

# Aid in Danger

## Bi-Weekly News Brief

Safety, security and access incidents affecting aid workers and aid delivery

04-17  
November  
2020

Each month Insecurity Insight releases the latest available data on aid workers killed, kidnapped, or arrested (KKA). Insecurity Insight's KKA 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.

Access the data via our [website](#) or on [HDX](#).

## Africa

### *Central African Republic*

**08 November 2020:** In Batangafo town, Ouham prefecture, anti-Balaka militants reportedly broke into the home of an INGO national aid worker and attempted to kidnap him. The aid worker was stabbed in the hand and was treated at a local hospital. **Source:** [AWSD](#)<sup>1</sup>

### *Democratic Republic of the Congo*

**03 November 2020:** In Abonyonyi village, Fizi territory, South Kivu province, three INGO aid workers were kidnapped by armed men during an ambush. Their vehicle was left behind and the aid workers were reportedly freed on 13 November. **Sources:** [Actualité I](#), [Actualité II](#), [Kivu Security](#), [La Prunelle](#) and [Radio Okapi](#)

### *Ethiopia*

**09 November 2020:** In the Dansha area, Tigray region, three Ethiopian Red Cross Society marked ambulances were fired at by armed men amid active armed conflict between the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) and Ethiopian Defense Forces (EDF). No casualties were reported. **Sources:** [Addis Standard](#)

**12 November 2020:** In Tigray region, in the midst of a conflict between the federal military and the regional ruling Tigray People's Liberation Front, movement restrictions, lack of fuel, and a government-imposed digital and telecommunications blackout have prevented aid groups from conducting needs assessments and the delivery of food, health and other emergency supplies. Restocking warehouses with humanitarian supplies in these conditions is reportedly impossible. Furthermore, hundreds of international aid workers have reportedly left Tigray for security reasons. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera](#), [ECHO](#), [Malay Mail](#), [OCHA](#) and [The Guardian](#)

### *Mali*

**03 November 2020:** In Kidal region, anti-France demonstrators torched a guard post of the MINUSMA base. **Source:** [MENASTREAM](#)

**06 November 2020:** On the Niger river near Kouakourou village, Kewa commune, Mpoti region, two Malian aid workers were kidnapped by suspected extremist militants while travelling by boat. Their whereabouts are currently unknown. **Source:** [AWSD](#)<sup>1</sup>

**As reported on 11 November 2020:** In Farabougou and Kourama Koube villages, Segou region, the Malian and Barkhane Armed Forces carried out food and medical airdrops. These interventions reportedly render access for humanitarian actors more complex and potentially risky. **Source:** [ECHO](#)

**As reported on 12 November 2020:** In Bourra commune, Ansongo cercle, Gao region, insecurity has slowed down the activities of NGOs, forcing some to relocate their activities to Yorosso cercle. **Source:** [Studio Tamani](#)

**As reported on 12 November 2020:** In Koumbia and Menamba communes, Yorosso cercle, Sikasso region, insecurity has slowed down the activities of NGOs. **Source:** [Studio Tamani](#)

### ***Nigeria***

**06 November 2020:** Following revelations by Amnesty International that at least 10 anti-police brutality protesters were killed by the Nigerian Army, the group Centre for Africa Liberation and Socio-Economic Rights - sponsored by Nigeria's Chief of Army Staff - has asked the advocacy group to leave the country within seven days, threatening to kill its staff and burn down its Lagos and Abuja offices if the organisation refused to exit. **Source:** [Sahara Reporters](#)

### ***Somalia***

**09 November 2020:** An investigation that reportedly uncovered systematic manipulation of procedures in Somalia, most notably in procurement, and that are deemed too dangerous to address, prompted the UN-funded NGO INTERSOS which provides health care and other services to pull out from the country. Their closure will jeopardise services at the Jowhar hospital unless new support can be found. The regional facility treats 200 Somali patients a day and is the referral facility for a catchment of 250,000, according to the INTERSOS website. UNHCR spokesperson confirmed its funding to INTERSOS over the last three years and told TNH that the UN agency's monitoring and audit processes had not indicated any issues with INTERSOS, but said it would look into the possibility that UNHCR funds may have been misused. **Sources:** [Goobjoog News](#) and [The New Humanitarian](#)

### ***South Sudan***

**03 November 2020:** In Kuachlual Payam, Koch county, Northern Liech state, two male aid workers were robbed, beaten, and injured during a raid on their compound by three perpetrators. The aid workers received medical attention in a clinic. **Source:** [AWSD](#)<sup>1</sup>

**06 November 2020:** Between Leer and Koch, Northern Liech state, an off-duty INGO driver was walking with a group of people at 4am when they were ambushed by armed individuals who shot and killed the driver for unknown reasons. **Source:** [AWSD](#)<sup>1</sup>

**10 November 2020:** In Bor city, Jonglei state, a man who identified himself as a CID officer arrested the Executive Director of the NGO Ataka Hub and an activist with the National Civil Alliance, as they were carrying out a needs assessment for flood victims. They were taken to a cell, where they were reportedly subjected to harsh conditions. After being transferred to the main police station the next morning and investigated, they were released without charges. **Source:** [Radio Tamazuji](#)

## **Middle East and North Africa**

### ***Egypt***

**12 November 2020:** Near Sharm el-Sheikh, Sinai peninsula, a helicopter carrying members of a multinational peacekeeping force crashed during "a routine mission" killing six Americans, a Czech and a French citizen. One peacekeeper remains in critical condition. A full investigation of the cause of the crash, which appears to be mechanical in nature, has been launched. **Source:** [The Guardian](#)

### ***Syrian Arab Republic***

**04 November 2020:** In Ariha city, Idlib governorate, two male Syrian aid workers, a male psychological support worker and a driver, engaged with the LNGO Ihsan Relief and Development Organization were killed by Syrian regime forces artillery shelling that struck the car they were travelling in. **Sources:** [Airwars](#), [MedGlobal](#) and [SNHR](#)

**16 November 2020:** In Darat Ezza city, Aleppo governorate, a male Syrian Civil Defence volunteer was wounded when unexploded ordnance from a previous shelling exploded. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

## The Americas

### United States of America

**As reported on 12 November 2020:** US Secretary of State will reportedly initiate a process by which the USA can label NGOs, including Oxfam and Amnesty International, as anti-Semitic due to their alleged links with groups critical of Israeli actions. **Source:** [The New Arab](#)

This bi-weekly news brief comprises threats and incidents of violence affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance. It is part of the Aid in Danger project, by Insecurity Insecurity. It is prepared from information available in local, national, and international news outlets and online databases. 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.

Each month we release the latest available data on aid workers [killed, kidnapped or arrested \(KKA\)](#). It is continually updated and includes new and historic reports identified in open-sources and verified security incidents submitted by Aid in Danger partner agencies. Data collection is ongoing, and data may change as more information is made available. Join our [mailing list](#) to receive monthly reports on insecurity affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). Visit our website to download previous [News Briefs](#).

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<sup>1</sup> The Aid Worker Security Database (AWSD) 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 18 November 2020 2020.