Aid in Danger
Monthly News Brief

Safety, Security and Access Incidents
Insecurity affecting aid workers and aid delivery

Africa

Burkina Faso
24 June 2020: Between Gaskinde and Mentao, Pobe-Mengao department, Soum province, an INGO truck loaded with intended for IDPs was ambushed by JNIM militants. The Togolese driver and his apprentice were detained and released, along with the vehicle after supplies were stolen from inside. **Source: Infowakat**

Democratic Republic of the Congo
18 June 2020: An investigation by The New Humanitarian has revealed questionable practices in the Ebola response, including: payments to security forces, renting vehicles at inflated prices, and job kickback schemes, all of which may have jeopardised humanitarian operations and put lives at risk. **Source: TNH**

28 June 2020: In Lulimba locality, Fizi territory, South Kivu province, four unidentified armed men kidnapped an MSF Holland agent. The kidnappers demanded a ransom for the hostage's release. **Source: Kivu Security Tracker**

Mali
02 June 2020: Near Aguelhok village, Tessalit cercle, Kidal region, an IED struck and damaged a MINUSMA mine-protected vehicle belonging to a logistical convoy. **Source: Twitter**

08 June 2020: In Baye town, Bankass commune, Mopti region, two NGO workers, their driver and a councilor of the mayor were kidnapped by unidentified armed men. **Source: AMAP**

11 June 2020: In Diabaly commune, Ségou region, three INGO staff members were kidnapped by an unspecified armed group, allegedly because one the staff members - a woman - was not complying with the dress code imposed by the armed group. Two staff members were released and the whereabouts of the third remains unknown. **Source: AWSD**[1]

13 June 2020: Near Tarkint village and commune, Bourem cercle, Gao region, unidentified armed individuals attacked a MINUSMA logistical convoy, killing two peacekeepers. **Source: The New Arab**

16 June 2020: In Karou village, Ansongo commune, Gao region, a vehicle carrying an unspecified number of aid workers was ambushed by gunmen. The aid workers were removed from the vehicle, and the driver and vehicle were taken. **Source: ACLED**[2]

20 June 2020: Near Koro town and cercle, Mopti region, a team from the NGO MSF aboard two rental vehicles was robbed by armed men a few

Insecurity
Insight
Data on People in Danger

kilometers from Koro. The robbers released the female staff before kidnappping the male staff, the drivers and the two cars. **Source: Twitter**

Niger
24 June 2020: In Bossey Bangou village, Makalondi rural community, Torodi department, Tillaberi region, suspected jihadists kidnapped nine Nigerien aid workers from the Nigerien NGO Action and Impact Programme in the Sahel (APIS) - a partner of WFP - during a food distribution activity. They were kidnapped at the border between Burkina Faso and Mali. All nine were reportedly released on 1 July. **Sources: Al Jazeera, AWSD**[1]**, ESISC, Le 360, Reuters and RFI**

Nigeria
01 or 02 June 2020: Between Maiduguri and Monguno, Borno state, three LNGO aid workers and a soldier providing security were kidnapped while they were traveling from Maiduguri to Monguno. It is unclear if they were kidnapped by ISWAP or Boko Haram fighters. One of the aid workers is a male camp manager of an IDP camp in Monguno working for the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA). Information is still coming through on this event and more details will be added as and when known. **Sources: AWSD**[1]**, HumAngle, Premium Times and Sahara Reporters**

08 June 2020: In Zamfara state, insecurity has forced the Nigerian Government to suspend the delivery of COVID-19 palliatives and cash transfers to some residents until further notice. **Source: Eons Intelligence**

13 June 2020: In Monguno village and LGA, Borno state, heavily armed ISWAP fighters entered the village, which hosts several international NGOs. The group overran government forces, killing at least 40 soldiers and 20 civilians before reaching the humanitarian hub, where over 50 aid workers were present at the time. All UN and INGO vehicles in front of the humanitarian hub, which includes offices and accommodation, were set ablaze. Protective security measures deployed at the hub prevented any harm to the staff inside. Though the facility only sustained light damage, initial reports indicate that it was directly targeted, as an unexploded projectile was found at the gate. The perpetrators distributed letters to residents, warning them not to work with the military or international aid groups. **Sources: Al Jazeera, BBC, European Commission, ICRC and OCHA**

22 June 2020: In Borno State, four Nigerian INGO aid workers, three males and a female, and a security worker were kidnapped by suspected Islamist militants. A video released on Telegram on 29 June identified the staff as employees from Action Against Hunger, IRC and REACH. The militants have reportedly requested ransom to secure their release. The video reportedly showed five aid workers. The identity of the fifth aid worker is unclear. Although the group responsible for the kidnappings has not been identified, both Boko Haram and Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) militant groups are known to operate in Borno state, having both previously carried out similar abductions in recent years. Information is still coming through on this event and more details will be added as and when known. **Sources: Africa CGTN, AWSD**[1]**, GardaWorld, Pulse NG Reuters and The Guardian Nigeria**

Somalia
14 June 2020: Near Ceerigaabo town, Sanaag region, an INGO driver in a rented vehicle was shot dead in a hijacking by gunmen while the INGO aid workers were travelling from Bilcil village to Awr-bogays village after finishing a registration process. **Sources: AWSD**[1] **and ACLED**[2]

South Sudan
08 June 2020: In Abiemnom town, Mayom county, Northern Liech state, two UN truck drivers delivering food to Abiemnom were ambushed by unidentified perpetrators when the vehicle got stuck in mud. They sustained gunshot injuries but managed to drive to Mayom for medical attention. **Source: AWSD**[1]

17 - 20 June 2020: In Bor South and Twic East counties, Jonglei state, attacks by heavily armed groups have forced multiple unnamed NGOs and UN agencies to trigger relocation contingency plans. **Source: European Commission**

26 June 2020: In Pibor town and county, Jonglei state, renewed intercommunal fighting forced MSF to suspend its primary health care services in the town. **Source: Radio Miraya**

28 June 2020: In Cueibet county, Lakes state, unidentified perpetrators shot at a clearly marked ambulance carrying an injured patient due to intercommunal violence, killing the driver, a South Sudanese aid worker from an unspecified INGO. Police have since arrested two suspects in connection to the attack. **Sources: OCHA, Catholic Radio Network, Radio Miraya and Radio Tamazuj**

Asia
Afghanistan
15 June 2020: In Kabul, MSF announced its decision to end activities and withdraw from the Dasht-eBarchi Hospital, following an attack on the maternity wing of the facility last 12 May, citing as reasons the insecure context and the likelihood of repeated attacks in the future. **Sources: MSF and UNAMA**

25 June 2020: In Kabul, two employees of the Afghanistan Human Rights Commission were killed when a home-made sticky bomb attached to their vehicle detonated. **Source: The New Arab**

Myanmar
Around 29 June 2020: In Rakhine state, access for aid workers remained tightly limited amid heavy fighting in recent weeks between government troops and ethnic insurgents. **Sources: European Commission and Reuters**

Europe
Ukraine
Around 11 June 2020: Across the frontline in Donbass region, daily security incidents continue to damage civilian infrastructure, including water and electricity supply, schools and health facilities. **Source: European Commission**

Middle East and North Africa
Islamic Republic of Iran
21 June 2020: In an unspecified location, police arrested the founder and two members of the student NGO Popular Students Relief Society on the basis of a court order, accusing them of insulting the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic republic, and of acting 'against national security'. **Source: The New Arab**

Israel
Around 28 June 2020: In Tel Aviv city and district, in a video widely shared on social media, a woman believed to be a sex worker straddles a man seated in the back of a moving UN-marked vehicle on a busy road. The UN launched an investigation. **Source: The New Arab**

Jordan
16 June 2020: The US Government announced that it is considering withholding aid to Jordan to press the country to extradite a woman convicted in Israel of a 2001 bombing that killed 15 people, including two US citizens. **Source: The New Arab**

Syrian Arab Republic
01 June 2020: In Jarabulus city, Aleppo governorate, the director of a LNGO was injured when a VBIED attached underneath his vehicle detonated. **Source: AWSD**[1]

22 June 2020: In Atmeh town, Al-Dana sub-district, Harem district, Idlib governorate, 15 HTS militants raided the house of a self-described aid worker, who had been stripped of his British nationality since 2017 and abducted him. **Sources: AWSD**[1]**, The Guardian and The New Arab**

25 June 2020: Russia has withdrawn from a voluntary UN humanitarian deconfliction mechanism aimed at protecting hospitals and aid deliveries in Syria from being caught in wartime crossfire. **Sources: Reuters and The New Arab**

Yemen
07 June 2020: In Al Hasab area, Al Mudhaffar district, Taizz province, fighting was reported near an INGO's relief distribution centre, killing a woman and injuring five civilians. **Source: CIMP**

22 June 2020: The Yemeni Government ordered the launch of reviews of regional and international NGOs and other humanitarian organisations operating in Yemen, claiming there had been suspicious activities designed to undermine stability. **Source: [The New Arab](#)**

KKA Data January-June 2020
Aid workers reportedly killed, kidnapped and arrested.

	Killed	Kidnapped	Arrested	Total affected	Total KKA incidents
Afghanistan			1	1	1
CAR	4	6		10	5
DRC	1	19		20	8
Iraq		4		4	1
Mali		12		12	6
Nigeria		7		7	2
Somalia	1	25	1	27	8
South Sudan	14			14	10
Syria	10	1	1	12	10
Yemen		2		2	1
Other countries	10	11	17	38	11
Total affected	**40**	**87**	**20**	**147**	**63**

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. The classification is based on reported but not independently verified information. The Aid in Danger project makes no independent judgement about the legality of any reported arrest or detention.

KKA Data

We monitor local, national and international news outlets and online databases for threats facing people living and working in dangerous environments. Each month we release the latest available data on aid workers killed, kidnapped and arrested. The data is continually updated and includes new and historic reports identified in open-sources and verified security incidents submitted by Aid in Danger partner agencies. The dataset and quick charts can be accessed via **[HDX Insecurity Insight](#)**. Data collection is ongoing, and data may change as more information is made available. Where the number of aid workers affected is unspecified, one is counted. The countries above have been selected by **[Reliefweb](#)**.

Notes

This document is part of the Aid in Danger project. It is published by Insecurity Insight and funded and supported by the Department for International Development (DFID) of the UK government through the RIAH project at the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute at Manchester University, UK. The incidents reported are not a complete nor a representative list of all events that affected the provision of aid delivery and have not been independently verified. All decisions made, on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations.