Aid in Danger

Monthly News Brief

Safety, security and access incidents

Insecurity affecting aid workers and aid delivery

Africa

Burkina Faso

General: In Mentao commune, Pobé-Mengao department, Soum province, Sahel region, mounting insecurity by armed groups has forced the closure of all schools in the Mentao refugee camp. Humanitarian access to the camp has become increasingly challenging, with the distribution of aid severely hindered. **Source: UNHCR**

Around 22 November 2019: In Djibo commune and department, Soum province, Sahel region, mounting insecurity by armed groups forced the UNHCR to temporarily relocate its staff to an unspecified location where they would work remotely. **Source: UNHCR**

Democratic Republic of the Congo

22 November 2019: In Uvira, South Kivu province, four aid workers from the NGO SOS Village d'Enfants were abducted by unidentified individuals. Their whereabouts are unknown. **Source: Actualite**

> ### Trend analysis on attacks on health in Eastern DRC
> An overview of reported attacks in the context of the Ebola response in the DRC between January and November 2019.
> These attacks affect both the Ebola response as well as the wider provision of vital health services in the area.
> Read the **report** Download the data on **HDX**.

Kenya

Around 12 November 2019: Data collected by the Kenya Medical Research Institute and US researchers have revealed how implementers of an anti-HIV circumcision project, predominantly NGOs, had recruited boys for circumcision through coercion and bribery and at times without the consent of their parents, to boost the number of their clients and increase the level of funding they receive from the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. **Source: Standard**

Nigeria

General: In two unnamed local government areas, Boko Haram continued to besiege approximately 1.2 million civilians, denying them access to humanitarian aid and services. **Source: Premium Times**

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.

Join our **mailing list** to receive monthly reports on insecurity affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

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Data on aid workers reportedly **killed, kidnapped or arrested (KKA)** is available to download on HDX Insecurity Insight.

Visit our website to download previous **Aid in Danger** Monthly News Briefs.

South Sudan

01 November 2019: In Bentiu town, Northern Liech state, two male NGO contractors assigned with building a fence for a school were travelling by foot from Bentiu PoC to Bentiu town when they went missing. Reports indicate kidnapping is suspected. No information about their whereabouts or about the perpetrators is known at this time. **Source: AWSD**[1]

13 November 2019: In Melut community, Melut county, Upper Nile state, nearly 67 ex-employees of World Vision at the Melut IDP camp continued to complain over unpaid benefits by the INGO since November 2018. **Source: Radio Tamazuj**

Around 20 November 2019: In Yei River state, an activist of a community-based human rights organisation advised that the impact of activities implemented by INGOs fail to meet the needs at the grassroots level and urged the relevant authorities to develop policies that regulate INGOs and empower indigenous ones. **Source: Radio Tamazuj**

21 November 2019: In Khoat, Duk Pagaak district, Jonglei state, four national female volunteers, part of a larger group of 33 INGO volunteers, were reportedly kidnapped by six armed men who attacked the group as they were working in the town. The remaining 29 volunteers returned safely. The whereabouts of the four women and details on the allegedly Murle armed group are currently unknown. **Source: AWSD**[1]

Asia

Afghanistan

24 November 2019: Around 4th Macrorayan Main Road, between Airport Road and Jalalabad Road, Kabul, a magnetic IED placed on the rear roof of an UN vehicle exploded during a traffic stop killing one male American UN staff member and injuring two Afghan staff. Both injured staff were taken for medical treatment. Three bystander civilians were also wounded in the attack. On 25 November, UN agencies in Afghanistan imposed lockdowns and other international organisations restricted movements. The UN cancelled flights on which smaller organisations tend to rely to access parts of Afghanistan unreachable by land. **Sources: APP, AWSD**[1]**, RFE RL, The New York Times, The Telegraph, UNAMA I, UNAMA I and UN**

Europe

Greece

26 November 2019: The Greek government has requested NGOs who work with asylum seekers and refugees to register with the Citizen Protection Ministry within 10 days otherwise risk facing a ban on operating. The Greek authorities reportedly want to investigate illegal financial transactions. **Source: Ekathimerini**

Turkey

11 November 2019: In Beyoglu district, Istanbul city and province, Marmara region, James le Mesurier, co-founder of the volunteer organisation the Syrian Civil Defense (White Helmets), was discovered dead near his home. He had been previously the subject of disinformation campaigns and was publicly targeted by Russia's foreign ministry weeks prior to his death. **Sources: BBC, Reuters and The Guardian**

Middle East and North Africa

Israel

28 November 2019 (DOA): Update: The Israeli government continued to delay the trial of a World Vision aid worker accused of funding Hamas, due to a lack of evidence. **Source: The Guardian**

Libya
Around 28 November 2019: According to a report by the British newspaper the Guardian, the UNHCR allegedly is planning to adopt a policy to 'starve out' migrants and refugees sheltering for safety at a UNHCR-run gathering and departure facility. Internal UNHCR documents suggest that the agency plans to withdraw food from 600 other beneficiaries. A health care clinic on the site would continue to operate. **Source: The Guardian**

Syrian Arab Republic
03 November 2019: In Rashidiyya town, Tell Tamer sub-district, Al-Hasakah governorate, a Burmese medic of the INGO Free Burma Rangers was killed, and his Iraqi colleague was wounded in a mortar attack from an alleged Turkish-backed Syrian militia as they attempted to enter the town to provide medical aid. **Source: ABC News and AWSD**[1]

03-05 November 2019: In Anadan city, Mount Simeon district, Aleppo governorate, Syrian regime forces artillery shelled a Syrian Civil Defence (SCD) centre for three days in a row, damaging its building and four vehicles. The centre was forced out of service. **Source: SNHR**

04 November 2019: In Jisr al Shoghour city and district, Idlib governorate, artillery and rocket strikes by Syrian forces targeted an SCD team who were inspecting the scene of a previous bombardment. The attack reportedly injured three volunteers and destroyed an ambulance. **Sources: SNHR and The New Arab**

06 November 2019: In Jisr al Shoghour city and district, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes shelled a SCD building, damaging the building, equipment, and a vehicle. **Source: SNHR**

06 November 2019: In Jisr al Shoghour city, and district, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles near a building belonging to a female section of the SCD, damaging its building. **Source: SNHR**

12 November 2019: In Ma'aret Harma village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime artillery shelled a SCD ambulance, killing at least three civilians, including a SCD member. The ambulance was destroyed. **Source: SNHR**

12 November 2019: In Mazzeh, Damascus, an Israeli missile strike on the house of a Palestinian Jihad Movement leader, landed 500 meters from an UN office, injuring one national UNDP staff member who was taken to Mwasat Hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries. **Source: AWSD**[1]

15 November 2019: In al Bara village, Jabal al Zaweya district, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime artillery shells hit close to an SCD ambulance, damaging the vehicle. **Source: SNHR**

20 November 2019: In Qahh village, Al-Dana sub-district, Harem district, Idlib governorate, two surface-to-surface missiles containing cluster munitions hit the Qah IDP camp, exploding 25 meters from the SAMS-supported Qah Maternity Hospital, killing 16 civilians, and injuring another 63 more, including four SAMS staff. Large parts of the camp were burned, and the hospital was damaged. Health workers evacuated patients to nearby facilities. **Sources: SAMS, SNHR and UN News**

27 November 2019: In Bkafla village, Idlib governorate, Russian or Syrian regime forces fired a surface-to-surface missile, injuring four SCD members and damaging an ambulance and two other vehicles. **Source: SNHR**

Yemen

06 November 2019: In Al Makha city and district, Taiz governorate, an aerial attack of unidentified origin on a military site severely damaged a nearby MSF-supported hospital, including its pharmacy and office buildings. The facility was subsequently shut and medical activities suspended, and some staff were relocated. **Sources: Civilian Impact Monitoring Project (CIMP), MSF, SF Gate and OCHA**

24 November 2019: Two Jordanians who were in Yemen conducting a humanitarian audit were returned to Jordan after their release from detention by Houthi rebels. It is unclear how long they had been detained for. **Source: ABC News**

25 November 2019: Houthi forces declared that they have detained an unspecified number of humanitarian workers on suspicion of spying. **Source: ABC News**

25 November 2019: In an unspecified location, during a press conference intended to dispute UN reports of corruption, Houthi forces accused UN agencies of funding and conspiring with intelligence services to target Yemenis, along with importing expired drugs and withholding fuel shipments. **Source: AP**

26 November 2019: In Sana'a, after three years of closure to non-UN and humanitarian flights, the Saudi-led coalition announced that it would now allow civilians to fly out of the Sana'a International Airport, with the aid of the WHO, for medical treatment in other countries. **Sources: Saudi Press Agency and TNH**

Total aid workers reportedly affected, Jan-Nov 2019

	Killed	Kidnapped	Arrested	Total affected	Total KKA incidents
Afghanistan	13	10	0	23	7
CAR	5	12	0	17	8
DRC	7	7	0	14	9
Iraq	0	0	3	3	3
Mali	0	22	0	22	9
Nigeria	3	6	1	10	4
Somalia	6	18	1	25	11
South Sudan	5	15	4	24	10
Syria	26	4	6	36	25
Yemen	11	1	6	18	12
Other countries	28	25	8	61	41
Total affected	**104**	**120**	**29**	**253**	**139**

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**.

[1] The AWSD database does not include the names of individual victims or the agencies affected by an incident. This is done in consideration of the victims and their families who may not wish to have the names publicised in this format and to afford equal respect to the many victims for whom this information is not available. Accessed 6 December 2019.