and insecurity fuelled by the activities of non-state armed groups and the proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs) across the States of Nigeria. In March 2023, the WANEP NEWS recorded 401 armed violence incidents including kidnapping with recorded fatalities as highlighted above. The reporting period recorded an increase in armed violence incidents compared to the 364 incidents documented in February 2023<sup>57</sup>. The climate of fear emanating from the general insecurity across the six geo-political zones of Nigeria remains worrisome and has the potential to threaten social cohesion and national stability.

Moreover, the cycle of armed violence continues to compound humanitarian concerns with 25.3 million Nigerians projected to be at risk of hunger between June and August 2023<sup>58</sup>. This is a projected increase from the estimated 17 million people currently at risk of food insecurity in the volatile States of North-West, North-East, Niger and Benue States in the North-Central region<sup>59</sup>. Out of the 17 million, about 6 million children under age 5 in Borno, Adamawa, Yobe, Sokoto, Katsina and Zamfara States are affected<sup>60</sup> and further exposed to malnutrition and infant mortality. The devastating impact of the imminent flood/rainstorm incidents as

<sup>53</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> The 2023 presidential and legislative elections recorded a voters turnout rate of about 24.9 million voters out of the over 93.47 million people who registered to vote. (https://dailytrust.com/the-lowest-voters-turnout-in-nigerias-election-history-what-happened-2/; https://wanepnigeria.org/wpontent/uploads/2023/04/FEB-2023.pdf

<sup>5</sup> https://dailytrust.com/the-lowest-voters-turnout-in-nigerias-election-history-what-happened-2/; https://guardian.ng/opinion/the-lowest-voters-turnout-in-nigerias-electionhistory-what-happened/

https://www.dataphyte.com/latest-reports/low-voter-turnout-dots-governorship-elections-across-

states/#:~:text=Low%20voter%20turnout%20has%20been.and%20House%20of%20Representatives%20members.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Source: WANEP National Early Warning System (NEWS): www.wanep.org/news/

<sup>\*\*</sup> https://reliefweb.int/report/nigeria/25-million-nigerians-high-risk-food-insecurity-2023/gclid=CiwKCAjw0ZiiBhBKEiwA4PT9z585GSLiIAFDkEB01UUIZXZi-ctN8Z85WsqPXun\_Si5q2cC\_s9QLDxoCmzIQAvD\_BwE; https://www.premiumtimesng.com/business/business-news/586491-25-3-million-people-to-face-food-insecurity-in-nigeria-fao.html

<sup>60</sup> https://reliefweb.int/report/nigeria/25-million-nigerians-high-risk-food-insecurity-2023/gclid=CjwKCAjw0ZiiBhBKEiwA4PT9z585GSLjiAFDkEB01UUIZxZi-ctN8Z85WsqPXun Si5q2cC s9QLDxoCmzIQAvD BwE; https://www.premiumtimesng.com/business/business-news/586491-25-3-million-people-to-face-food-insecurity-in-nigeria-fao.html

documented by WANEP NEWS may likely also increase household food insecurity and the risk of an increase in epidemic-related infections and deaths.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

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

- State Governments in collaboration with traditional and religious institutions, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), the media and security agencies, amongst other relevant stakeholders should enhance avenues for improved interface between communities and security operatives for effective service delivery in terms of security.
- ECOWAS in collaboration with the National Peace Committee (NPC) should intensify preventive diplomacy actions with critical political stakeholders to ensure they remain committed to the tenets of the Peace Accord signed as the nation looks forward to the political transition in May 29, 2023.
- The efforts of the NCDC, National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA)
  and the Federal/State Ministry of Health with support from international/local health
  agencies in curbing the spread of epidemics is commendable. In view of this, the State
  Government should enhance its local coordination and surveillance systems particularly
  in rural communities for proactive.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

Despite the challenges fraught with the 2023 general elections, there are opportunities for lessons learning to consolidate demoncractic governance in Nigeria. Also, addressing the protracted insecurity confronting the country requires the need to strengthen collaboration amongst security services and relevant State/community stakeholders to enhance peace and stability. This is not only critical in ensuring safety and protection of its citizens, but also to create a conduicive climate where investments, trade and infrastructural development can thrive.

More importantly, there is the need for stakeholders to sustain awareness on the prevention and management of epidemics to enhance resilience against the spread of Diptheria, Meningitis, Cholera and Lassa Fever.

## **CENSUS OF INCIDENTS FOR MARCH 2023**

THEMATIC AREA	NO of Attacks.	VICTIMS	
		DEATHS	INJURIES
VIOLENT EXTREMISM: Boko Haram/ISWAP attacks  -Inter-rivalry clash: Boko Haram and ISWAP Terrorists	24	- 34 (30 civilians and 4 security personnel - 102 terrorists	15

			T
C		- 194 terrorists	
- Counter-Terrorist Attacks			
ORGANISED CRIME: (Armed-robbery, assassination, armed violence, armed bandits, mob attack, arson and cult/gang clash)	121	276	89
Armed Action/Shoot-out between security operatives and members of criminal gangs	20	64	3
Abduction (evident across 21 States)	70	-	2
Cybercrime/Fraud	9	-	-
Election-related violence	101	62	79
Extrajudicial killing	13	25	6
Physical/Armed Assault	9		15
Herder-Community Conflict/Militia Herders	32	108	14
<ul> <li>Violent Clash</li> <li>Traders and suspected hoodlums (Lagos)</li> <li>Police operatives and suspected burglers (Kwara)</li> <li>Clash between suspected thugs (Plateau)</li> </ul>	3	3	-
Drug Trafficking	15		-
Homicide	15	16	2
Suicide	1	1	-
DEMOCRACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE:			
Demonstration (peaceful)	41	-	- /
Demonstration (violent)	3	16	8
Intimidation and Threats	13	-	0 /
Arrest/Detention	114	- ]	-75
Road Accident	49	234	245
Building Collapse	2	108	- /
Electrocution (Lagos State)	1	15	-
ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY:	onsni	Y	
Communal conflict	3	3	13

Pandemic/Epidemics:				Confirmed/Infected Cases
<ul> <li>a. Lassa Fever</li> <li>b. Cholera</li> <li>c. Diphteria</li> <li>d. Cerebrospinal Meningitis (CSM)</li> <li>e. COVID-19</li> </ul>	1 1 1 1		44 3 49 23	Lassa Fever: 210 Cholera: 98 CSM: 72 COVID-19: 5
		AT		
Fire Outbreak Rainstorm	24		22	7 -

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.

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GENDER, PEACE AND SECURITY: Sexual Assault/Rape	25	1	23
Human Trafficking	4		-
Total	725	1,281	904