### Trends in aid workers killed, kidnapped and arrested (KKA) as reported in open sources

There is a remarkable similarity in the number of open-source reported events as well as the number of affected aid workers in January 2018 and January 2019. Numbers of reported events and affected aid workers rose in the first part of 2018 and declined in the second half of 2018. The graph below summarizes the data from the twelve Aid in Danger Monthly News Briefs (MNB) of 2018. Links to the original sources for these data are available in past editions of the MNB.

To allow for comparison and for consistency in the sources, this graph only shows the open source information as published in the MNB and does not include the confidential or verified agency data provided by partner agencies that is included in the KKA 2018 trend analysis table at the end of the 2018 MNBs and which remains available on HDX. Data collection is ongoing and figures may change as more information is made available.

### KKA incidents and aid workers affected, Jan 2018 - Jan 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>KKA incidents</th>
<th>Aid workers affected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-18</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb-18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>27</td>
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<td>Mar-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr-18</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May-18</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun-18</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul-18</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Dec-18</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan-19</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total aid workers reportedly affected, Jan 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Killed</th>
<th>Kidnapped</th>
<th>Arrested</th>
<th>Total affected</th>
<th>Total KKA incidents</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other countries</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The countries have been selected by Reliefweb. Data collection is ongoing, and data may change as more information is made available. Our coding defines an aid worker as an individual employed by or attached to a humanitarian, UN, international, national, or government aid agency.
Africa

Burundi
23 January 2019 (DOA): The Burundian Government ordered the NGO Humanity and Inclusion (formerly Handicap International) to halt its operations in Burundi. The order was due to a dispute over ethnic quotas in its workforce, forcing the organisation to lay off its 105 local employees and pull out of the country. The human rights group Avocats Sans Frontières and a Belgian NGO called RCN Justice & Démocratie also announced that they were also departing over the new requirements. Sources: NPR and Web Wire

Cameroon
27 January 2019: In Far North region, a major influx of refugees from Nigeria has left Cameroon’s UN Humanitarian Coordinator strained for resources. The region faces further waves of refugees from Nigeria and the humanitarian response will have to be further scaled up to cope with the crisis. Source: UN- OCHA

Central African Republic
04 January 2019: In Haute-Kotto province, a group of humanitarian workers from an unspecified organisation were ambushed and assaulted while traveling along the Irabanda road north of Bria. No further details specified. Source: ACLED¹

05 January 2019: In Batangafo town, Ouham prefecture, a security guard for an NGO and a male aid worker were killed by an unidentified armed group during a robbery. UN- OCHA states that this was the first aid worker killed in 2019. The incident led the aid organisation to relocate seven of its workers out of Batangafo. Source: ACLED¹, AWSD² and UN- OCHA

06 January 2019: In Bria town, Haute-Kotto province, FPRC troops abducted 13 people – including six national UN employees – in raids which they referred to as ‘policing’ the area. The abducted were later released following negotiations. Source: ACLED¹

08 January 2019: In Gbadene village, Ouham prefecture, a health facility supported by an unspecified aid organisation was ransacked by an unidentified armed group. The aid organisation subsequently suspended all operations in the town. Source: ACLED¹

10 January 2019: In Nana-Mambere prefecture, humanitarian workers north of Bouar town were robbed of their personal belongings, as well as money intended for beneficiaries, by an unspecified armed group. Source: ACLED¹

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

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

All decisions made, on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations.

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15 January 2019: In Bangui city, a male international UN staff member was shot and injured during a carjacking incident. Two unidentified assailants fled in the car, but it was later recovered by security forces. The UN staff member later recovered in hospital. Source: AWSD

18 January 2019: In Bambari town, Ouaka prefecture, an unidentified armed group carrying out robberies in the Beta and Saint-Jean neighbourhoods killed a humanitarian worker from an unspecified organisation. Sources: ACLED¹ and AWSD²

19 January 2019: In Bambari town, Ouaka prefecture, UPC militiamen killed an employee of the NGO ACTED as well as a teacher. No further details specified. Source: ACLED¹

Democratic Republic of the Congo

11 January 2019: In Marabo town, Ituri province, local taxi drivers and other residents opposed to the construction of an Ebola isolation centre threw rocks at NGO health workers. Source: ACLED¹

21 January 2019: In Rutobogo village, North Kivu province, an Oxfam vehicle was shot at by an unspecified armed group, but the driver escaped. The same armed group was reported to have attacked other vehicles in the area as well as being responsible for abductions. Source: ACLED¹

23 January 2019: In Kisala locality, North Kivu province, Mai Mai militants kidnapped three observers of the MONUSCO’s military operations on the Beni-Butembo road, damaged one of their vehicles and robbed them of their phones and belongings. The victims were released by the FARDC. Source: Actualite

Ethiopia

08 January 2019: In Gambely city, Gambella region, South Sudanese refugees clashed with people from the Nuer community at an unnamed refugee camp, leaving six people dead and sixteen arrested after three days of fighting. Source: ACLED¹

Kenya

15 – 16 January 2019: In Nairobi, four to six gunmen attacked the DusitD2 complex – which hosts several offices of development companies – leading to a standoff that continued through the night and resulted in the deaths of at least 21 people, including aid and development workers, two of whom worked for the Adam Smith International. al Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack. Sources: CNN and Devex

17 January 2019: Update: The Italian volunteer of the Africa Milele Onlus abducted by unidentified perpetrators on 21 November 2018 for ransom is suspected to have been brought into Somalia through the Boni Forest and handed over to al Shabaab commanders, police believe. Source: Media Max

29 January 2019: In Dadaab town, Garissa county, as Kenya intensifies its crackdown on terror suspects following the DusitD2 attack, police arrested 10 people on suspicion of terrorism during an operation at the Dadaab Refugee Camp. Source: Daily Nation

Mali

11 January 2019: In Massabougou area, Segou commune, a group of armed individuals prevented a collaborative team of international and national NGOs from carrying out an assessment at an IDP camp. No one was injured, but the assessment was unable to be carried out. Source: UN-OCHA

12 January 2019: In Mopti region, two aid workers were kidnapped, along with their driver, and detained for a day. Their kidnappers were unidentified, and no further details were specified. Source: UN-OCHA
13 January 2019: In Gao and Timbuktu regions, four unidentified armed men robbed an unspecified number of aid workers. No harm to the aid workers was reported. Source: UN-OCHA

20 January 2019: Near Aguelhok village and commune, Tessalit cercle, Kidal region, AQIM militants in armed vehicles launched an attack on a MINUSMA camp in response to the visit of the Israeli Prime Minister to Chad, killing 10 Chadian peacekeepers and injuring at least 25 more. Sources: Reuters and The Express Tribune

24 January 2019: In an unspecified location, an IED from an unspecified source detonated and killed a Burkinabe peacekeeper. Source: The Guardian

25 January 2019: Near Douentza town and cercle, Mopti region, a mine of unidentified origin exploded when a MINUSMA convoy ran over it, killing two Sri Lankan peacekeepers and wounding six more. Source: RFI and The Guardian

Nigeria
04 January 2019: In Banki town, Borno state, Boko Haram militants ambushed a convoy of traders close to the Nigeria-Cameroon border and seized a truck belonging to the INGO Intersos for unascertained reasons, forcing its driver to flee. Source: Vanguard

08 January 2019: The United Nations reports that in three government regions - Monguno, Kala/Balgeand, and Kukawa – major conflicts have forced aid organisations to withdraw around 260 aid workers since November 2018, severely reducing the scope for delivery of humanitarian assistance across the country. However, some of them have begun to return. Source: UN-OCHA

14 January 2019: In Rann town, Borno state, ISWAP militants raided and set fire to several shelters and markets of an unnamed IDP camp amid a wider insurgent attack in the area, killing four IDPs in the process, and forcing an unspecified number of IDPs to flee. The attackers looted and destroyed a clinic, warehouses containing humanitarian supplies, and accommodation for aid workers, thereby interrupting the delivery of aid to an estimated 76,000 IDPs. 14 aid workers were withdrawn the day after. Sources: Reliefweb, UN-OCHA and Vanguard

31 January 2019: In the northeast of Nigeria, the humanitarian situation continues to deteriorate, with more than five million people in need of healthcare and over 800,000 out of the reach of aid providers. Source: IPI

Somalia
01 January 2019: In Mogadishu, seven mortars fired by al Shabaab militants struck the headquarters of the UN, injuring two personnel and one contractor. UN staff were subsequently relocated to Kenya’s capital Nairobi as a precautionary measure. Sources: Al Jazeera, Mareeg, UNSOM and Xinhua Net

02 January 2019: The Somali Government declared persona non-grata the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Somalia and expelled him from the country for questioning its decision to arrest an al Shabaab defector running for election. Sources: AFP, Al Jazeera, France 24, Reuters (a) and Reuters (b)

07 January 2019: In Buurhabaka district, a local NGO worker was robbed of his vehicle and abducted by six al Shabaab fighters. No further details specified. Source: ACLED
Uganda

28 January 2019: In Gulu city and district, Acholi sub-region, Northern region, unidentified perpetrators broke into the offices of the INGO GIZ. After assaulting two security guards who were manning the facility, they vandalised expensive equipment and broke into a safe. This incident comes in the wake of renewed cases of burglary across the municipality. Source: Daily Monitor

Asia

Afghanistan

26 January 2019: In Nangarhar region, a male national NGO staff member was injured after a magnetic IED attached to a UN partner agency vehicle responsible for mine clearance exploded. Source: AWSD

Myanmar

07 January 2019: In Tanal township, Kachin state, a resident of a nearby IDP camp was fishing with a local Tanal resident when a landmine went off, injuring them both. Source: ACLED

07 – 13 January 2019: In Rakhine state, the regional government issued a notice blocking NGOs and UN agencies from travelling to rural areas in five townships affected by fighting between government forces and Arakan Army fighters, where more than 5,000 IDPs remain without shelter. Source: Reuters

09 January 2019 (DOA): In Kyauktaw township, Rakhine state, the Myanmar Army continued to prevent the delivery of rice shipments to more than 5,000 IDPs spread across several locations, including Thalu Chaung and Nga Sarai Kai villages. Source: Irrawaddy

09 January 2019 (DOA): In Kyauktaw township, Rakhine state, the Myanmar Army stopped a vessel belonging to the WanLark Foundation from delivering rice shipments and goods to IDPs in Thalu Chaung village. Source: Irrawaddy

Europe

Italy

20 January 2019 (DOA): In the Mediterranean Sea, two vessels which departed from Libya and Morocco were reported to have sunk in unexplained circumstances, leaving around 170 migrant passengers dead. Italian maritime patrol helicopters dropped two inflatable rafts but only rescued three of the drowning migrants. Source: Telegraph

Spain

14 January 2019: In Barcelona city and province, Catalonia autonomous community, the Barcelona Port Authority prevented the rescue vessel ‘Open Arms’ from setting sail over accusations that the NGO failed to abide by international regulations. Sources: Malta Today and Reuters

Middle-East and North Africa

Jordan

13 January 2019 (DOA): In Rukban area, Mafraq governorate, a Syrian woman at the Rukban Refugee Camp set herself on fire inside her tent to protest the lack of milk, food and healthcare available for her children, injuring herself and her baby. Source: Step News

30 January 2019: In Rukban area, Mafraq governorate, an aid convoy composed of more than 100 trucks and accompanied by some 250 UN and SARC personnel is expected to leave for the isolated Rukban Refugee Camp along the Jordan-Syria border by 05 February 2019. Its 42,000 people remain stranded in
deteriorating conditions since the last convoy to the area in November 2018. **Source:** VOA News

**Occupied Palestinian Territories**

**20 January 2019 (DOA):** In east Jerusalem, the Israeli National Security Council announced its plan to revoke permits for seven UNRWA schools, which currently serve a total of 3,000 students, to operate starting next academic year. The schools are expected to be replaced by ones run by the Jerusalem municipality, and supported by the Israeli Government. **Source:** Al Jazeera

**24 January 2019:** In the West Bank, Israeli border police entered Shufat refugee camp to arrest a group of young Palestinians who had allegedly thrown Molotov cocktails on the main road near to the camp, shooting one of them with live ammunition and arresting two others. **Source:** ACLED¹

**31 January 2019:** In the West Bank and Gaza, USAID formally ended its operations in the region at the request of the Palestinian Authority. The PA stated that it would no longer accept US funds following the passing of the US Anti-Terrorism Clarification Act legislation into law, as it would make the Palestinian Authority financially liable for terrorism offenses in US courts if it accepted humanitarian aid. **Sources:** Devex and Reuters

**Syrian Arab Republic**

**01 – 06 January 2019:** In Idlib governorate, an aid worker was abducted and killed in unspecified circumstances. No further details available. **Source:** AWSD², OCHA and UN News

**03 January 2019:** In Telamnas town, Hama governorate, a clash between Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham militants and National Liberation Front forces at an IDP camp led to approximately ten fatalities, including at least one civilian. No further details specified. **Source:** ACLED¹

**06 January 2019 (DOA):** In Aleppo city, Mount Simeon district, Aleppo governorate, government forces and Liwa al-Quds militants threatened Palestinian civilians at the Al-Nayrab Refugee Camp. **Source:** Smart News Agency

**10 January 2019:** In Deir-ez-Zor governorate, a Syrian Democratic Forces soldier shot and presumably killed an IDP during the process of relocating an IDP camp in the region. **Source:** ACLED¹

**16 January 2019:** As the US plans to pull out its troops from Syria, aid organisations operating in the country’s northeast warn that the diplomatic chaos would lead to unpredictable security risks that threaten their ability to deliver aid to civilians. **Source:** IRIN

**19 January 2019:** In Afrin city and governorate, a landmine detonated near Kawa roundabout, killing one IDP and injuring four other unidentified civilians. No further details available. **Source:** ACLED¹

**24 January 2019:** In Quneitra governorate, Israeli troop stormed al-Shahhar refugee camp and opened fire on an alleged gunman, killing one unidentified individual and leaving several civilians wounded from the crossfire. No further details specified. **Source:** ACLED¹

**Yemen**

**31 December 2018:** In Sana’a and other unspecified locations, the WFP accused Houthi rebels of seizing its aid shipments, manipulating the selection process of beneficiaries, falsifying distribution records, and selling some of its aid for personal gain. Some groups were also accused of blocking deliveries to communities they perceive as enemies. The WFP threatened to suspend some aid shipments to Yemen if the rebels did not investigate and stop theft and fraud in food distribution, warning that the suspension
would affect some three million people. Whilst Houthi leaders denied diverting aid, they said that they will investigate the matter. **Sources: BBC, Fox News, IRIN, The Guardian and VOA News**

01 January 2019: In Aden city and governorate, locals rioted at WFP food distribution centre, disrupting aid disbursement. **Source: Aden al-Ghad**

15 January 2019: In al Khawkhah district, al Hodeidah governorate, shells allegedly fired by pro-Houthi forces landed on Bani Jabir IDP camp, injuring five children. UAE sources claimed that five people were killed in the attack but no further information is available. **Source: ACLED**

17 January 2019: In Hodeidah city, district and governorate, unidentified perpetrators fired small arms at the armoured convoy of a UN truce monitoring team, causing no injuries. **Sources: The Washington Post and VOA News**

21 January 2019: In al Hodeidah governorate, a bus carrying IDPs from Tuhayta district to Khawkhah district was fired on by pro-Houthi snipers. No casualties were reported. **Source: ACLED**

25 January 2019: In Hodeidah city, district and governorate, a fire caused by suspected mortar shelling from an unidentified source damaged two silos at the Red Sea Mills grains facility, where 51,000 tonnes of WFP wheat were stored, enough to feed 3.7 million people for a month in Yemen. The WFP has been unable to access the facility since September 2018 due to fighting between government forces and Houthi rebels. Both sides have placed the blame on one another. **Source: Reuters**

26 January 2019: In Hajja governorate, shelling of uncertain origin struck an unnamed IDP camp, killing eight civilians and wounding 30 more. The Yemeni Government accused Houthi rebels of attacking the camp, but the latter denied any responsibility. **Sources: ACLED, Reuters and The Seattle Times**

29 January 2019: In Hodeidah city, district and governorate, Houthi militias engaged in heavy fire on a team of UN observers, government liaison officers and engineers responsible for mine clearance along Sanaa Road for unascertained reasons, preventing the team from reaching its intended destination. **Source: Aden al-Ghad**

**The Americas**

**Brazil**

02 January 2019 (DOA): The Brazilian President issued a temporary decree, which will expire unless it is ratified within 120 days by Congress, authorising the office of the Government Secretary extensive, far-reaching powers to supervise, coordinate and accompany activities and actions of NGOs and INGOs operating in Brazil. On 07 January 2019, the Brazilian Government announced its plan to tightly restrict public funding of NGOs to allegedly help determine whether they are fulfilling their role of carrying out work ‘that complements government actions’. **Sources: Reuters (a) and Reuters (b)**

**Guatemala**

07 January 2019: The Guatemalan Government announced that it was withdrawing from an agreement with the UN that established the CICIG more than 10 years ago, accusing the panel of interfering in the internal affairs of Guatemala, and giving its prosecutors 24 hours to leave the country. However, on 09 January 2019, Guatemala’s Constitutional Court overruled that decision. **Sources: ABC News, OCCRP and The New York Times**
The Aid in Danger Monthly News Brief – January 2019

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1 Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) database attribution policy.

2 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.