Aid in Danger

Monthly News Brief

Safety, security and access incidents

Insecurity affecting aid workers and aid delivery

Africa

Cameroon
Throughout June 2019: In unspecified Anglophone locations, armed separatists set fire to an unspecified number of shipments of food, medicine and bedding escorted by the Cameroon Armed Forces, claiming that they will never accept aid from the Cameroonian Government. **Source: VOA**

Central African Republic
25 June 2019: In Batangafo, Ouham prefecture, an INGO national aid worker was reportedly assaulted in a home invasion by armed anti-Balaka militants. Four other occupants were robbed of their mobile phones, cash, and other items. The aid worker received medical treatment, and the perpetrators were handed over to MINUSCA by a local anti-Balaka leader. **Source: AWSD**[1]

Democratic Republic of the Congo
05 June 2019: In Lubero, North Kivu, suspected Mai-Mai militants kidnapped two NGO workers. No further details specified. **Source: ACLED**[2]

25 June 2019: In North Kivu, Katwiguru II, an unidentified armed group kidnapped an aid worker from the INGO Caritas. No further details specified. **Source: ACLED**[2]

Eritrea
Throughout June 2019: The Eritrean Government continued to deny the Human Rights Council's Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in Eritrea access to Eritrea. **Source: Africa News**

Ghana
04 June 2019: In Kumasi city, Ashanti region, unidentified perpetrators kidnapped two Canadian volunteers of the Youth Challenge International for the apparent reason of ransom. **Source: The Guardian**

Kenya
28 June 2019 (DOA): In Dadaab town, Garissa county, refugees of the Dadaab Refugee Camp have accused staff of UNHCR and partner

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This monthly digest comprises threats and incidents of violence affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

It is prepared by Insecurity Insight from information available in open sources.

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NGOs of demanding bribes from them for their repatriation to Somalia and other services. **Source: [The Guardian](#)**

Mali
Throughout June 2019: In Douentza cercle, Mopti region, insecurity caused by armed groups continued to prevent inhabitants of several unnamed villages from reaching health care services, and aid groups from reaching those in need of assistance. **Source: [MSF](#)**

South Sudan
02 June 2019: In Bor, Jonglei state, a female national INGO aid worker was assaulted by a male national aid worker at the Bor PoC site. The assault reportedly occurred because the female aid worker refused demands to medically treat the male colleague's wife. The female aid worker received medical treatment and the male aid worker was arrested by UNPOL. **Source: [AWSD](#)**[1]

10 June 2019: In Koch district, Unity state, two national LNGO aid workers sustained gunshot injuries after their vehicle was shot at by unidentified perpetrators while travelling from Khat to Boaw. **Source: [AWSD](#)**[1]

15 June 2019: In Eastern Equatoria state, two male national LNGO aid workers – a team leader and a driver - were reportedly dragged and beaten from their vehicles after their convoy was stopped by a group of villagers. The aid workers were part of a team of enumerators and were reportedly targeted because of their perceived ethnicity and affiliation. Following the attack, community members contacted the LNGO and confirmed their positions and the LNGO team vehicles were allowed to depart the area. **Source: [AWSD](#)**[1]

16 June 2019: In Bunj town, Maban county, a male national INGO aid worker was reportedly assaulted and shot twice after the aid worker got in a verbal argument with two other men which escalated. **Source: [AWSD](#)**[1]

19 June 2019: In Patlauk village, Uror, Jonglei state, two male national INGO aid workers were reportedly shot by a community member who reportedly mistook them for 'his enemies.' The aid workers received medical attention for non-life-threatening injuries, and the perpetrator was arrested. **Source: [AWSD](#)**[1]

23 June 2019: In Juba, two male national UN guards were injured when striking employees threw stones at the them at the UN compound. The protests reportedly involved 100 striking guards. **Source: [AWSD](#)**[1]

24 June 2019: In Eastern Equatoria state, an LNGO vehicle carrying one driver and nine LNGO staff members was ambushed by unidentified armed perpetrators while travelling from Torit to Kapoeta. The aid workers were robbed of mobile phones and cash, assaulted and threatened. At least one national aid worker received medical attention. **Source: [AWSD](#)**[1]

26 June 2019: In Akucieng, Warrap state, an LNGO national aid worker was reportedly shot and killed along with three others during inter-community violence carried out by unidentified armed men around 3:00am. **Source: [AWSD](#)**[1]

Sudan
03 June 2019: In Khartoum, in the midst of a military crackdown on demonstrators calling for civilian rule, unspecified perpetrators looted the Humanitarian Aid Commission, an arm of Sudan's intelligence service, slowing down emergency response. **Source: [TNH](#)**

05 June 2019: The current volatile situation in Sudan forced the UN to temporarily remove some of its

non-critical staff from the country for safety reasons. **Source: [Reuters](#)**

Asia

Afghanistan
Throughout June 2019: In Taliban-controlled areas, a Taliban-imposed ban on WHO and Red Cross activities, coupled with security threats, continued to prevent Polio workers from launching vaccine campaigns. **Source: [Reuters](#)**

India
13 June 2019: Near Tura area, west Garo Hills, Meghalaya state, over 20 men reportedly forced their way into the houses of NGO workers and assaulted three women. The attackers were armed with a gun, knives, cutting blades and clubs. **Source: [ACLED](#)**[2]

Myanmar
Throughout June 2019: In Rakhine state, the Myanmar Government continued to impose severe restrictions on humanitarian access and freedom of movement. **Source: [TNH](#)**

06 June 2019: In Rakhine state, the UN Resident Coordinator in Myanmar warned that the UN will withdraw its support beyond life-saving assistance in IDP camps deemed closed by the Myanmar Government, unless those relocated are reintegrated in accordance with international standards. **Source: [The Guardian](#)**

21 June 2019: In Chin and Rakhine states, the Ministry of Transport and Communications ordered telecommunications companies to temporarily shut down internet services in nine townships, namely Paletwa in Chin, and Maungdaw, Buthidaung, Rathedaung, Ponnagyun, Mrauk-U, Kyauktaw, Minbya and Myebon in Rakhine, a move expected to restrict NGOs from communicating with hard-to-reach crisis-affected civilians via online messaging apps. **Sources: [The Myanmar Times](#) and [TNH](#)**

The Philippines
15 June 2019: In Barangay Cabid-an area, Sorsogon City, Sorsogon province, two human rights activists from Karapatan were killed by unidentified assailants. One of the victims was a twenty-two-year-old senior high school student. **Source: [CNN Philippines](#)**

Sri Lanka
28 June 2019: In Matugama area, Mathugama, Kalutara district, a Samurdhi Development Officer had a grenade thrown into his bedroom and was subsequently stabbed to death when venturing outside to investigate who had thrown the grenade. A relative of the victim is suspected to be involved. Further investigation into the incident is ongoing. **Source: [Adaderana](#)**

Europe

Italy
12 June 2019 (DOA): The Italian cabinet passed an emergency decree targeting NGO refugee rescue vessels, which would levy fines of between €10,000 and €50,000 on ships entering Italian waters without permission. The bill still has to go before parliament, where the ruling coalition enjoys a majority. **Source: [BBC](#)**

12 – 28 June 2019: The Italian Government persistently prevented the rescue ship Sea-Watch 3 with rescued refugees onboard who were in desperate need of medical attention from docking in Lampedusa Island. **Source: [The New Arab](#)**

29 June 2019: In Lampedusa island, Sicily region, the Italian authorities arrested the captain of the migrant rescue ship Sea-Watch 3 after her ship docked without disembarkation permission in an attempt to rescue refugees from drowning in the Mediterranean. **Source: The New Arab**

Ukraine
13 June 2019: In Pryluky, Chernihiv Oblast, a supporter of the MP candidate Borys Pryhodko (Tribuna/l party), physically assaulted two journalists of Stop Corruption NGO. The journalists tried to get into the election campaigning event and wanted to check their information on vote-buying. **Source: ACLED**[2]

Middle East and North Africa
Syrian Arab Republic
Throughout June 2019: In Idlib governorate, as Syrian Government and Russian forces continued to launch targeted attacks on hospitals and clinics, some aid agencies decided to stop sharing their locations with warring parties, and the UN, for fear it would lead to them being deliberately targeted. **Sources: Independent and Reuters**

02 June 2019: In Baluon village, Ihsim Nahiyah sub-district, Ariha district, Idlib governorate, Syrian Government warplanes fired missiles and injured the director of the local Syrian Civil Defence (SCD) centre. **Source: SNHR**

04 June 2019: In Ma'aret Harma village, Idlib governorate, a Syrian regime warplane launched missiles near to a SCD team, slightly damaging the team's emergency response vehicles – one fire truck and one ambulance. **Source: SNHR**

05 June 2019: In Al Dar Al Kabira village, unspecified sub-district and district, Idlib governorate, Syrian Government warplanes fired missiles on the bakery of al Wafaa Association for Relief and Development, severely damaging its building and equipment. **Source: SNHR**

06 June 2019: In Madaya village, Idlib governorate, suspected Russian warplanes fired missiles near a SCD team member, injuring him. **Source: SNHR**

12 June 2019: In Maarrat al-Nu'man town, sub-district and district, Idlib governorate, unspecified perpetrators killed two SCD ambulance workers under unspecified circumstances. **Source: ABC News**

20 June 2019: In Ma'aret al Numan city, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes fired a missile at an ambulance of the Violet Organisation while the organisation's team was attending to the injured of a previous shelling. Three paramedics and one civilian were killed, and the ambulance was destroyed beyond repair. **Source: SNHR**

26 June 2019: In Khan Sheikhoun town and sub-district, Maarrat al-Nu'man district, Idlib governorate, suspected Russian warplanes fired missiles near a Syrian ambulance in the neighbourhood of al Beira as a rescue team was aiding the wounded of a previous bombing, killing two SCD workers, injuring four others, and severely damaging the vehicle. **Sources: ABC News, SNHR I and SNHR II**

Yemen
04 June 2019 (DOA): Houthi rebels continued to hamper the rollout of a WFP biometric system aimed to independently verify that aid is reaching intended beneficiaries, claiming that the process should be run by the Sana'a-based Yemeni Social Welfare Fund, an NGO linked to the Houthi leadership which coordinates with international aid groups. **Source: Reuters**

17 June 2019: The WFP threatened to suspend its food assistance activities in Yemen, after accusing Houthi rebels of diverting aid from intended beneficiaries. **Sources: AP and The Guardian**

21 June 2019: In Sana'a, the WFP suspended its food assistance activities for its 850,000 beneficiaries, accusing corrupt officials within the Houthi rebel group of looting aid and using millions of dollars of international donations for their war economy. **Sources: BBC, Reuters, The Telegraph and The Washington Times**

KKA data
Aid workers reportedly killed, kidnapped and arrested.

Total aid workers reportedly affected, January-June 2019

	Killed	Kidnapped	Arrested	Total affected
Afghanistan	5	4	0	9
CAR	5	8	0	13
DRC	2	7	0	9
Iraq	0	0	1	1
Mali	0	7	0	7
Nigeria	2	0	0	2
Somalia	3	13	0	16
South Sudan	1	0	0	1
Syria	12	2	0	14
Yemen	11	1	1	13
Other countries	14	17	2	33
Total affected	**55**	**59**	**4**	**118**

Key definitions
Aid worker: An individual employed by or attached to a humanitarian, UN, international, national, or government aid agency.
Killed: Refers to a staff member being killed. Aid worker(s) killed while in captivity are coded as 'kidnapped'.
Kidnapped: Refers to a staff member being kidnapped, missing or taken hostage.
Arrested: Refers to a staff member being arrested, charged, detained, fined or imprisoned.
Notes
Data collection is ongoing, and data may change as more information is made available. KKA dataset and quick charts available on the **Humanitarian Data Exchange** (HDX). The countries have been selected by **Reliefweb**.

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